Common Council

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, December 13, 2016, 6:30 p.m.

City Hall, 31 S. Madison Street, Evansville, WI

MINUTES

1. Call to order. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bill Hurtley at 6:30 p.m.
2. Roll Call. Members present: Mayor Bill Hurtley, Alderpersons Jim Brooks, Matt Brown, Rick Cole, Ben Ladick, Gene Lewis, James Montgomery, and Erika Stuart. Alderperson Josh Manring was absent. Other present: City Administrator/Finance Director Ian Rigg, City Clerk/Treasurer Judy Walton, City Attorney Mark Kopp, Community Development Director Jason Sergeant, Library Director Megan Kloeckner, Nick Bubolz of Town and Country Engineering, and resident Jan Taylor.
3. Approval of Agenda. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to correct the start time for the meeting in Item 13A to 6:30 p.m. and approve the agenda as printed. Motion approved 7-0.
4. Approval of Minutes. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Montgomery to waive the reading of the minutes of November 8, 2016 & November 28, 2016 and approve them as presented. Motion approved 7-0.
5. Civility reminder. Recognition of the commitment to civility and decorum at Council meetings.
6. Citizen appearances
   1. Public Hearing: Final Assessments for North 1st Street and Montgomery Court Improvements.
      1. Nick Bubolz, Town and Country Engineering, presented the staff report. The final lift of the street will be completed next year. The project is 15% over budget due to additional concrete work, lead water services, and additional work on the sewer and water laterals. The final assessments are close to the preliminary estimates.
      2. Mayor Hurtley opened the public hearing at 6:36 p.m. Jan Taylor, 44 W Main Street, asked how she could sign up for the 10 year repayment plan. Walton explained that a billing would be sent out in the next couple of weeks and that would have the payment options on it. Mayor Hurtley closed the public hearing at 6:37 p.m.
      3. There was no final discussion by the Council.
      4. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to adopt Resolution 2016-29, A Final Resolution Authorizing Public Improvements and Levying Special Assessments Against Benefitted Property In Evansville, Wisconsin. Motion approved 7-0 on a roll call vote.
   2. Other citizen appearances. None
7. Reports of Committees
   1. Library Board Report. Kloeckner distributed the winter program brochure. The Library will be closed on December 23rd and 26th and also on January 2nd. They have reached their goal of 150 Women each pledging $1,000 over the next 5 years.
   2. Youth Center Advisory Board Report. Brooks reported they are planning for their second field trip – the kids want to go sledding.
   3. Plan Commission Report. Sergeant reported they approved a site plan for an addition at 175 Union.
      1. Update on property maintenance code. Sergeant reported he is working with the City Attorney to finalize the ordinance for the first reading which he hopes to see on the next agenda.
   4. Finance and Labor Relations Committee Report
      1. Montgomery made a motion, seconded by Cole to accept the City bills as presented in the amount of $1,211,425.74. Motion approved 7-0 on a roll call vote.
      2. Montgomery made a motion, seconded by Cole to approve the revised City of Evansville Personnel Policies and Employee Handbook. Rigg reviewed each of the proposed, non-housekeeping, changes.

Brooks pointed out the changes in Section 3-2, Hiring Authority. In the past the committee would have the option of not filling a vacancy right away if needed to help smooth the budget. Montgomery stated that a department head should be able to fill a vacancy if it was a budgeted position.

Brooks asked about Section 4-8 Separation Agreements and if it covered the recovery of training expenses. Rigg said it is not necessarily covered under a separation agreement, but the agreement allows for negotiation with an employee if the City decides to let an employee go. Attorney Kopp said it gives the City flexibility without being contrary to the policy. Attorney Kopp responded that Rigg has done a good job weighing the pros and cons of an agreement.

Cole raised concerns about the new hire vacation policy and would like to revisit that section. Rigg said it would take a full re-write of policy manual to have vacation earned by hours/days worked. Rigg said that with the proration there is some risk but department heads have control of when an employee can take vacation. Weighing the risk it should not to be a problem with that control. Cole asked if this is a hiring incentive. Rigg said that it helps the new hires get a chance to take a break. Stuart said she would not take a job if she could not take a job if she had to wait a long time for vacation. If you do not give them time off you could lose employees. Rigg said that he did some comparisons to weigh this option and some exiting employees talked about the current longevity and vacation policy being a drawback.

Motion approved 7-0.

* 1. Public Safety Committee Report. Montgomery reported we will be starting our 11th EMT and the second ambulance is being used. He toured the Police Department and he noted that the bathroom is basically unfit and the interview rooms are too small. He would like to see some improvements.
  2. Municipal Services Report
     1. Cole made a motion, seconded by Montgomery to approve travel and stay for Jim Brooks to the annual APPA legislative rally in Washington DC. Motion approved 6-0 with Brooks abstaining.
     2. Montgomery made a motion, seconded by Cole to approve travel and stay for Ben Ladick to the annual APPA legislative rally in Washington DC. Motion approved 6-0 with Ladick abstaining.
  3. Economic Development Committee Report. Stuart reported that the major topic of discussion was how to pursue new businesses or attract businesses.
  4. Redevelopment Authority Report. No report.
  5. Parks and Recreation Board Report. Ladick reported the park will close to through traffic when the lake freezes. They discussed the Westside Park ad hoc Committee.
  6. Historic Preservation Commission Report. No report.
  7. Fire District Report. Montgomery reported Chief Wendt will be applying for FEMA grants again.
  8. Police Commission Report. No report.
  9. Energy Independence Team Report. No report.
  10. Board of Appeals Report. No report.

1. Unfinished Business. None.
2. Communications and Recommendations of the Administrator
   1. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to approve Resolution #2016-30, a Resolution Adopting a Chicken Keeping Permit Fee. Motion approved 7-0.
3. Communications and Recommendations of the Mayor. Mayor Hurtley reported that the Westside Park ad hoc Committee list is growing. He commended the Municipal Services employees for the good job they did with snow removal.
4. New Business. None
5. Introduction of New Ordinances
   1. Brooks presented the first reading of Ordinance 2016-20, An Ordinance Amending Parking Restrictions on Water Street.
   2. Brooks presented the first reading of Ordinance 2016-21, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 102 and Allow Temporary Placement of Structures and Containers on Public Right-of-Way
   3. Brooks presented the first reading of Ordinance 2016-22, An Ordinance Eliminating the Office of Weed Commissioner and Building Inspector.
   4. Brooks presented the first reading of Ordinance 2016-23, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2: Administration
   5. Brooks presented the first reading of Ordinance 2016-24, An Ordinance Adopting a Local Vehicle Registration Fee
6. Meeting Reminders
   1. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 10, 2017 6:30 p.m., City Hall
7. Adjournment. Cole made a motion, seconded by Stuart to adjourn at 7:23 p.m. Motion approved 7-0.

Judy Walton, City Clerk/Treasurer