

**Common Council  
Regular Meeting**

Tuesday, December 8, 2015, 6:30 p.m.  
City Hall, 31 S. Madison Street, Evansville, WI

**MINUTES**

1. **Call to order and roll call.** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Sandy Decker. Members present: Mayor Sandy Decker, Alderpersons Jim Brooks, Matt Brown, Rick Cole, Ben Ladick, Gene Lewis, Josh Manring, and James Montgomery.
2. **Election of District 2 Alderperson.** Letters of interest were submitted by Michael Maves, Erika Stuart, and Jack Femyer. Michale Maves withdrew his name. Jack Femyer and Erika Stuart were present and introduced themselves. Erika Stuart was elected by ballot to serve until the next regular election by a vote of 6-1.
  - A. The City Clerk administered the Oath of Office to Alderperson Stuart.
3. **Roll Call.** Members present: Mayor Sandy Decker, Alderpersons Jim Brooks, Matt Brown, Rick Cole, Ben Ladick, Gene Lewis, Josh Manring, James Montgomery, and Erika Stuart. Others present: City Administrator/Finance Director Ian Rigg, City Clerk/Treasurer Judy Walton, City Attorney Mark Kopp, Library Director Megan Kloeckner, Community Development Director Jason Sergeant, City Engineer Brian Berquist and Ben Heidemann, Ryan Combs of Combs and Associates, and one other member of the public.
4. **Approval of Agenda.** Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to approve the agenda. Motion approved 8-0.
5. **Approval of Minutes.** Decker noted an error on the November 10<sup>th</sup> minutes, Item 8I, Evansville Fund, not ~~Antes~~ Fund. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to waive the reading of the minutes of the November 10, 2015 regular meeting and November 12, 2015 special meeting, to make the correction, and to approve them. Motion approved 8-0.
6. **Civility reminder.** Recognition of the commitment to civility and decorum at city meetings.
7. **Citizen appearances**
  - A. **Public Hearing: Final Assessments for 4<sup>th</sup> Street Improvements.** Berquist informed the Council that he recently learned there was a bad cell in his spreadsheet and the assessment notices that were mailed to property owners contained errors. He also said they wanted to take the time to re-check measurements, the cost would be absorbed by Town & Country.

The public hearing was rescheduled for January 12, 2016, new notices will be sent and a new notice will be published.
  - B. **Other citizen appearances.** None
8. **Reports of Committees**

**A. Library Board Report.** Kloeckner distributed the winter programs brochure. She announced that Assistant Library Director Laura Damon-Moore will not be returning after her maternity leave. They advertised and have received 8 applications and will interview 3.

**B. Youth Center Advisory Board Report.** Ladick reported they received a \$500 grant from the Evansville Fund for healthy snacks; yesterday they took their first field trip and 34 kids went to the capitol, took a tour with one of Senator Ringhand's staff and then went ice skating. They are doing some baking for the care closet.

**C. Plan Commission Report**

- (1). Manring made a motion, seconded by Cole to approve preliminary and final certified survey map to divide parcels 6-27-970.9C into two lots, finding that the certified survey map is in the public interest and meets the objectives contained within Section 110-102(g) of City ordinances with the conditions listed in the staff report.

Sergeant explained the proposal is to divide the parcel into two lots. A duplex would be permitted on Lot 1 but only a single family home on Lot 2. He pointed out the conditions placed on the property.

Motion approved 8-0.

**D. Finance and Labor Relations Committee Report**

- (1). Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to accept the City and Water & Light bills as presented in the amount of \$818,148.72. Motion approved 8-0 on a roll call vote.
- (2). Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to approve Resolution 2015-32, Establishing the Municipal Judge's Salary for the Year 2016.

There was discussion on the timing of the increase and whether it was following state statute.

Cole withdrew his second and Brooks withdrew his motion. The item will be brought back in January.

- (3). Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to approve Resolution 2015-34, Adjusting 2016 Employee Wages for Experience per the Wage Study.

Brooks explained that the money for these increases is included in the 2016 budget.

Motion approved 8-0.

- (4). Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to approve engagement letter with Johnson Block & Company, Inc. for financial audit of the year ending December 31, 2015. Motion approved 8-0 on a roll call vote.

**E. Public Safety Committee Report.** Montgomery reported that EMS has been progressing pretty well and they have had an influx of volunteers.

- (1). Montgomery made a motion, seconded by Lewis to approve 5 year General Maintenance Agreement with Gordon-Flesch for the Evansville Police Department.

Rigg explained that this contract is similar to what they had before except the price is locked for 5 years at the state bid price.

Motion approved 8-0.

- (2). Montgomery made a motion, seconded by Brown to approve the Intergovernmental Emergency Medical Services Contract between the City of Evansville and Towns of Union, Porter, Magnolia and Brooklyn. Motion approved 8-0.

## **F. Municipal Services Report**

- (1). Ben Heidemann, Town & Country Engineering, presented a sludge processing study. The wastewater treatment facility has sludge storage issues and hauling the sludge has been expensive and is very dependent on the weather. There were 6 alternatives considered and the committee narrowed it down to 2 which would be to either do nothing or to expand with a sludge dewatering and cake storage. The study outlined the costs associated with each alternative.

- (2). Rigg reported the PSC has recommended an approximate overall 25% increase in water revenues. This translates into about a 36% increase in the water bill for the average user. The hearing is set for 3:00 p.m. on December 17<sup>th</sup>. There has not been an increase since 2007.

Rigg reported that due to the deficit in the sewer cash and investments, immediate action is needed to increase sewer revenues and he proposes increasing both the base charge and the volume rate. He estimates an average household of four would see an increase of \$8.66 per month.

Brooks added that we did not intend to have 2 utility rate increases at once but the water rate case has been delayed for at least 6 months.

Brooks reported they are looking at creating a policy for issuing stormwater credits; they contacted the Boy Scouts to temporarily vacate the Boy Scout House due to repairs needed and they have been offered alternate meeting space at the Youth Center.

## **G. Economic Development Committee Report**

- (1). Brooks made a motion, seconded by Lewis to approve Resolution 2015-35, Creating an Entrepreneurship Subcommittee to the Evansville Economic Development Committee.

Brooks explained the idea for this subcommittee came out of the smart growth update. It is not anticipated to be long term and could be able to be disbanded within 18-24 months.

Motion approved 8-0.

- (2). Brooks made a motion, seconded by Lewis to approve Resolution 2015-36, Converting the Tourism Subcommittee to the Evansville Economic Development Committee to the Evansville Tourism Commission.

Decker explained this is the result of Act 55 and the changes to the room tax law.

Motion approved 8-0.

**H. Redevelopment Authority Report.** No report.

**I. Parks and Recreation Board Report.** They meet next week.

**J. Historic Preservation Commission Report.** Lewis reported they received an application for 239 W Liberty for a side yard fence and they discussed upcoming activities including the duck house, scout house, and stone fireplace at the upper park. He added that Steve Culbertson was elected Chair until April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**K. Fire District Report.** Montgomery reported they approved the 2016 fee schedules.

**L. Police Commission Report.** No report.

**M. Energy Independence Team Report.** Decker reported they discussed the importance of incorporating energy efficiencies and renewables in the library expansion as a leading by example project. They also discussed the adopted smart growth plan and one of the charges of the Energy Independence Team is to start good discussion in the community on water conservation.

**N. Board of Appeals Report.** No report.

## 9. Unfinished Business

- A. Brooks presented the second reading and made a motion, seconded by Montgomery to approve Charter Ordinance 2015-10, a Charter Ordinance Eliminating the Office of Emergency Medical Services Coordinator (sponsors Fuchs and Montgomery).

Ian explained that in 1983 the Coordinator was made an Officer of the City which means following certain statutory procedures when dealing with that position.

Mark added it decreases the employer's flexibility when dealing with that position.

Motion approved 8-0 on a roll call vote.

- B. Brooks presented the second reading and made a motion, seconded by Manring to approve Ordinance 2015-11, an Ordinance Creating Ward 10, Aldermanic District #1 and Correcting Wards 5 and 6 (sponsors Brooks and Manring). Motion approved 8-0.

- 10. Communications and Recommendations of the Administrator.** Rigg reported he met with Carolyn Kleisch and the Dean of Emergency Management at Blackhawk Technical College and their Coordinator to discuss training for 1<sup>st</sup> Responders and EMT's. They learned that classes will need to be held in Janesville or Broadhead.

He is working on 2015 budget amendments; the sewer rate increase; he met with Recreation Directors from Beloit and Janesville to discuss a pool super pass that would enable a person to go to various pools; and he will be on vacation December 18<sup>th</sup> and from December 23<sup>rd</sup> to January 4<sup>th</sup>.

He commended Carolyn Kleisch for her work on the transition and her commitment to the community.

**11. Communications and Recommendations of the Mayor**

- A.** Brooks made a motion, seconded by Manring to approve the mayoral appointment of Jamie Kessenich as Interim Coordinator of Evansville EMS.

Decker stated they received 9 applications and interviewed 3. Dr. Jay McNeal from Mercy, Carolyn Kleisch, Sergeant Patrick Reese, Fire Chief Terry Wendt, Ian and herself conducted the interviews. Jamie is a paramedic with the City of Janesville, lives in the Town of Union, and has been an Evansville firefighter in the past.

Motion approved 8-0 on a roll call vote.

- B. – C.** Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to combine Items 11B and 11C and to approve the mayoral appointment of Brandon Rutz, 7901 North Tolles Road, as chair, and Tris Lahti, 8207 North Territorial Road, as vice-chair of the Entrepreneurship Subcommittee to the Economic Development Committee and to approve the mayoral appointment of Wally Shannon, 131 South Third Street, to the Entrepreneurship Subcommittee to the Economic Development Committee.

Motion approved 8-0 on a roll call vote.

- D. – I.** Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to combine Items 11D through 11I and to approve the mayoral appointment of Raj Patel, 715 Brown School Road, as the lodging industry representative to the Evansville Tourism Commission for a one-year term beginning January 1, 2016;  
to approve the mayoral appointment of Krista Korfmacher, 13939 West North Ridge Drive, as a citizen member with public relations background to the Evansville Tourism Commission for a one-year term beginning January 1, 2016;  
to approve the mayoral appointment of Sue Berg, 321 Garfield Avenue, as the Economic Development Committee member with public relations background to the Evansville Tourism Commission for a one-year term beginning January 1, 2016;  
to approve the mayoral appointment of Alderman Jim Brooks, as Chair of the Economic Development Committee, to the Evansville Tourism Commission for a one-year term beginning January 1, 2016;

to approve the mayoral appointment of Christina Slayback, as Executive Director of the Evansville Chamber of Commerce, to the Evansville Tourism Commission for a one-year term beginning January 1, 2016; and  
to approve the mayoral appointment of Kelli Czerwonka, as Meeting and Event Planner for Creekside Place, to the Evansville Tourism Commission for a one-year term beginning January 1, 2016.

Motion approved 8-0 on a roll call vote.

**12. New Business**

**D.** Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to approve appointment of Election Inspectors for 2016-2017. Motion approved 8-0.

**13. Introduction of New Ordinances.** None.

**14. Meeting Reminders**

**D.** The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 12, 2016 6:30 p.m., City Hall.

**15. Adjournment.** Cole made a motion, seconded by Montgomery to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. Motion approved 8-0.

Judy Walton, City Clerk/Treasurer

*These minutes are not official until approved by the Common Council at their next regular meeting.*