

**COMMON COUNCIL`
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2020
6:00 PM**

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

Council Members

Walter Crowder – Present
Jennifer Reffitt – 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 March 24, 2020 meeting minutes as presented, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

DALE BUUCK – EDC DIRECTOR Dale Buuck, new EDC Director, introduced himself and shared his background.

TAX ABATEMENT – KYOCERA SGS 724 E. SWIHART Mayor Daniel explained Kyocera was planning to purchase a large amount of equipment. He shared the request was for a 5 year abatement rather than the typical 10 year abatement, mainly because there would not necessarily be additional jobs included in this but would add tax value. He noted the City would break even on the project in the 2nd year.

Dale Buuck, EDC Director, reiterated they may not be adding jobs now but noted they were adding some really nice state of the art equipment. He also noted they have been involved with the High School and the manufacturing program there.

Rosie Coyle noted there was no SB-1 in the packet, only the resolution. Mr. Buuck provided a copy of the SB-1 form. Mayor Daniel noted there was a little difference; the information the City had was \$1,117,782.00 and the SB-1 listed \$1,117,130.00.

RESOLUTION 2020-18 DEDUCTION OF ASSESSED VALUATION – KYOCERA SGS

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to read Resolution 2020-18 by title only, Jennifer Romano seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Resolution 2020-18 a resolution of the Columbia City Council approving the deduction of assessed valuation for real property improvements.

Jennifer Romano shared she was pleased anytime businesses want to invest in our communities and felt if there were ways to support them we should.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to approve Resolution 2020-18 on first and final reading, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

STATEMENT OF PERSONAL PROPERTY SB-1 KYOCERA Motion was made by Tad Varga to approve SB-1 for 5 year abatement for Kyocera SGS Precision Tools, Jennifer Reffitt seconded the motion, all voted aye.

COMPLIANCE WITH STATEMENT OF BENEFITS - PEAK PERFORMANCE – REAL PROPERTY Motion was made by Tad Varga to approve Peak Performance SB-1 for another year, Jennifer Romano seconded the motion, all voted aye.

COMPLIANCE WITH STATEMENT OF BENEFITS – DOT AMERICA – REAL PROPERTY - 2014 Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to find DOT America in compliance and approve for an additional year, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

COMPLIANCE WITH STATEMENT OF BENEFITS – DOT AMERICA – PERSONAL PROPERTY - 2014 Motion was made by Walt Crowder to find DOT America in compliance and approve for another year, Jennifer Reffitt seconded the motion, all voted aye.

COMPLIANCE WITH STATEMENT OF BENEFITS – DOT AMERICA – REAL PROPERTY - 2017 Motion was made by Tad Varga to find DOT America in compliance and approve for an additional year, Jennifer Reffitt seconded the motion, all voted aye.

COMPLIANCE WITH STATEMENT OF BENEFITS – DOT AMERICA – PERSONAL PROPERTY - 2017 Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to find DOT America in compliance and approve for an additional year, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

COMPLIANCE WITH STATEMENT OF BENEFITS – BR REAL ESTATE - REAL PROPERTY – 2018 It was noted their assessed valuation was less than half of the projected amount. Mayor Daniel noted they have met the employee's number and the salaries were actually \$60,000 above the projected amount. He noted the cost itself was higher than anticipated, so effectively spent more, but the AV was not as high. He shared in some ways that was actually better for Council because we are abating what the assessed valuation is. He suggested we make note to check to make sure they have not appealed the assessment as that is part of the agreement.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to approve and find BR Real Estate in compliance with the notation of significant difference in assessed valuation, Tad Varga seconded the motion.

Walt Crowder questioned, with the extension in the deadline for approval, if we should give them an opportunity to look at it again and bring back to the next meeting.

Motion on the floor was rescinded.

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to table approval until the next meeting, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

COMPLIANCE WITH STATEMENT OF BENEFITS – BURNHAM-KERR – REAL PROPERTY – DUNHAMS/WINGS - 2013 Dan Weigold noted the request was significantly less than what their plan was and may not hurt to have them come to Council and explain why.

Rosie Coyle noted the figures were exactly the same as what they submitted last year.

Motion was made by Tad Varga to table approval and coordinate some sort of communication with Burnham-Kerr, Jennifer Reffitt seconded the motion, all voted aye.

COMPLIANCE WITH STATEMENT OF BENEFITS – BURNHAM-KERR – REAL PROPERTY – DOLLAR TREE Motion was made by Tad Varga to find in compliance and approve for an additional year, Jennifer Romano seconded the motion, all voted aye.

FAIR HOUSING ORDINANCE 2020-10 - 2ND READING Attorney McNagny recalled a lot of the changes were pure terminology and cleaned up some statutory changes.

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to read Ordinance 2020-10 by title only, Jennifer Reffitt seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2020-10 an ordinance amending Chapter 93, Fair Housing of the Code of Ordinances, City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Motion was made by Jennifer Reffitt to approve Ordinance 2020-10 on second and final reading, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

AMENDMENT TO DRUG AND ALCOHOL PROGRAM Mayor Daniel noted an email was sent out from our H.R. Director, Beth Igney, regarding an update to our drug and alcohol policy. He explained it really centers around the Department of Transportation regulations.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to approve the amendment to our drug and alcohol policy as presented, Jennifer Reffitt seconded the motion, all voted aye.

MAYOR REPORT Mayor Daniel gave an update on the reopening schedule due the COVID virus.

OCRA GRANT Chip Hill reported the City was awarded \$75,000 grant from OCRA. He advised \$35,000 would go to Passages to provide personal protective equipment and the other \$40,000 would go to the Whitley County Council on Aging to help provide meals as well as assist with the wages for their drivers.

Mayor Daniel explained the City applied for the grant because we were a small City or Town and were eligible for the grant money. He shared Passages and the Council on Aging would be the sub-recipients.

Chip Hill reported there were several different grants we could have applied for but this one touched our community the most.

Mayor Daniel shared there was a bunch of stuff happening when it comes to the finances and aid coming from the government. He noted the Governor mentioned there was money approved to go to local governments. He advised we have not gotten information on it yet to know what that was going to look like.

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION UPDATE Tad Varga reported they would be doing testing and boring at the old Cardinal Grain property. He shared they would be meeting to discuss options for the site.

WHITLEY COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT Walt Crowder reported the Regional Sewer District was still active and have hired a new firm to assist in the process. He reported they were going forward but slowly.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle