

**COMMON COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2018  
6:00 PM**

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 – Absent  
Daniel Weigold – Present

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

**MINUTES** Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve an overview of the September 11, 2018 meeting minutes as presented, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**NORTHEAST INDIANA REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP – JOHN SAMPSON** John Sampson was present to discuss the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership and how it benefited Columbia City and Whitley County.

Mr. Sampson reported the Partnership began in 2006 with a narrow mission about marketing and selling the region for economic development purposes. He advised they started with 9 counties and were up to 11 counties. He continued to discuss their expanded mission to build, market and sell the northeast region and what that looks like. He advised they were the largest and best organized region in the State in terms of the way they collaborate across borders.

Jon Myers talked about their code of ethics.

**PUBLIC HEARING – 2019 BUDGET** Mayor Daniel noted they were trying to spend money in places where it makes sense and provide good government services at a good price. He advised there were some minor increases but at the end of the day they saw the assessed valuation for the City go up \$9 - \$10 million, which shows what kind of growth we are having here in Columbia City.

Mayor Daniel opened the meeting as a public hearing.

Hearing no comments or questions the public hearing was closed.

**PUBLIC HEARING – SEWER MAINTENANCE SURCHARGE FEE – SDI** Mayor Daniel reminded Council as part of the SDI agreement there was a maintenance fee we would be charging them because they would be the primary user of the new sewer line. He stressed this fee was only for SDI and was not for any other customer in the City or outside the City.

Mayor Daniel opened the meeting as a public hearing.

Hearing no comments or questions the hearing was closed.

**ORDINANCE 2018-25: 1<sup>ST</sup> READING - MAINTENANCE FEE SDI** Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to read Ordinance 2018-25 by title only, Jennifer Romano seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2018-25 an ordinance amending Section 51.21, Public Works, of Title V of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana, establishing a monthly fee to be collected by the City from Steel Dynamics, Inc., and other matters connected therewith.

Mayor Daniel noted this was a monthly fee based on the amount of discharge SDI will be putting in the sewer line. He shared this would be a way in which we can make sure we are maintaining our sewer line as well as to ensure that the company that is using it is paying for it.

Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to approve Ordinance 2018-25 as first reading, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**UNITY PARK** Mayor Daniel requested to table this issue.

**ORDINANCE 2018-27: TRAFFIC ORDINANCE AMENDMENT – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING** Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to read Ordinance 2018-27 by title only, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2018-27 an ordinance amending Chapter 75, Traffic Schedules, of Title VII of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Mayor Daniel noted this was for the one way stop at the intersection of Berkshire Drive and Long Ridge Drive.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder to approve Ordinance 2018-27 on second and final reading, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**TREE BOARD APPOINTMENT** Walt Crowder shared that Gloria Banker accepted the position for another 4 year term. He asked Council to allow her to serve for another 4 years.

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to appoint Gloria Banker to the Tree Board for another 4 years, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS** **Mark Green** – volunteers cleaning and putting things away at the Aquatics Center, baseball and football continue, Mother/Son Halloween party on October 26. **Scott Leatherman** – update on dispatch center and simulator. **Kelly Cearbaugh** - investigative work for City Engineer on a stormwater project for Van Buren Lofts. **Shawn Lickey** - update on Wooddale lighting, continue to change out poles, begin working on Christmas lights. **Jeff Walker** – meeting to develop final storm sewer route for Van Buren Lofts. **Mike Cook** – update on US 30 sewer project, started working on asset management program for SRF loan, cancelled

truck order but still waiting on confirmation. **Tom LaRue** – attended local emergency tabletop exercise.

**YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT** Charles Varga was present representing the Youth Council. He gave an update on their activities.

**MAYOR REPORT** Mayor Daniel reported he and Jeff Walker were working on the trail to connect Columbia City to the new high school site. He noted a portion of the trail has been put in on the school property; they were unaware that was happening so are now trying to figure out how to get it connected. He advised he met with Jodi Golden, Executive Director of OCRA, to discuss things happening in Columbia City. He reported he would be hosting the Mayor’s Roundtable at Eagle Glen on Friday. He noted he and many others would be attending the AIM Conference at French Link.

**PARKING COMMITTEE** Dan Weigold advised the Parking Committee would like to go ahead with one side street parking on Arrowhead Court. He shared all of the residents that he talked with were in favor of it. He noted they still needed to decide which side of the street to allow parking.

Mayor Daniel advised if that was the recommendation from the Parking Committee he would have Attorney McNagny start working on an ordinance. He also asked Chief Leatherman to work with Attorney McNagny about establishing one side parking in Wooddale.

Dan Weigold advised he needed to check with Tad Varga to make sure he was ok with it.

**REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT** Walt Crowder reported the Regional Sewer District became a Charter. Mayor Daniel shared that Attorney McNagny was working with Matt Shipman on an inner-local agreement between the two organizations.

**ORDINANCE COMMITTEE** Jennifer Romano reported the Ordinance Committee met and discussed a lot of things. She shared an ordinance will be coming before Council soon concerning grass clippings in the street, peddler’s and mobile non-food vendors as well as an amendment to the dangerous dog ordinance.

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