

**COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2014
6:15 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 December 30, 2013 meeting minutes as presented, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT Nicole Penrod nominated Dan Weigold, Jacie Worrick seconded the nomination.

Hearing no other nominations, motion was made by Nicole Penrod to close the nominations, Jacie Worrick seconded the motion, Penrod, Romine, Simpson and Worrick voted aye. Weigold abstained.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTING AWARDS 2013 Dan Weigold and Ben Romine presented lighting awards to Fred Gawthrop for the northeast district; Ora Kidd for the southeast district; Derek, Vickie, Ava and Gage Coyle for the southwest district; Mike & Pam Hoppe for the northwest district and the overall winner was Mike Christie.

ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE 2014-1 AMENDMENT: 1ST READING Motion was made by Dan Weigold to read Ordinance 2014-1 by title only, Jacie Worrick seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2014-1 an ordinance restating and amending Chapter 90, Animals, of Title IX of the code of ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Ben Romine reviewed the changes that were made to the ordinance.

Mayor Daniel brought up section 90.02(A)(6) which talks about the duties of the Board of Public Works and Safety where the Board is to submit to the Common Council a written report of its activities and recommendations no later than March 1 of each year. He did not feel it was worthwhile to keep that in there. Ben Romine questioned if they could change it to ‘at the request of the Council’. Attorney McNagny suggested removing the provision as the Council could request a report at any time anyway.

Ben Romine mentioned the clause regarding dogs barking nonstop before it becomes an offense and noted that nothing was mentioned about exempting the humane shelter. He wondered if that was something that should be addressed; by any other statute would they be exempt from barking past 15 minutes or would they be subject to it. Attorney McNagny did not think any statute would cover that and felt there should be some ability there to say 'hey, it's too much'. Discussion followed. Ben Romine felt with the type of facility it was they need some kind of exemption but did not feel they should be completely exempt from the rules. Attorney McNagny advised she would try to come up with something.

Mayor Daniel shared that there has been some discussion from members of the community about the potential for a dog park. He was not sure it would ever come about but wanted to make sure there was nothing in the ordinance that would prohibit a dog park. Attorney McNagny advised she had provided some information regarding a dog park and there would need to be language in the ordinance. Bill Simpson felt it would be a good idea to go ahead and include it if there might be potential for one in the future.

Mayor Daniel questioned Council what action they would like to take. Nicole Penrod suggested they table the ordinance so changes can be made for the next meeting.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS Department reports were given by Kelly Cearbaugh, Mike Dear, Tim Longenbaugh, Shawn Lickey, Mark Green and Jeff Walker.

MAYOR REPORT Mayor Daniel informed Council that there was a potential bill coming out that would make it more difficult for municipal electric utilities to take territory when annexing. He noted there was a bill filed that would make PVC pipe more acceptable. He advised they were also keeping an eye on the personal property tax elimination bill.

ROAD WEIGHT LIMITS Dan Weigold shared that he was approached by a citizen questioning why we have 5 ton weight limits on certain roads. He advised the citizen was issued a warning for parking his semi along side the road. Dan stated in the research he has done by leaving it set, it breaks down the roadway. He shared that the citizen wanted to see about having the ordinance changed.

Tim Longenbaugh felt they should leave the ordinance as is; it was put in place for a reason. Kelly Cearbaugh agreed.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle