

**COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2017
6:00 P.M.**

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

Council Members

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

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

MINUTES Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve an overview of the March 14, 2017 meeting minutes as presented, Daniel Weigold seconded the motion, Walter Crowder, Jennifer Romano and Daniel Weigold voted aye, Varga abstained.

ORDINANCE 2017-6: AMENDMENT TO THE CITY BOUNDARIES Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to read Ordinance 2017- 6 by title only, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2017-6 an ordinance amending Chapter 11, City Boundary, of Title I of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Jeff Walker explained this was a bit of housekeeping as 1971 was the last official boundary description that was put in our Code of Ordinances. He advised there were subsequent annexations and legal descriptions that have been entered into the Code of Ordinances but not since then has there been a complete new corporate boundary. He recommended Council act favorably on the ordinance.

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve Ordinance 2017-6 on first reading, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

TAX ABATEMENT UPDATE – C & R PLATING Art Wornat, Vice President Managing Director of what is now KC Jones Indiana Division, formally C & R Plating, was present to give an update on the progress of their business. He explained the last time he was before the Council was April 28, 2015 and at that time they were gung-ho to build a new building and expand C & R Plating. He shared, unfortunately, on June 12 they had a fire; they lost 4 plating lines, 1/3 of their building structure and the waste treatment operation was done. He added there was contamination to the whole building, they had to move every customer to other locations but was happy to report they only lost 1 customer since being back in business. He advised they started plating again on the side of the building that was not damaged about 10 days after the fire and as they were able to restore processes they were able to bring customers back to KC Jones. He added on top of the fire, in 2016, 35% of their largest industry tanked. He shared they have

managed to rebuild the space that was burnt down and have managed to install the plating line he talked about back in April 2015. He advised as of today, they have 71 full time positions, 4 part time people and 6 temporary people but are still down 19 people. He reported they have moved a lot of automotive work down from their Michigan facility which was helping a ton. He also reported they just finished the installation of their first new piece of equipment that was a result of the fire. He advised they have invested about \$4 million in the community and company and want to continue to grow.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS **Shawn Lickey** – IMPA annual meeting, finishing up with Tree Board tree removal, installing new services. **Terry Wherry** – suggestions to enhance audio and visual capabilities in the Council Room. **Mike Shoda** – tapping into Eagle Glen line. **Tony Hively** – Spillman software update, new hire in Dispatch doing great, training. **Kelly Cearbaugh** – ADA ramp installations, installing concrete wall at MSF for stone storage, limb pickup, leaf mulch ready. **Mark Green** – baseball and softball registration over, drafting teams, concession stand interviews, bathrooms open this week, new digital sign at the park paid for by Rotary.

YOUTH COUNCIL Whitney Shelton was present representing the Youth Council and gave an update on their activities.

MAYOR UPDATE Mayor Daniel gave an update on the IMPA annual meeting that he and Shawn Lickey attended. He attended the 40 under 40 awards banquet in support of those from Whitley County. He reported on the Whitley Works Summit which related to job preparation and readiness. He advised he would be meeting with the employees of each department. He reported on a project meeting that is being held regarding the Wooddale infrastructure. He shared he would have an elementary student spending the day with him on Friday.

AQUATICS FACILITY Tad Varga reported he and Mark Green made a presentation to the County Commissioners regarding the aquatics facility. He shared they asked the County to help invest in the facility. He advised Mark would be presenting to the entire County Council on Monday, April 3.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle