

CITY OF WHITING – JUNE 7, 2022

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITING, INDIANA**

The Common Council of the City of Whiting met in regular session on Tuesday, June 7, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Spebar presiding.

I. ROLL CALL

Mayor Spebar, Councilmembers Michko, Michniewicz, Sarvanidis, Turpin, and Suarez were present, constituting a quorum. Also, present, were Attorney Sejna and Clerk-Treasurer Haynes.

Councilmember Michko was absent.

Councilmember Sarvanidis made a motion to suspend the rules to award the City of Whiting Scholarship plaque. Councilmember Turpin seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Suarez mentioned that Whiting High School recently held their graduation where 3 Whiting High School students were awarded their City of Whiting Scholarship and plaque. There is a 4th student who will be awarded tonight because she does not attend Whiting High School, but her parents are homeowners in the City of Whiting. All recipients' parents own homes in Whiting, encourages students to earn high academic marks, and engage themselves in the community. Each of the four recipients are destined for college.

Today's plaque and City of Whiting Scholarship is being awarded to Anya Haynes.

Councilmember Suarez stated that the other three winners were Dominic Harbin, Julia Morando, and Alexander Smith.

Mayor Spebar returned the meeting to the regular order of business.

II. MINUTES

Mayor Spebar asked for consideration of the minutes from the May 17, 2022 Regular Common Council meeting. Councilmember Michniewicz made a motion to accept the minutes from May 17, 2022 as submitted. Councilmember Turpin seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, MEMORIALS OR REMONSTRANCES

None.

IV. REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Spebar reported the following:

- Lost long term employee of the City of Whiting, Maxine Kruk, passed away last week. Maxine was the administrative assistant over at the Public Works Facility for many years. She will be missed.
- Many projects are going on in different phases. Remodeling is taking place at the Fire Department, upgrades will soon commence at the Police Department, the IC Pocket Park project will start the week after next, the water main project behind the post office in the alley will start in the next few weeks, the decorative crosswalks on 119th will start in the next few weeks, on June 14th bids will be received for the lakefront revetment project, and when work finishes up at the Fire Department, work on the plaza on 119th Street will be started.

V. STANDING COMMITTEES

Councilmember Suarez advised the Council he will be presenting Ordinance No. CC-2022-2069, an ordinance to amend the salary ordinance for employees of the City of Whiting to correct a math error for one position's hourly rate. The ordinance does have the emergency clause attached.

VI. REPORT OF THE CLERK-TREASURER

Clerk-Treasurer Haynes presented Civil City Check #550E-552E, 14698-14779, & May Payroll in the amount of \$769,334.99. Councilmember Turpin moved to approve the Accounts Payable Voucher Checks as submitted. Councilmember Michniewicz seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. REPORT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

None.

VIII. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

None.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

X. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Councilmember Suarez presented Ordinance No. CC-2022-2069, which amends a previous salary ordinance to correct one position for a math error. The two man packer operator position did not receive an increase in the hourly wage as they should have. The hourly wage will go from \$21.71 to \$22.38. This ordinance makes that retroactive to the beginning of the calendar year which is where it should've taken effect originally. This ordinance does have the emergency clause included with it so that it can be implemented as soon as possible.

Councilmember Suarez read Ordinance No. CC-2022-2069 in title only;

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. CC-2021-2055

AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES AND COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF WHITING, INDIANA, EFFECTIVE FIRST PAY IN 2022, TO CORRECT A MATH ERROR AND TO DECLARE AN EXTRAORDINARY EMERGENCY

Councilmember Suarez made a motion to take Ordinance No. CC-2022-2069 to a 2nd reading. Councilmember Sarvanidis seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Suarez read Ordinance No. CC-2022-2069 in title only;

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. CC-2021-2055
AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES AND COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF WHITING, INDIANA, EFFECTIVE FIRST PAY IN 2022, TO CORRECT A MATH ERROR AND TO DECLARE AN EXTRAORDINARY EMERGENCY

Councilmember Suarez made a motion to suspend the rules to take Ordinance No. CC-2022-2069 to 3rd and final reading. Councilmember Michniewicz seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Suarez made a motion to take Ordinance No. CC-2022-2069 to a 3rd and final reading. Councilmember Sarvanidis seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Suarez read Ordinance No. CC-2022-2069 in title only;

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. CC-2021-2055
AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES AND COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF WHITING, INDIANA, EFFECTIVE FIRST PAY IN 2022, TO CORRECT A MATH ERROR AND TO DECLARE AN EXTRAORDINARY EMERGENCY

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Sarvanidis made a motion for a Special Common Council meeting for claims on June 21, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. Councilmember Michniewicz seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

XII. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Carolyn Marsh of 1804 Oliver Street, presented the following questions and statements to the Council:

- Concerned over what will happen in the space where the Tennis Courts used to be in Whiting Lakefront Park.

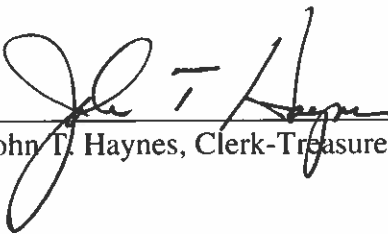
- Questioned the revetment work being done at the Whiting Lakefront Park.
- Asked if there was any information on the explosion at Cleveland Cliffs.

Mayor Spebar and several Councilmembers responded to each of Ms. Marsh's concerns.

Councilmember Turpin thanked Park Superintendent Cruz, Street Commissioner Wajvoda, and Mark Harbin for Special Events for their help with the IC Grotto function.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further matters to come before the Common Council, Councilmember Turpin moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Councilmember Michniewicz seconded the motion. Roll Call: (Voice) All Councilmembers voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.



John T. Haynes, Clerk-Treasurer