

**COMMON COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2012  
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  
Daniel Weigold – Present  
Jacie Worrick – Present

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

**MINUTES** Motion was made by Ben Romine to approve an overview of the October 9, 2012 meeting minutes as presented, Jacie Worrick second the motion, all voted aye.

**ADOPTION OF 2013 BUDGET** Motion was made by Dan Weigold to adopt the 2013 Budget, Nicole Penrod second the motion.

Rosie Coyle noted that this was assigned ordinance number 2012-28. She added that our Assessed Valuation went up which means our taxes should drop.

Upon the motion, all voted aye.

**ORDINANCE 2012-31: PARKING ORDINANCE – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING** Motion was made by Ben Romine to read Ordinance 2012-31 by title only, Dan Weigold second the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2012-31 an ordinance amending Chapter 71, Parking Regulations and amending Chapter 75, Traffic Schedules, both of Title VII of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Mayor Daniel noted the changes that were requested to be made after 1<sup>st</sup> reading were made in this copy of the ordinance.

Ben Romine questioned how much we made on parking tickets on an annual basis. Rosie Coyle reported so far this year we have made about \$3,400.00.

Motion was made by Bill Simpson to approve Ordinance 2012-31 on second reading, Jacie Worrick second the motion, all voted aye.

**WATER BOND** Mike Dear explained they have 5 - 6 projects they would like to do over the next 4 – 5 years and basically need funds to get started. He pointed out the only thing listed, besides water main projects, was a new barn at the plant to store vehicles and equipment in. He felt most of the figures were pretty close, maybe a little high, but hoped there would be extra money to finish a stretch on Line Street next summer and fix other areas where they have had a lot of leaks. He advised they would be adding expense to put in a system on 205 on the other side of 30 that would slow the corrosion process.

Mayor Daniel advised we received notice back from INDOT stating that they will pay for the water line as part of the 205 project. He stated that was a great thing for our community and that we do not have to include it in the water bond.

Ben Romine advised he had talked with Mike last week about the bond and confirmed the vehicles would not be included in the bond. Mike Dear stated that was his understanding from Buzz's office that vehicles would not be included. Ben confirmed they felt the barn could be done for around \$250,000 - \$260,000 if done in house. Mike advised that was correct. Ben mentioned that would give us another \$130,000 - \$140,000 which is what

they felt would cost to do the section by Parkview that has broken several times. Mike felt they might be able to do it cheaper with the corrosion equipment.

Ben questioned if there was a target number they were looking at. Mayor Daniel advised he did not necessarily have a target number but with what was being discussed it looks like it would be maybe \$380,000 less than what is listed. If we take out the vehicle replacements and \$130,000 for the storage barn we were looking at maybe just under \$2 million. Mike Dear advised he would not mind rounding it up to \$2 million.

Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to authorize Mayor Daniel to pursue a \$2 million water bond, Dan Weigold second the motion, all voted aye.

Nicole Penrod excused herself from the meeting.

**WATER DEPARTMENT** Mike Dear reported on repairs made to service line leaks; they started putting a new roof on the pole barn; they spent time interviewing with an OSHA representative regarding a particular job and what needed to be changed and updated to meet their current standards; he should be getting a letter from IDEM regarding the Boschet property by the end of this month basically stating there was nothing to worry about and could wrap that project up; he spent time working on paperwork for the Fire Department and Columbia Townships Fire Department on the ISO requirements and he met with a gentleman regarding the 205 main and different options on how to put anodes on to slow down the corrosion.

**STREET DEPARTMENT** Kelly Cearbaugh reported they started leaf pickup, this was a 6 week program; they have had the root cutter and jet machine out as well as the sweeper.

**WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT** Mayor Daniel reported Mike Cook was out due to a family illness; the water pump would be overhauled; they were working on the CSO plan; they started fall cleaning of the station wet wells and they have been collecting samples from industries for the last quarter.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT** Tim Longenbaugh reported on upcoming training; Detective Stephenson and Officer Chapman completed an Instructor Development training and would be teaching classes to our officers; they were gearing up for Trick or Treat hours; he and Captain Hively would be meeting with Gary Bird to finalize plans for the Veteran's Marathon; he advised they were working on quotes for the new vehicles and equipment to go in the vehicles.

**PARK DEPARTMENT** Mark Green reported on the progress of the bridge and trail project; they will be remodeling the bathrooms in the pavilion combining 4 bathrooms into 2, 1 men's and 1 women's; they have decided to replace the playground at Morsches Park since they have had issues with the playground and was 22-23 years old; they would be putting the fence in at DeVol Field; the Park Board would be voting on the future of Burnworth Pool at their November meeting. He advised the Veteran's Marathon was scheduled for November 10, Dashing Through the Snow 5K was scheduled for December 7 to raise money to pay for the water for the splash pad and this was the last week for JFL.

**ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT** Larry Whetstone reported they ran power for the new bank; they checked the capacitors for blown fuses; he reported on miscellaneous repairs and replacements they made. He advised they came up with some ideas for the Christmas lights; Mayor Daniel reported they looked through catalogs and visited Herman's near Pierceton and found the best price at Herman's. He explained they would be looking to replace the pole lights with 23 snowflakes and 23 candles; these would be down Main and Line Streets. He stated this would have to go through the Board of Works for approval.

There was some discussion about putting the Christmas lights around the Court House on timers. Mayor Daniel asked for Chief Longenbaugh and Larry to discuss this further.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** Jeff Walker reported the DNR signed off on the 6f mitigation proposal the City submitted and forwarded in on to the National Park Service; he submitted our annual storm water report to IDEM; he gave an update on the bridge and trail extension project; he reported they had a progress meeting on the miscellaneous improvement project and advised final completion was not going to take place this Thursday.

**IS/COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT** Terry Wherry reported they were implementing new security measures in Dispatch; he and Shawn Lickey would be putting on an iPad class and were in the process of replacing a UPS.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT** Tom LaRue reported on department training; they would be handing out glow sticks on Halloween and candy on Christmas Eve and they completed their ISO inspection.

**YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT** Miranda with the Youth Council reported that they have been working on their Facebook page; working on a survey for a business walk around town as well as teaching 5<sup>th</sup> graders about government.

**WASTEWATER RATE STUDY** Mayor Daniel reported the Board of Works approved having a wastewater rate study; this would hopefully give the Council options to decide how to fund a \$7 million that is due in 7 years. He stated it was important to note that if we are going to have a rate increase the residents voiced that they would like it stair stepped in.

Ben Romine questioned if the next phase of the wastewater plant was the last phase. Mayor Daniel advised there would be one more phase. Phase 2B is looking at about \$7 million and the final phase 2C looks like about a \$2 million project; he stressed that these were projections and when talking about Phase 2B they were looking at construction in 2019 with design in 2017 and 2C they were talking in the 2020's range.

**INCOME SURVEY** Mayor Daniel reported they were preparing an income survey to potentially qualify for an OCRA grant for a comprehensive community development plan. He advised Lori Shipman has been working very hard on the survey and should be going out very soon. He stated our comprehensive plan was a little outdated.

Ben Romine questioned if we do not get the grant what would it cost to do the study. Mayor Daniel explained a comprehensive plan can cost anywhere from \$40,000 - \$60,000 but that is typically with a grant. He stated he did not know what it would cost without a grant. Ben felt it was something we needed to do with or without a grant.

**VACANT HOMES** Bill Simpson questioned if there was a way to get an accurate count of the number of homes that were abandoned in town. Rosie Coyle advised she had no easy way to get that number. Mike Dear advised he could count the number of meters he has sitting at the plant. Rosie noted that not all of them would be from abandoned homes. Bill did not know if there was anything we could do as a City to alleviate the situation but felt our goal should be to occupy those houses. Mayor Daniel felt that was a great point and felt having some type of benchmark to find out where we are now and check again maybe a year from now.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

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Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

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Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle