

**COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2012
7:00 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 Mayor Daniel advised there was one change on page 4 under the Holiday Pay; it says ‘Chief of Director’ and should say ‘Chief or Director’. Ben Romine also pointed out under the Council Appointments for Redevelopment Commission it should be Jerry Freewalt not Jeff Freewalt.

Motion was made by Ben Romine to approve an overview of the January 3, 2012 meeting minutes as amended, Nicole Penrod second the motion, all voted aye.

ORDINANCE 2012-1: AMENDMENT TO PRIVATE EMERGENCY ALARM SYSTEMS

1ST READING Motion was made by William Simpson to read Ordinance 2012-1 by title only, Weigold second the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2012-1; an ordinance amending Chapter 102, Section 102.02, private emergency alarm systems, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Bill Simpson explained in the existing ordinance it required the officer at the scene of a false alarm to issue a citation to the business owner. He stated in talking with several business owners over the course of the last year it became obvious that there should be the ability for the officer to make the decision on whether it was appropriate or not to cite the individual. He advised this was consistent with most other laws and ordinances the officers enforce throughout their career. He advised the change was, as opposed to requiring the officer to write the ticket, it gives them the option to write a ticket or give warning.

Chief Longenbaugh advised he did not have an issue with changing the verbiage.

Rosie Coyle questioned if we would have a way to track this as far as how many times we have been called to an address. Chief Longenbaugh explained in the CAD system they can track business alarms; they could get with Dispatch and they could pull up the information.

Motion was made by William Simpson to move Ordinance 2012-1 on to second reading, Ben Romine second the motion, all voted aye.

ESTABLISH COMMITTEE FOR TRASH COLLECTION CONTRACT Rosie Coyle advised July 1 would start the new contract. Mayor Daniel advised he would like to establish a committee to review this; in the past the committee was made up of Kelly Cearbaugh, Rosie Coyle, Attorney McNagny and Jeff Walker. Bill Simpson volunteered to serve on the committee as a council representative.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE FOR PLANNING COMMISSION Mayor Daniel explained there was a change for the Planning Commission appointment. He advised Jacie Worrick has stepped up to volunteer to be a member of the Planning Commission, joining Jeff Walker and Dan Weigold.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to appoint Jacie Worrick to the Columbia City Plan Commission, Nicole Penrod second the motion, Penrod, Romine, Simpson and Weigold voted aye, Worrick abstained.

WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT Mike Cook reported they were cleaning tanks; they had to replace a UPS unit on one of the PLC panels; pre-construction meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January 26 at 9:30 a.m. for the improvement project and they have been working on plant maintenance items.

IS/COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT Terry Wherry reported he has been working with SDS Communications to install a camera to monitor the trail bathrooms, he has been working with Melinda Wheeler to establish a new park website, he reported they lost a monitor in dispatch due to the power outage as well as the generator would not start so they lost power to all of the radios and phone system. He reported they received 40 – 45 applications for the dispatch position and would be setting up interviews.

Ben Romine questioned the cause of the generator not starting and if there was a system in place to periodically check it. Terry explained the generator was set to self test every Wednesday morning. He advised they were in to service it the next day but he has not heard the report back as to why it did not start; they thought there was a possibility there was not enough gas pressure. He explained it was a natural gas generator and if there is not enough pressure it will not start. Rosie Coyle advised they were getting the gas company to come and check it. Terry advised it was the first time this has ever happened.

STREET DEPARTMENT Kelly Cearbaugh reported he had 2 guys helping the electric department with tree removal; they have been working on snow removal, vehicle maintenance and have been televising in the Columbia Shores area.

Kelly gave an update to Jacie regarding the curb cut in her area. He advised the gentleman had the letter and was looking to get started shortly. He stated he may need to request an extension due to asphalt not being ready.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT Larry Whetstone reported on the major power outage and the difficulty they had trying to get to the location they needed to be to fix the problem. He advised they have been working on the tree removal list from the Tree Board and have a couple new services to put in.

WATER DEPARTMENT Mike Dear reported they hooked up auxiliary contacts in the control panel for the lift station to monitor when it turns on and off and the run time hours on the pumps; they took distribution samples for bacteria and everything tested fine; they received 54 applications and started the interview process and have changed out 11 different water meters to an updated newer style meter.

POLICE DEPARTMENT Tim Longenbaugh reported they promoted 2 officers to detective/sergeant, Gary Archbold and Robert Stephenson; they have met with the 2nd & 3rd shift supervisors to discuss goals and expectations and would be meeting with each shift, supervisor and officers, to discuss those same things. He reported he has started to reach out to other Chief's of communities our size to try and network with them; they have started to review the Standard Operating Procedure for the department and the Captain has started an equipment inventory.

PARK DEPARTMENT Mark Green reported on the IPR Conference he attended in Indianapolis and advised baseball and softball registration starts February 1. He reported the Father/Daughter dance was next Friday and was sold out; they would be having Disney princesses at the dance. He gave an update on the trail expansion; the trail and bridge would be rebid separately and would look at doing the bathrooms later.

MAYOR DANIEL Mayor Daniel discussed the 'Elected Official Boot Camp' he and the council members attended and felt it was very helpful. He also briefly touched on the bills at the State House that they need to take a look at; Redevelopment Commission bills and there was also an open door law that was going through.

Mayor Daniel reported one of the new job duties of Jeff Walker was focused toward Economic Development and stressed that it was not in competition with our W.C. EDC but very much in partnership with. He advised Jeff attended a week long course on economic development.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle