

**COMMON COUNCIL**  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2019**  
**6:00 PM**

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

**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 Jennifer Romano to approve an overview of the December 10, 2019 meeting minutes as presented, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**REQUEST FOR TAX ABATEMENT – IMPACT CNC** Riley Hollenbaugh with the Whitley County EDC was present to discuss the request. He shared it was a pretty cut and paste tax abatement for \$6 million on equipment, that will probably break even at least in the first year, and looking at income tax revenue investment back into the community from this owner. He advised they were looking at 35 new jobs. He pointed out with the income tax coming in; the CAGIT and CEDIT added together they were looking at, over the next 10 years, \$202,000.00 plus the personal property tax looking at about almost \$3.25 million.

Jerry Busche was present to discuss what they will be producing. He explained they would be making parts for the John Deere 8000 series tractor. He noted this part was ½ of the plant sales in Waterloo; they would be forwarding the castings to the Columbia City plant.

Jennifer Romano questioned if John Deere would be opening up opportunities to do more. Mr. Busche advised they would. He shared they were a brand new customer for them this year and so far have booked almost \$7 million in new business. He advised this one project was only about 2/3 of it and was told if his plant did well on the order John Deere said they would keep them busy for the next three years. He advised this has been one of the biggest opportunities he has seen and was very excited about it.

Mayor Daniel noted there was some concern in the region on worker shortage and questioned Mr. Busche if he saw that as an issue. Mr. Busche shared they have unique shifts that seem to distinguish themselves from others and explained how their shifts work.

Jennifer Romano questioned if people were interested in these positions where they would look. Mr. Busche advised they could go online or stop in the office.

Nicole Penrod questioned how many they would be hiring all together. Mr. Busche explained for this round of work it would be about 30-35 but there were other opportunities they would be bringing in. Nicole Penrod questioned how many they have employed now. Mr. Busche advised they have about 110 at Impact, 60 over at PDQ and another 40 down in Rushville, Indiana.

**RESOLUTION 2019-27: APPROVAL OF ASSESSED VALUATION – PERSONAL PROPERTY – IMPACT CNC**

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to read Resolution 2019-27 by title only, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Resolution 2019-27 a resolution approving the deduction of assessed valuation for personal property improvements within an economic revitalization area in Columbia City, Indiana.

Mayor Daniel noted the proposal was for a 10 year abatement on the equipment.

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve the findings and Resolution 2019-27 as presented, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**RESOLUTION 2019-26 TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to read Resolution 2019-26 by title only, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Resolution 2019-26 an emergency resolution providing for the transfer of appropriations for several departments of the City of Columbia City, Indiana for the year 2019, for the action and passage pursuant to IC 6-1.1-18-6.

Rosie Coyle explained this was to clear up year end balances.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder to approve Resolution 2019-26 as presented, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**SUSPENSION OF UTILITY BILLS 2019**

Rosie Coyle reviewed the 2019 bankruptcy and deceased list for utilities that we cannot collect on. She noted the bankruptcy total was \$1,828.32 and the deceased total was \$1,363.43.

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve the deceased and bankruptcy list for 2019, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS DISCLOSURES FOR CONTRACTS**

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve the disclosure for Dan Weigold, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion.

Mayor Daniel noted that Walt Crowder stepped out of the meeting.

Upon the motion, Jennifer Romano, Nicole Penrod and Tad Varga voted aye, Dan Weigold and Walt Crowder abstained.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to approve the disclosure for Tad Varga, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion.

Upon the motion, Jennifer Romano, Nicole Penrod and Dan Weigold voted aye, Tad Varga and Walt Crowder abstained.

Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to approve the disclosure for Walt Crowder, Jennifer Romano seconded the motion.

Upon the motion, Jennifer Romano, Nicole Penrod, Dan Weigold and Tad Varga voted aye, Walt Crowder abstained.

Motion was made by Nicole Penrod to approve the disclosure for Mayor Ryan Daniel, Tad Varga seconded the motion, Jennifer Romano, Nicole Penrod, Dan Weigold and Tad Varga voted aye, Walt Crowder abstained.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to approve the disclosure for Rosie Coyle, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion.

Mayor Daniel noted Walt Crowder returned to the meeting.

Upon the motion, all voted aye.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS** **Mike Shoda** – permission from Board of Works to hire to replace a retiree as well as for an additional employee. **Scott Leatherman** – December 27, 2019 Officers Kelley, Wooldridge and Pepler graduated the academy and Officer Myers will be attending the next class that runs January 13 – April 24. He noted Officer Denbo was pulled from attending that class to help cover for 2 employees who were scheduled to be out for surgery. Officer Simpson retiring in January.

**CITY COUNCIL APPRECIATION** Mayor Daniel thanked Nicole Penrod for her service on City Council for the past 12 years and looked forward to working with her as a Board of Works member.

**MAYOR REPORT** Swearing in ceremony for elected officials at noon on January 1, 2020 at the courthouse. Baby Box unveiling and blessing.

**CLARIFICATION ON RESOLUTION 2019-27: APPROVAL OF ASSESSED VALUATION – PERSONAL PROPERTY – IMPACT CNC** Rosie Coyle was not sure the number of years was specified on the approval of this resolution.

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to ensure that Resolution 2019-27 was for a 10 year abatement, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

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