

**COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023
6:00 PM**

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

Council Members

Walter Crowder – Present
Jennifer Middleton – Present
Jennifer Romano – Present
Tad Varga – Present via video
Daniel Weigold – Present

The Columbia City Common Council met in regular session with all members present, Tad Varga was present via video. Mayor Daniel presiding.

MINUTES Motion was made by Jennifer Middleton to approve an overview of the December 27, 2022 meeting minutes as presented, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, Jennifer Middleton, Dan Weigold and Walt Crowder voted aye, Jennifer Romano and Tad Varga abstained.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTING AWARDS Jennifer Romano presented lighting awards to Chris Cook as the overall winner, Bryan & Sarah Graham as the Northwest winner, Gary, Heather & Jordan Parrett as the Southeast winner, Jack & Pamela Nicodemus as the Southwest winner and Mike Christie as the Northeast winner.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT Mayor Daniel opened the floor for Council President nominations.

Dan Weigold nominated Walt Crowder; Jennifer Romano seconded the nomination. Hearing no other nominations Jennifer Romano made a motion to close nominations, Dan Weigold seconded the motion.

Mayor Daniel called for a voice vote in appointing Walt Crowder as Council President, Jennifer Middleton, Jennifer Romano, Dan Weigold and Tad Varga voted aye, Walt Crowder abstained.

ORDINANCE 2023-1: ESTABLISH OPIOID FUNDS – 2ND READING Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to read Ordinance 2023-1 by title only, Jennifer Middleton seconded the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2023-1 an ordinance establishing Opioid settlement funds – unrestricted and restricted.

Mayor Daniel reminded Council that the State of Indiana has settled with multiple Opioid manufacturers in a multi-state lawsuit. He shared a portion of the settlement will be going to the State while the other portion will be distributed to cities, towns and counties across the state of Indiana. He noted the distributions will be spread out over 16 – 18 years.

He advised the point of the Opioid settlement fund is to go towards diminishing the impact of opioid over-prescription in our Country, specifically our City.

Motion was made by Jennifer Romano to approve Ordinance 2023-1 on second and final reading, Jennifer Middleton seconded the motion, all voted aye.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS **Tom LaRue** – cleaning up firehouse, Colyn Iden starting January 3 and focusing on his training, working on trailer received from the Training Council. **Mark Green** – tearing down overlook at Morsches Pond and rebuilding it, selling Father/Daughter dance tickets, met with JPR to discuss Eagle Park. **Kelly Cearbaugh** – training on Vac truck with newer employees, maintenance on streets, alleys and around the shop. **Gary Parrett** – update on hiring process, Officer Campbell and Thomas at academy. **Mike Shoda** – water main break by Morsches Lumber, installing new valves at other locations around town. **Mike Cook** – kick off meeting for CSO project, repairs on sludge recirculating pumps, reviewing new permit, year end reports. **Shawn Lickey** – completed Main Street lighting project, started inventory, new mechanic started January 9, preparing for North Substation project. **Chip Hill** – starting annexation process with Connie Dye.

MAYOR REPORT Mayor Daniel shared lots of projects were happening right now. He advised he had a job shadow for a day, AIM legislative meeting was scheduled for Friday, City offices closed for MLK Day and continue having conversations with A & Z on the future phases of Westgate.

PLAN COMMISSION UPDATE Dan Weigold reported the Plan Commission approved the new jail development with some stipulations. He also reported there was a new 5 lot subdivision approved as well they approved the new Espich Printing building.

ART COMMISSION Jennifer Romano reported the first meeting of the Art Commission was held and went really well.

PARKING COMMITTEE Walt Crowder questioned if the Parking Committee was still established. Dan Weigold advised it was made up of himself, Tad Varga and the Police Chief. Areas of concern were discussed.

Having no further business to discuss Mayor Daniel called the meeting adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle