

**COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013
7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Ryan Daniel – Present
Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle – Present
Attorney Marcia McNagny – Present

Council Members

Nicole Penrod – Present
Ben Romine – Present
William (Bill) Simpson – Present
Dan Weigold – Present
Jacie Worrick – Present

The Columbia City Common Council met in regular session with all members present, Mayor Daniel presiding.

MINUTES Mayor Daniel noted a spelling correction. Motion was made by Jacie Worrick to approve an overview of the January 22, 2013 meeting minutes as corrected, Ben Romine second the motion, all voted aye.

KEN LUNDQUIST – TREE BOARD REPORT Ken Lundquist, Tree Board President, was present to give an overview of activities for the Tree Board for 2012 and plans for 2013.

ORDINANCE 2013-1: AMENDMENT TO SEWAGE SERVICE ORDINANCE – 1ST READING Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to read Ordinance 2013-1 by title only, Dan Weigold second the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2013-1 an ordinance amending Chapter 51, sewage service, of the code of ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Mike Cook reported some of the sections had not been updated since 1959; he reviewed the amendments with Council.

Ben Romine questioned the violations that would trigger a fine. Mike Cook referenced the illegal discharge section as defined under “illicit connection”. Mayor Daniel noted that this mirror’s a lot of what they approved in the storm water ordinance.

Ben Romine questioned if there had been further discussion as to how we would notify people that their connection may have been previously allowed by the city but now it was not. He expressed a concern for those older homes that have drains in the floor but the people do not know where they run and the only way to fix it is by tearing up the concrete floor in the basement. Mike advised they were not planning to go door to door looking for problems but if they know of some they would submit a letter and ask the problem be remedied. Ben questioned where they should go to find out what is acceptable or allowed. Mike felt they might be able to put something on the website or in the ordinance. Attorney McNagny was not sure we should get into advising people; we were doing this because we were required to. Ben did not feel there

was any recourse for the homeowner and felt it would open doors to a lot of lawsuits. Mike advised he was not pointing fingers; he was just going by what the permit says he has to do; it was something new, we just have to work through it and come up with a solution that works for everybody.

Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to introduce Ordinance 2013-1 as first reading, Dan Weigold second the motion, all voted aye.

ORDINANCE 2013-4: TRAFFIC ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS – STOP/SPEED – 1ST READING Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to read Ordinance 2013-4 by title only, Jacie Worrick second the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2013-4 an ordinance amending Chapter 75, traffic schedules, of title VII of the code of ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Kelly Cearbaugh and Tim Longenbaugh reviewed the amendments with Council.

Bill Simpson asked to consider adding Walton Drive for no parking on both sides. Mayor Daniel advised the Parking Committee did approve this but it did not make it on the ordinance. Bill also asked to lower the speed limit from 30 mph to 20 mph on Ellsworth Street west of Oak Street as well as Oak Street north of North Street.

Ben Romine shared that he was approached by a resident about the possibility of parking on one side of Oak Street again since the hospital was gone. Mayor Daniel advised the Parking Committee looked at this issue and one concern was that when Oak Street was made no parking there was investment put into some of those houses to have off street parking and the other issue was we were still up in the air on the development of the old hospital property. He advised they could look at it again.

Motion was made by Ben Romine to approve Ordinance 2013-4 as first reading, Nicole Penrod second the motion, all voted aye.

Attorney McNagny questioned if they wanted the requested amendments included in the Ordinance, if so they would need to amend the motion to include the amendments.

Motion was made by Jacie Worrick to amend Ordinance 2013-4 to include the proposed amendments, Bill Simpson second the motion, all voted aye.

STREET DEPARTMENT Kelly Cearbaugh advised they were working on getting a grinding company in to do the leaf pile, they continue to work on sign replacements, they have been televising for the South Walnut Street storm water project.

PARK DEPARTMENT Mark Green reported DeVol Field was finished as far as the fencing, they were still working on remodeling the pavilion, he reported on the Father/Daughter dance and were considering something in the fall for families, they were preparing for baseball and softball, he reported the Fall Festival will be September 21 and continue with the Aquatic Facility Task Force meetings.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT Jeff Walker reported he and John Goetz were working on a rain barrel program proposal, the South Line Street storm water project was complete, the GIS Committee was still gathering information to present a comprehensive program to the Board of Works for consideration.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT Larry Whetstone reported on daily repairs and maintenance issues, they continue with tree trimming and stump grinding. He introduced Shawn Lickey who will be taking over his position when he retires in May. Shawn reported he attended orientation meetings at IMPA and will be stepping in as Commissioner for Columbia City on February 22. He advised they will be moving poles at a residence on Circle Drive at the customer's expense.

POLICE DEPARTMENT Tim Longenbaugh gave an update on the status of their new police officer, he reported several individuals met with the School Superintendent and administration to discuss school safety and security, they have chosen 3 Reserves to be added to the department pending approval of the Board, he and Officer Pittenger presented a certificate to the family who found Stryker, the new police vehicles may be arriving in the next couple weeks and they will be having outings to build camaraderie and promote wellness.

IS/COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT Terry Wherry reported a company was in dispatch last week to run wire for the new 911 system that is to be installed, Office Concepts installed new copiers in the utility office and Mayor's Office and they passed IDACS inspection.

WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT Mike Cook reported they would be changing out the motors on the bridge crane, he gave an update on the CSO plan, he was still collecting bids for the generator at Coesse.

Having no further business to come before Council the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle