

**COMMON COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2020  
6:00 PM**

Mayor Ryan Daniel – Present  
Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle – Present  
Attorney Marcia McNagny – Present

**Council Members**

Walter Crowder – Present  
Jennifer Reffitt – Absent  
Jennifer Romano – Present  
Tad Varga – Present  
Daniel Weigold – Present

The Columbia City Common Council met in regular session with all members except Jennifer Reffitt present, Walter Crowder presiding.

**MINUTES** Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve an overview of the February 11, 2020 meeting minutes as presented, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**SWEARING IN OF POLICE OFFICER JEFFREY BRANECKI** Sally Wherry performed the swearing in ceremony for Officer Jeffrey Branecki.

**PUBLIC HEARING: ANNEXATION OF 1181 S. SR 9** Walt Crowder opened the meeting as a public hearing for consideration of the annexation of 1181 S. SR 9.

Hearing no comments or questions the public hearing was closed.

**ORDINANCE 2020-7 ORDINANCE ANNEXATION 1181 S. SR 9 – 1<sup>ST</sup>**

**READING** Attorney McNagny explained the ordinance was to approve and accept the territory, HT2 Rental Property, into the City. She advised it was a super annexation, meaning the owner of the property was the only owner of the area. She noted it was approximately 4.02 acres and was contiguous to the existing City boundary.

Attorney McNagny explained the next step would also include a fiscal plan regarding services to be provided to the property and any agreements reached with the property owner for the annexation of the property. She noted this would be in a separate resolution.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to read Ordinance 2020-7 by title only, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye. Deputy Clerk Treasurer Sally Wherry read Ordinance 2020-7 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Columbia City, Indiana, annexing certain territory to the City of Columbia City, Indiana, placing the same within the corporate boundaries thereof and making the same a part of the City of Columbia City.

Motion was made by Tad Varga to approve Ordinance 2020-7 as first reading, Jennifer Romano seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**RESOLUTION 2020-8: ADOPTION OF FISCAL PLAN HT2 RENTAL**

**PROPERTY** Motion was made by Dan Weigold to read Resolution 2020-8 by title only, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye. Deputy Clerk Treasurer Sally Wherry read Resolution 2020-8 a resolution adopting a written fiscal plan establishing a policy for the provisions of services to an annexed area (HT2 Rentals Property).

Motion was made by Tad Varga to approve Resolution 2020-8, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**ORDINANCE 2020-6: AMENDMENT TO MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES (WEAPONS) – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING** Attorney McNagny explained this was to make it clearer on where weapons could be discharged within the City limits, if at all.

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to read Ordinance 2020-6 by title only, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye. Deputy Clerk Treasurer Sally Wherry read Ordinance 2020-6 an ordinance amending Chapter 130, Miscellaneous Offenses, of Title XIII of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Motion was made by Tad Varga to approve Ordinance 2020-6 on second reading, Jennifer Romano seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**JPR ENGINEERING – PRESENTATION ON PROPOSED PARK PROPERTY**

Andrew Cunningham, Josh Barkley and Jeff Schroader with JPR Engineering were present to walk through the proposed plans and phases for the high school property.

Dan Weigold advised he really liked the concept as it basically addresses everybody's needs in the community. He felt it would be a park everyone could come and enjoy from athletics to education to just normal physical fitness.

Walt Crowder questioned the timeline of the project. Andrew Cunningham shared if we were able to implement the project in the 5 phases as shown and could bring funding on pretty quickly we could be looking at 18 months – 2 years per phase; so 7 – 10 years for everything. Dan Weigold felt the real issue was coming up with funding for something of this magnitude. He advised it was a beautiful plan but had a concern for where the funding was going to come from.

Jennifer Romano questioned what the estimated costs were as shown. Mr. Cunningham advised it was between \$50 - \$55 million.

Mr. Cunningham noted there were different funding sources to consider; grants, private partnerships, etc.

**ORDINANCE COMMITTEE** Jennifer Romano reported the Ordinance Committee met and covered a variety of topics including the dangerous dog impounding procedures. She advised she wanted to report the decision of the Ordinance Committee concerning animals at events was to leave the ordinance alone at this time; however, did want to make anyone planning an event aware that they could ask the Board of Works for an exemption to be able to have animals at their event.

Walt Crowder confirmed the existing ordinance would be followed unless an exemption was approved. Jennifer Romano advised that was correct.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

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Council President Walter Crowder

Attest:

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Deputy Clerk Treasurer Sally Wherry