

**COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2022
6:00 PM**

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

Council Members

Walter Crowder – Present
Jennifer Middleton – 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 and Mayor Daniel present, Walter Crowder presiding.

MINUTES Motion was made by Dan Weigold to approve an overview of the January 25, 2022, meeting minutes as presented, Tad Varga seconded the motion, all voted aye.

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION MS4 REPORT – JON GOTZ Jon Gotz with the Whitley County Soil & Water Conservation District was present to review the MS 4 report. He advised IDEM was in to audit the program in July and included information about the audit in the report. He shared they audited 4 of the 6 minimum control measures; Public Education and Outreach, Public Participation and Involvement, Elicit Discharge Detection and Elimination, and Municipal Operations. He discussed the results of the audit and the improvements made in the areas we were deficient.

Mr. Gotz advised IDEM finally published a new MS4 General Permit and a new Construction Stormwater General Permit. He shared they were in the process of trying to catch up with those. He reported the MS4 would not start to impact us until they publish the notice of intent for it. He shared once they publish that, we will have 90 days to fill it out and send back. He noted IDEM has published a draft schedule as far as what we may need to do to get up to date with the permit. He advised once the notice of intent has been submitted, we would have 180 days to revise our stormwater quality management plan and 2 years to update City ordinances. He shared that he has reviewed the City ordinances and has found definitions and regulations related to storm water in 8 different chapters so it may be appropriate to go through, combine and consolidate some of the storm water provisions. He reported one of the new requirements was that we need to identify three communitywide storm water issues; one for residents, one for business and commercial and one for developers and construction personnel. He advised most other requirements were in place and just need to do some updating. He noted IDEM indicated they would be flexible with the rollout of the new permit as long as we communicate with them and show we are making progress.

REDISTRICTING ORDINANCE: ORDINANCE 2022-3: 1ST READING Dan Weigold discussed the new district boundaries and the work that went into getting the districts as even as

possible. He noted they had to wait until the 2020 Census information came in as Columbia City has had a lot of growth. He advised there were some territory changes but felt this was a really good concept.

Motion was made by Tad Varga to accept Ordinance 2022-3 as first reading, Jennifer Middleton seconded the motion, all voted aye. Sally Wherry read Ordinance 2022-3 an ordinance reaffirming the governance of the IC 36-4-6-5 of the legislative body and establishing districts for the City of Columbia City, Indiana pursuant to the 2020 US Census.

Motion was made by Tad Varga to reaffirm approval of first reading of Ordinance 2022-3, Jennifer Middleton seconded the motion, all voted aye.

PETITION FOR VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION Chip Hill explained there was about a 50' x 1200' section of Morsches Park that was not in the City. He shared there was an adjacent property owner who would like to be annexed into the City, so we need to get this roughly 2 acres into the City to be able to annex their property.

ORDINANCE 2022-4: ANNEXATION ORDINANCE – 1ST READING Motion was made by Tad Varga to read Ordinance 2022-4 by title only, Jennifer Middleton seconded the motion. Sally Wherry read Ordinance 2022-4 an ordinance of the City of 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 the voluntary annexation, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

DEPARMENT REPORTS **Chip Hill** – opened bids for Westgate project. **Mike Shoda** – south tower up and running on fiber, working on Well 9 and Well 7 is back up and running. **Mike Cook** – proposal for Jefferson Street SCADA, waiting on quotes for several projects, drafted RFQ's for Jefferson and Main Street liftstation, SDI annual report complete and sent in, Spectrum Engineering in to correct problem with SCADA system. **Shawn Lickey** – update on Main Street lighting project, continue to work on North Substation entry project, also having issues with their SCADA system, assisted with snow removal. **Gary Parrett** – working on 2022 training calendar, new intern, waiting on cameras from Motorola. **Kelly Cearbaugh** - Snow removal.

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Tad Varga gave an update on the LML property as well as the lot behind the Van Buren Lofts. He reported they did a matching grant with Columbia City Connect for the bike racks for downtown.

YOUTH COUNCIL Madison gave an update on what the Youth Council has been doing.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

President Walter Crowder

Attest:

Deputy Clerk Treasurer Sally Wherry