

**COMMON COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 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 – Present  
Jennifer Romano – Present  
Tad Varga - Present  
Daniel Weigold – Absent

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

**MINUTES** Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve an overview of the March 28, 2017 meeting minutes as presented, Tad Varga seconded the motion, Walt Crowder, Jennifer Romano and Tad Varga voted aye, Nicole Penrod abstained.

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve an overview of the Executive Session March 28, 2017 meeting minutes as presented, Walt Crowder, Jennifer Romano and Tad Varga voted aye, Nicole Penrod abstained.

**TAX ABATEMENT DOT – MICHAEL VENTURINI – 335 TOWERVIEW DRIVE**

Michael Venturini with DOT America was present to give an update regarding their tax abatement. He reported they committed to 10 employees by the end of last year; they were currently at 15 and would be interviewing for their 16<sup>th</sup> employee. He advised they committed to just under \$2.5 million in investments and were over \$3 million right now. He shared they were expanding beyond what their parent company had set aside for them and would be another \$3+ million investment for them.

Mayor Daniel questioned Mr. Venturini what their biggest challenge was in terms of business environment and staffing. Mr. Venturini advised they need strong work ethic and that was challenging to find.

**ORDINANCE 2017-6: AMENDMENT TO THE CITY BOUNDARIES – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING**

Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to read Ordinance 2017-7 by title only, Jennifer Romano 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.

Motion was made by Tad Varga to approve Ordinance 2017-6 on second reading, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**ORDINANCE 2017-7: AMENDMENT TO THE FARMER'S MARKET** Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to read Ordinance 2017-7 by title only, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2017-7 an ordinance amending the authorization for the operation of a Columbia City Farmer's Market in the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Jennifer Romano explained the Chamber of Commerce was advised by their accounting oversight that they were risking their non-profit status by housing the funds for the Farmer's Market. She advised they recommended to the Farmer's Market that they begin the process of becoming their own separate entity; this ordinance would change the Chamber from being the oversight to the Farmer's Market being their own oversight.

Walt Crowder confirmed the Farmer's Market has already established. Jennifer Romano advised they had their own non-profit status, were operating independently and all of the funds were with them.

Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to approve Ordinance 2017-7 on an emergency basis, Tad Varga seconded the motion, Nicole Penrod, Tad Varga and Walt Crowder voted aye, Jennifer Romano abstained.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS** **Mike Shoda** – water line to Eagle Glen was finished and charged, they were just waiting to pressure test and get the bacteria tests back. He talked with Niblock about paving the entrance to Eagle Glen as soon as their asphalt plant was operating which was estimated to be the week of April 17. **Jeff Walker** - received concern from citizen of Eagle Glen regarding storm water issues due to the new development and has forwarded it to John Gotz. **Kelly Cearbaugh** - doing concrete work, divider wall at MSF, work on Wallace Avenue, grating alleys and running sweeper.

**WOODDALE SUBDIVISION UPGRADES** Tad Varga reported Mayor Daniel, Dan Weigold and himself met with the residents of Wooddale regarding upgrades to the subdivision. He felt most residents were on board.

**REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION** Tad Varga reported the City would be accepting the deed to the old Cardinal Grain building. Mayor Daniel shared a comfort letter was received from Indiana Brownfields or IDEM that stated anything prior to the City taking over the property, the City would not be liable for. He also shared the Redevelopment Commission moved forward with insurance recovery litigation which would allow the RDC to go back and basically sue the insurance companies of the businesses who occupied the building and dumped bad stuff into the ground and river to recoup dollars to clean up the property.

**AQUATICS FACILITY UPDATE** Tad Varga reported he attended the Regional Cities meeting where the City was awarded \$844,078.90 or basically 98% of what was being asked for the aquatics facility. He shared final approval would have to go before the IEDC in Indianapolis. He stated they were \$17,100 short of what was asked from Regional Cities so would need to make up that difference plus the cost for a pavilion. He advised they were about \$180,000-

\$200,000 short of what is needed for the project. He advised he and Mark Green have set up meetings and made presentations to try and bridge the funding gap.

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