

**BOARD OF WORKS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2016
6:00 P.M.**

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

Council Members

Walter Crowder – Present
Nicole Penrod – Present
Jennifer Romano – Present
Tad Varga – Present
Daniel Weigold – Present

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

MINUTES Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve an overview of the Monday, November 07, 2016 meeting minutes as presented, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

TAX ABATEMENT – QUALITY INSPECTION & GAGE Jon Myers explained they were requesting both a personal property and real estate property tax abatement. He shared the company has been here a number of years, just under different ownership at different times, and is located out in the Blue River Industrial Park. He advised they were considering an expansion which would include \$250,000 in new machinery, modifications to the existing lab space and adding an additional 5000 square feet of floor space for additional manufacturing. He explained what they do at Quality Inspection & Gage. He shared the total direct benefits from this project, on a net present value basis, would be a little over \$174,000 and the value of the phased in tax abatement would be close to \$68,000 so the City would come out ahead by about \$106,000 - \$107,000 over the course of this project in terms of additional property taxes, CAGIT, CEDIT, etc.

Jeff Walker advised it was the recommendation of the Tax Abatement Committee to award the full 10 years for both parts of the project.

RESOLUTION 2016-24: QIG REAL PROPERTY ABATEMENT Motion was made by Dan Weigold to read Resolution 2016-24 by title only, Jennifer Romano seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Resolution 2016-24, a resolution of the Common Council for the City of Columbia City approving the deduction of assessed valuation for real property improvements located in the Columbia City economic revitalization area.

Council was in agreement to award 10 year abatement on the real property.

Mayor Daniel read the findings of facts.

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve Resolution 2016-24 on a 10 year abatement timeline.

Walt Crowder questioned if there was a starting or ending period that would be required for this to go forward. Mr. Myers reported they were talking with different construction companies right now and the thought was for when the weather breaks in the spring. He pointed out in the form they included an estimated start date of 12/01/2016 with completion by the end of 2017.

Upon the motion, all voted aye.

RESOLUTION 2016-25: QIG PERSONAL PROPERTY ABATEMENT Motion was made by Dan Weigold to read Resolution 2016-25 by title only, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Resolution 2016-25 a resolution approving the deduction of assessed valuation for personal property improvements within an economic revitalization area in Columbia City, Indiana.

Mayor Daniel read findings of facts.

Council was in agreement to award 10 year abatement on personal property.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder to approve Resolution 2016-25 on a 10 year abatement timeline, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

MINUTES Nicole Penrod noted the day was wrong on the November 7, 2016 meeting minutes.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to amend the minutes to reflect the correct day, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

All previous motions were withdrawn.

ORDINANCE 2016-18: AMENDMENT TO ANIMAL ORDINANCE – 2ND READING

Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to read Ordinance 2016-18 by title only, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2016-18 an ordinance amending Chapter 90, Animals, of Title IX of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Jennifer Romano explained this was concerning residents who were found to have exceeded the number allowed in a household for dogs and cats. She shared this would allow for 30 days to find the animal a new home.

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve Ordinance 2016-18 on second reading, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

ORDINANCE 2016-19: AMENDMENT TO NUISANCE ORDINANCE – 2ND READING

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to read Ordinance 2016-19 by title only, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2016-19 an ordinance amending Chapter 95, General Regulations, of Title IX of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Jennifer Romano shared these amendments were to lower some of the fines as well as change the grass height from 10” to 8”.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to approve Ordinance 2016-19 on second reading, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

ORDINANCE 2016-20: AMENDMENT TO PARK ORDINANCE – 2ND READING

Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to read Ordinance 2016-20 by title only, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2016-20 an ordinance amending Chapter 96, Parks, of Title IX of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve Ordinance 2016-20 on second reading, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

ORDINANCE 2016-21: AMENDMENT TO PARKING ORDINANCE – 2ND READING

Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to read Ordinance 2016-21 by title only, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2016-21 an ordinance amending Chapter 75, Traffic Schedules, of Title XII of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Jennifer Romano explained this was for parking restrictions that are no longer needed for street sweeping.

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve Ordinance 2016-21 on second reading, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

ORDINANCE 2016-10: AMENDMENT TO THE GOLF CART ORDINANCE – 1ST READING

Motion was made by Tad Varga to read Ordinance 2016-10 by title only, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2016-10 an ordinance amending Chapter 73, Bicycles, Unicycles, Three-Wheeled Cycles and Golf Carts, of Title VII of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Jennifer Romano shared there was a petition presented to address some potential changes to the existing golf cart ordinance. She explained the Ordinance Committee discussed and researched this in length. She stated the issue brought forth in the petition was to address the minimum age of who could ride on a golf cart. She shared in researching this topic the Committee found that other communities were looking at the safety of the golf carts on a more frequent basis than we were. She advised the Committee felt pretty strongly that there should be a more frequent check of the vehicles to make sure they were in safety compliance; after much discussion and consideration on what other communities were charging the Committee felt a \$25 fee every two years would be a reasonable amount to cover the cost of the stickers and process to do the safety checks. She explained the issue on age was left blank for Council to make a decision.

Mayor Daniel noted the current ordinance states no one under the age of 6 could ride on the golf cart and no one under the age of 10 could ride on the back. Jennifer Romano advised that was correct.

Tony Hively advised he had an issue with lowering the age below 6; he felt anything below that would open up safety hazards. He explained in his research of the National Safety Child Council, 6 years old was probably the youngest that should be allowed on the vehicle. He shared that he took a poll of the department and they were all in agreement to keep it at age 6.

Tony Fugate of 210 E. Main Street, Larwill, IN was present and shared that when she started the petition she lived in Columbia City. She did not feel there was anything wrong with having a younger one in the front seat of a golf cart, even if they have to be seat belted in. She felt younger than 10 years old could be in the back as long as there was an adult in back with them. She shared at the time she had a 6 year old and 4 year old; it was hard to tell the 4 year old that they could not ride. She advised in other counties there were babies allowed; she felt it would be ok as long as there was an adult sitting with them.

John St. George was present representing the Buggies Club. He advised he looked at the Club as being a privilege and agreed with Chief Hively with the age being 6 years old. He shared an episode with a golf cart that involved grandparents and a 4 year old that resulted in the 4 year old being thrown from the golf cart. He understood that the kids want to go for a ride but felt there needed to be a limit of where the maturity level steps in. He felt to buck the law and say anything lower than 6 years old should be able to ride on a golf cart was unfound.

Ms. Fugate questioned how that would be when they are allowed to be on the back of a motorcycle; what was more dangerous, something that can go maybe 25-30 mph or something that can go 100 mph. Mr. St. George stated the speed did not matter, if the child falls off of the golf cart and hits their head on the curb or pavement and becomes brain damaged was it worth taking the child on a ride.

Chief Hively shared that it did not matter what the golf cart was doing, it was the other vehicles going up to 45 mph. He explained a child under 6 years old does not have the reflexes, grip strength or balance to properly stay seated and react in an accident; whereas an adult can.

Mayor Daniel confirmed with Mr. St. George that he was for keeping the current age restriction at 6 years old. Mr. St. George advised they were; he shared they started the CC Buggies Club back in 2009 and it has been very successful. He felt if the Club and the City can continue to work together they can make it much bigger and emphasize on safety.

Mayor Daniel questioned Mr. St. George how many golf cart operators he had in their club. Mr. St. George shared he had 45-46 in their club. Chief Hively advised they had over 100 golf carts registered. Mayor Daniel questioned if they knew how many of those were driving their golf carts on the streets. Neither could answer. Mr. St. George felt it was a fad and has started to taper down.

Ms. Fugate questioned if anyone knew how many people have gotten hurt on a golf cart since 2009. Mayor Daniel was not sure we had those statistics.

Harold Rhoades of 8 Holden Rd. questioned if it would be possible to pass an ordinance to require seat belts on the golf cart and then leave it up to driver's discretion in terms of age. Mayor Daniel shared that could certainly be considered. Mr. Rhoades did agree with the 10 year age limit for the back.

Mr. St. George advised that was a point to consider. He noted that we all have rules and we don't bend on those rules for anything; those were things we look forward to when we get to the appropriate age. He sympathized and agreed it would be nice to take grandchildren for a ride but rules are what make us safe.

Mr. St. George questioned if there was anyone on the Ordinance Committee who had a golf cart. Walt Crowder advised he did. Mr. St. George advised he was in favor of the 2 year inspection of \$25. He questioned how that would be monitored. Chief Hively explained it would be similar to registering ATV's in that there would be different colored stickers.

There was discussion about brake lights being a requirement on the golf carts as well as roads the golf carts were allowed on.

Jennifer Romano shared the Committee talked about seat belts but there were problems in that there was nothing consistent as every golf cart is different; there was also a worry about putting liability on the City if seat belts were required. Mr. St. George explained by having insurance on the golf cart that would fall under homeowner or auto so the City would not be liable for anything on the golf cart. Mr. Rhoades added that the insurance companies do not require age limits on a golf cart.

Mayor Daniel noted that Ordinance 73.39 states 'all golf carts shall obey all the rules of the road and shall be equipped with headlights, tail lights, brake lights, turn signals and a rear view mirror. Lights shall be illuminated at all times'. Chief Hively advised there was an inspection sheet that goes along with that.

Nicole Penrod questioned if there was something about which streets they could be on. Mayor Daniel noted there were some changes in State law that may have preempted this but according to Ordinance 73.40 it states 'there shall be no golf cart traffic permitted upon U.S. 30 located within the city (except to cross the highway). In addition, no golf carts shall be allowed to travel on city sidewalks.' Additional discussion followed.

Jennifer Romano questioned Mr. St. George if he had discussed the proposed changes with the members of his Club. Mr. St. George advised he had not but the game plan was for him and his Vice President to come in and obtain the data and report back to the members. He shared they were pretty on board with what is decided, they just want to have in concrete what the rules are.

Council members shared their feelings and were all in consensus that the age restrictions should remain that no one under the age of 6 should be allowed to ride on a golf cart and no one under the age of 10 should be able to ride on the back of a golf cart.

Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to approve Ordinance 2016-10 as first reading with the ages being 6 and 10, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

ORDINANCE 2016-14: 2017 ELECTED OFFICIALS SALARY ORDINANCE – 1ST READING Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to read Ordinance 2016-23 by title only, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2016-23 an ordinance fixing the annual salaries of all elected officials of the City of Columbia City, Indiana effective December 24, 2016 for the year 2017.

Rosie Coyle explained in the budget meetings it was discussed to increase the elected official's salaries 2% although Council members requested no increase. She advised the ordinance reflected no increase for Council members and a 2% increase for the Mayor and Clerk Treasurer.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to approve Ordinance 2016-23 as first reading, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

ORDINANCE 2016-23: SPECIFICATIONS OF SUBDIVISION LIFT STATIONS Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to read Ordinance 2016-23 by title only, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2016-23 Water Pollution Control Facility specifications to accept subdivision lift stations.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to approve Ordinance 2016-23 on second reading, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

AUTHORITY FOR INSURANCE MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT Rosie Coyle explained the agreement was required by our insurance company for our workman's comp and would give her the authority to accept the lowest quote.

Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to approve Rosie Coyle, Clerk Treasurer, as a designated signer on the workman's comp plan, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS **Mark Green** – progressing with the Aquatics Facility, **Mike Shoda** – Squawbuck Road update, 2 high service pumps converted.

YOUTH COUNCIL Olivia Campbell was present to give an update on the Youth Council. She advised they would be doing a canned food drive at one of the boys' basketball game.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle