

**COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2019
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 – Present
Daniel Weigold – Present

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

MINUTES Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to approve an overview of the July 23, 2019 meeting minutes as presented, Jennifer Romano seconded the motion, Nicole Penrod, Jennifer Romano, Tad Varga and Dan Weigold voted aye, Walt Crowder abstained.

BAKER TILLY MUNICIPAL ADVISORS – SRF BOND REFINANCING REPORT Jeff Rowe with Baker Tilly was present to explain the refinancing of the 2005 and 2006 SRF bonds. He distributed and reviewed a report with the Council. He advised the total savings would be \$350,000.00 with an annual savings per year right around \$41,000.00.

Mayor Daniel shared that while this was a very technical and complicated thing, it resulted in something very beneficial for our rate payers. He advised this has saved us on interest payments and has effectively added \$41,000.00 to our account every year.

ORDINANCE 2019-17: AMENDMENT TO SEWAGE SERVICE – 2ND READING
Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to read Ordinance 2019-17 by title only, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2019-17 an ordinance amending Chapter 51, Sewage Service, of Title V of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve Ordinance 2019-17 on 2nd final reading, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

DAVID BARNES: GOLF CART ORDINANCE REQUEST FOR CHANGE David Barnes of 943 S. Sommerset Trail was present to discuss the age restraint listed in the golf cart ordinance. He shared Bourbon, Indiana has no age restrictions; Decatur, Indiana has an age restriction of no one 3 years or under; Plymouth, Indiana has no age restrictions; Syracuse, Indiana has an age restriction of no one under 5 in the back seat unless accompanied by someone 15 years age or older; Ligonier, Indiana has no age restrictions; Manchester, Indiana has no age restrictions; Bluffton, Indiana has an age restriction of no one under the age of 2. He requested

Council to take under advisement the age restrictions for golf carts. He advised he has grandchildren that he would love to take on the golf cart but can't because of their ages.

Mr. Barnes also noted the ordinance prohibits pulling trailers and asked Council to consider changing the ordinance to allow carts that could be used for groceries, dirt or other items other than people.

Mayor Daniel questioned the ordinances with 2 and 3 year old restrictions, if that was for anywhere on the cart or specifically in the back. Mr. Barnes advised it was just the way the ordinance read; no one under the age of 2 or 3 could ride in the golf cart.

Dan Weigold questioned if any of the ordinances required seatbelts. Mr. Barnes advised none of the six ordinances he mentioned had a seat belt requirement.

Dan Weigold shared that he had witnessed quite a few golf carts in his area and everyone has handled them very respectfully. He felt ordinances were normally put in place to protect people from themselves but at the same time, what he has witnessed, people were handling them very professionally and individuals understand the safety involved.

Nicole Penrod shared in her route of travel she did not see golf carts that much; however, recently in her neighborhood she did witness someone with 2 adults and 2 kids in the front seat and an adult and infant in the back seat. She commented to Mr. Barnes, in terms of the cart, that he may not haul people around but other people would haul people around. Mr. Barnes suggested it would have to be a law that they could not haul people around or they would be fined.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS **Scott Leatherman** – update on dispatch center, 1 police candidate did not pass his PERF analysis and asked the Board of Works for permission to begin hiring process. **Mike Cook** – sending grease letters out to residents in Brookwood, Quail Ridge and Lincoln Pointe regarding build up in the lift stations that service their subdivision, proposed upgrades to existing infrastructure on 600 East with funds left over on the force main project, Asset Management plan complete, update on costs since SDI switched to new line. **Kelly Cearbaugh** – Collinwood Avenue curb and sidewalk project complete, assisted with projects at City Hall, 50/50 sidewalk project on N. Elm, update on road for Ravenwood expansion, starting another phase in Cambridge Crossing, Quail Ridge surfacing, tree trimming, grating alleys, hired new employee. **Mark Green** – update on pickle ball courts, mowed river banks, update on bathrooms at Devol, JFL practices have started, update on Pow Wow, meetings with JPR regrading high school property, hiring to replace Aquatics Center Manager.

MAYOR REPORT Need representative to attend the Northeastern REMC annual meeting on September 7, 2019. Discussed the Baby Box and Giving Gardens at the Board of Works meeting. He has US 30 coalition and Westgate meeting coming up. Youth Council starting up again on August 22. No Board of Works or Council meeting on August 27.

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Tad Varga reported the RDC approved the asbestos removal in the old Cardinal Grain building and the back taxes have been removed by the County.

SPEED ON EAST ELLSWORTH Laura Richcreek of 614 W. Ellsworth Street was present to discuss the excessive speed people travel on that street. She shared that she and her neighbors would like to do something to slow people to a safer speed. She advised they have talked about different ideas such as speed bumps or dead-ending the road. She pointed out there was no sidewalk that runs the length of their street and suggested creating a safe space for pedestrians; however, would not protect a darting child. She felt they had done everything they know to do as residents and just wondered what else they could do to bring awareness. She advised they were appreciative of the police patrol in the area.

Mayor Daniel questioned if it was typically when individuals were coming from the west to the east or vice versa. Mrs. Richcreek advised it was both ways.

Mayor Daniel advised the City tends to shy away from speed bumps when it comes to snow removal. He stated police presence was a definite and the idea of extending the sidewalk was a potential idea. He agreed the challenge was that it is hard to stop a darting child.

Dan Weigold felt it was highly probable that it might not even be local residents but someone who lives out in the County.

Scott Leatherman stated that area was dangerous because of the hill.

Walt Crowder questioned if we still had the speed sign. Chief Leatherman advised we did and could put it out there.

Walt Crowder questioned, when heading east, was that intersection a 2 way or 4 way stop. Chief Leatherman advised Ellsworth did not have a stop sign until Elm Street.

Mayor Daniel felt between Kelly Cearbaugh, Chief Leatherman and himself they could discuss what would make the most sense for that area. Mrs. Richcreek advised she would be willing to meet as well.

Walt Crowder felt the speed sign might send a message. Chief Leatherman advised they would definitely put the sign out. Walt questioned if the sign collected data. Chief Leatherman advised it did. Mayor Daniel suggested collecting some data and then meet to discuss options.

Eric Boza, who lives at the corner of Oak and Ellsworth, was also present to express his concern for the speed through the area. He shared there was a bus stop near his intersection and also discussed the semi-trucks who come through there that have broken up their new curbs. He advised there were a lot of kids in the area who like to skateboard, long board and scooter through the area.

Dan Weigold questioned if we could get a letter out to Novae. Mayor Daniel suggested a letter or conversation be the first step to address the issue.

Brad Boras of 605 E. Ellsworth was also present to echo the concern for the speeding and semi-trucks in the area.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle