

COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JULY 8, 2014
7:00 P.M.

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

Council Members

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

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

MINUTES Motion was made by Dan Weigold to approve the June 10, 2014 meeting minutes as presented, Jacie Worrick seconded the motion, Penrod, Weigold and Worrick voted aye, Romine abstained.

Approval of the June 24, 2014 meeting minutes were tabled.

SWEARING IN OF NEW FIREFIGHTER – TOBY FRALICK Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle performed the swearing in ceremony for new firefighter Toby Fralick.

COMPLIANCE WITH STATEMENT OF BENEFITS – BONES THEATER Rosie Coyle advised they were in compliance with everything; there was a question on the wages but that was explained at the last meeting.

Motion was made by Ben Romine to approve tax abatement for another year, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

COMPLIANCE WITH STATEMENT OF BENEFITS – STAFCO Rosie Coyle explained STAFCO was approved for their real property back in May but the personal property was not brought before Council because their 10 years was up. She advised the County still needed a denial from the City since it was submitted.

Ben Romine questioned if they had full 10 year abatement. Mayor Daniel advised it was actually 5 year abatement for personal property.

Motion was made by Ben Romine to deny the abatement request for STAFCO since the term was up according the resolution passed in 2008, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

EDC UPDATE Alan Tio and Dick Buchanan were present to give a mid-year update.

PETITION TO VACATE ALLEY – AMERICAN LEGION Mayor Daniel explained the petition request from the American Legion. He felt we would have to vacate the alley to the adjoining property owners and the new alley would then be given to the City by the American Legion.

Dan Weigold confirmed it was formally known as Legion Drive. Mayor Daniel advised that was correct; the actual alley plat would be sectioned off to each of the adjoining property owners to the north and the new alley would follow Legion Drive. Dan Weigold questioned if a survey had been created. Rosie Coyle advised they did.

Mayor Daniel recessed the meeting and opened a public hearing. Hearing no comments or questions the public hearing was closed.

ORDINANCE 2014-13: ORDINANCE VACATING ALLEY Motion was made by Dan Weigold to read Ordinance 2014-13 by title only, Jacie Worrick seconded the motion, Penrod, Weigold and Worrick voted aye, Ben Romine abstained. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2014-13 an ordinance vacating an alley in the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to approve Ordinance 2014-13 as first reading, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, Penrod, Weigold and Worrick voted aye, Ben Romine abstained.

POINT SYSTEM FOR TAX ABATEMENT Jeff Walker explained there was currently an intake form that resides on the EDC website for industry looking to take advantage of tax abatements and other incentives both locally and through the State. He explained through that form, Alan Tio suggested our City, Towns and County get together to try and have more similarity of the forms, which prompted review of our system. He stated they took the points system already in place and incorporated the technology side of it and other tweaks to come up with what was before the Council. He shared they do not want the process to get bogged down by bringing the whole form request to Council to try and work through all the points; it was their recommendation to appoint a committee to do that and then bring the recommendation to Council for approval. He asked for Council's blessing on the revised point system for building and equipment as well as the establishment of a committee of which the Mayor would do the selection process as to who would serve.

Jeff Walker explained the biggest point changes were the investment of both equipment and building and also on the wages.

Jeff Walker noted there was a lot of discussion on late applications. They felt there should be a substantial penalty if it was not turned in on time.

Motion was made by Ben Romine to accept the recommendation of Attorney McNagny and Jeff Walker for the tax abatement point review forms, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

COUNCIL APPOINTMENT TO THE W.C. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Mayor Daniel advised Ben Romine was the current appointment.

Dan Weigold nominated to reappoint Ben Romine, nomination was seconded by Jacie Worrick.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to close nominations, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Penrod, Weigold and Worrick voted aye to reappoint Ben Romine, Romine abstained.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS Department reports were given by Tom LaRue – Truck 101 repairs of \$4,500, ladder truck repairs at about \$2,000, station exhaust fan repairs about \$12,000; Mike Shoda – Elm St. project; Kelly Cearbaugh – limb pickup, Cambridge Crossing work, one way alley signs posted for Brewha, completed evaluations, storm line repairs on South Line, crack sealing, Columbia Shores ADA ramps, 3 applications for 50/50 sidewalk program; Tim Longenbaugh – firearm qualifications, mid-year evaluations, protocol for downtown notification system and vehicle inventory; Jeff Walker – final parcel secured for SR 205 project, information to United Consulting for LTCP, Southside sewer about 50% complete, bids for demolition of former Eagles lodge, site tour of TIF corridor; Terry Wherry – active shooter class; Mike Cook – revised IDEM reports, flow monitoring complete, employee training, new weather station for City Hall.

Having no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle