

**COMMON COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 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 – Absent  
Tad Varga – Present  
Daniel Weigold – Present

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

**MINTUES** Motion was made by Dan Weigold to approve an overview of the December 8, 2020 Meeting minutes as presented, Jennifer Reffitt seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**STORMWATER PERMITTING FEES – ORDINANCE 2020-36 – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING** Motion was made by Jennifer Reffitt to read Ordinance 2020-36 by title only, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2020-36 an ordinance amending Chapter 56, Illicit Discharge and Connection to the Municipal Stormwater System, of Title V of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Mayor Daniel reminded Council this was regarding the stormwater construction permit fees and changing the fee structure so that we can recapture costs. He shared it was based on recouping our fees and puts us comparable to other cities around us.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder to approve Ordinance 2020-36 on second and final reading, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**TRANSFER RESOLUTION 2020-37** Motion was made by Dan Weigold to read Resolution 2020-37 by title only, Jennifer Reffitt seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Resolution 2020-37 an emergency resolution providing for the transfer of appropriations for several departments of the city of Columbia City, Indiana for the year 2020 for the action and passage pursuant to IC 6-1.1-18-6.

Motion was made by Tad Varga to approve Resolution 2020-37 on first and only reading, Dan Weigold second the motion, all voted aye.

**POSITION DESCRIPTION: ASST. MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR** Mayor Daniel reminded Council that in the 2021 budget an Assistant Maintenance Supervisor position was put in for the park. He noted with adding 50+ acres of land they will need additional staff. He

shared the position also provides for a little oversight over the summer staff to assist the Maintenance Supervisor.

Walt Crowder questioned if this position and the Maintenance Supervisor positions were exempt or non-exempt. Mayor Daniel advised they were non-exempt and would effectively be able to get overtime.

Motion was made by Water Crowder to approve the Assistant Maintenance Supervisor position description, Jennifer Reffitt seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**EMERGENCY ORDER RECERTIFICATION** Mayor Daniel reminded Council that he came to them in November to certify his emergency order through the end of 2020. He advised he was requesting Council to add an additional month and recertify the order through January 29, 2021. He felt there was great promise being shown as our positivity rates appear to be going down.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to recertify the emergency order through January 29, 2021, Jennifer Reffitt seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**ORDINANCE 2020-38 ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT** Motion was made by Walt Crowder to read Ordinance 2020-38 by title only, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2020-38 an ordinance amending the zoning classification of certain property from the “R-1” Single-Family residential district to the “LB” Local Business District.

Nathan Bilger, Planning and Building Director, explained this was an almost 11 acre site that the City currently owns that is being looked to be transferred to the Community Foundation. He explained they were looking to relocate their main business office to this location which necessitates the rezone. He shared the BZA made the determination that even though they are non-profit they are still a non-profit business therefore is a business office and needs to be in a commercial classification. He explained Local Business seemed to be the most appropriate fit in terms of use, however there may be some standards that may come into play and were otherwise being addressed. He advised one item that came up was the compatibility of Morsches Park itself as well as the neighbors. He shared after continuance the Community Foundation came back with a commitment to not develop the northern most 250 ft. of the property. He advised this was forwarded with favorably recommendation.

Tad Varga questioned if the presented drawing was the plan they have already put together. Nathan Bilger advised it was their current working plan but noted it did change a little between their November and December meetings. He shared they had not filed for development plan approval yet, which would solidify everything.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder to approve Ordinance 2020-38 on first reading, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**SUSPENSION OF UTILITY BILLS** Rosie Coyle reviewed the list of bankruptcy and deceased customer accounts that need to be written off of our revenue accounts. She asked for Council's approval to write these amounts off.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to suspend the utility bills as presented, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Tad Varga questioned how it compared to last year. Rosie Coyle advised it was down quite a bit.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS** **Scott Leatherman** – update on Officer Madison as well as officers scheduled to attend academy. Patrolling for Presents was a success. **Mike Shoda** – update on problem with alarm system, may have to have a pump and motor rebuilt.

**ELECTRIC RATE INCREASE** Mayor Daniel noted at the first meeting in January there will be presentations by the Utility Rate Advisory Board as well as Buzz Krohn, our rate consultant. He noted it will have been 12 years since we have had an electric rate adjustment. He advised there was information in the dropbox for review beforehand.

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