

**COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2024
6:00 PM**

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

Council Members

Jennifer Middleton – Present
Leslee Robinson – 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 called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm. All stood to say the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES Mayor Daniel added the last name of Isabella and Eduardo Covarrubias, who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Leslee Robinson noted a spelling correction under the Mayor's report.

Leslee Robinson made a motion to approve the June 11, 2024, meeting minutes as corrected. Tad Varga seconded the motion, Leslee Robinson, Dan Weigold and Tad Varga voted aye, Jennifer Middleton abstained.

ORDINANCE 2024-9 AMENDMENT TO MOBILE NON-FOOD AND FOOD VENDORS – 1ST READING Tad Varga made a motion to read Ordinance 2024-9 by title only. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted unanimously. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2024-9 an ordinance amending Chapter 114, Restaurant and Chapter 112, Mobile (Non-Food) Vendors of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Attorney McNagny noted changes made from last meeting were Section 2 of the ordinance itself and under the mobile food vendors, 'adjacent to' was changed. Mayor Daniel reminded the Council that the 'adjacent to' was the street to the sidewalk, rather than across the street, as that was the Council's recommendation.

Attorney McNagny shared that additional discussion occurred between Rosie, the Mayor and herself, which resulted in the red line changes under 114.02.01 and 114.02.09. She explained there was a question regarding a truck that was selling unprepared food, but that issue is different than where she was headed with the changes. She explained the Mobile Food Truck Ordinance is really for those selling prepared food, so the definition was changed to selling prepared food items, and then does not include a mobile truck used for the selling of unprepared meats, vegetables, etcetera. She advised the selling of unprepared food has nothing to do with this and is a whole other issue, probably more under the Health Department.

Attorney McNagny proceeded to explain that the second red line has to do with the timing in the issuance of a permit. She explained it gives Rosie's office time to review everything the permittees are providing and has added 'not less than three days' to the issuance timeline. Mayor Daniel noted we do the same for Peddler's Permits in which a waiting period is required.

Mayor Daniel noted that based on previous conversations regarding mobile food trucks, this does not address every single issue, but it really gives a clear-cut process. He felt one of the things that we were finding with the current ordinance, is that there are people pulling into private parking lots to sell, but there is no checks that they have gotten their health permit, that they have gotten all the approvals, and there is nothing that prohibits them from pulling up next to a current provider and selling from there.

He felt this ordinance has covered a lot of the pieces that came out of the Ordinance Review Committee and discussions that we have had in the past.

Attorney McNagny questioned if Council would want 'not less than three days' for the issuance of a permit on the Non-Food Vendor Ordinance as well. Mayor Daniel questioned if it was the preference of the Council to mirror the three-day waiting period for non-food vendors, just like food vendors will have. Council agreed it should be the same across the board.

Leslee Robinson made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-9 on first reading. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted unanimously.

COUNCIL MEETING DATE CHANGES – OCTOBER 8 AND DECEMBER 24

Mayor Daniel explained in looking at future meeting dates, the October 8th meeting falls on the first day of the AIM Ideas Summit Conference that is in Fort Wayne and would be his preference to move it to October 14th, which is a Monday. Council agreed to move the meeting date to October 14th.

Mayor Daniel advised the second requested meeting change is December 24th, which is Christmas Eve. He suggested moving the Council meeting to the 30th of December, which is also a Monday. He noted this would allow Rosie to get all the end of year stuff and the reappropriation ordinance done. Of those Councilmembers present, a couple were unsure if they would be able to attend. Mayor Daniel suggested tentatively planning for December 30th but would check in again sometime in November.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS **Chip Hill** – INDOT approved the permit for us to start the Blue River Trail South so hopefully within the next 2-4 weeks they will be ready to do bids, update on Eagle Park, Westgate moving slowly. **Shawn Lickey** – finally received new stump grinder, report on Airport Road accident that took out power and one of our poles, Osmos will be in town July 15th to do pole testing, Board of Works approved EN Engineering to start working on a new SCADA software for us which is the next piece in the 69 KV conversion project. **Gary Parrett** - One of the applicants from the last hiring process went through PERF testing and are waiting on his results, other applicant should be released August 12 from his collarbone injury, they have 11 applications for the current police officer hiring process as well as 11 applications for the Communications position, Matt Minier turned in retirement paperwork with his last day being July 2nd, Matt will continue to work part time with Terry Wherry in IT, report on SR 9 street closure for bridge repair. **Kelly Cearbaugh** – took video of the unofficial detour route for the SR 9 street closure project so that the City can be reimbursed for any repairs due to increased traffic, concrete crews have been down on South Line Street at Westin Drive working on a 50/50 sidewalk project, finished the Line Street project, he and Chief Parrett looked at putting in 40 mph speed limit signs per the most recent ordinance that was passed, came in Sunday to clean up after old settlers, continuing with limb pickup. **Terry Wherry** - issues with one of the DVR's that stores videos from our security cameras, working with Cody Rice and CUES on an upgrade for the televising equipment, booster station should be on the fiber network tomorrow, Wi-Fi to the pocket parks pushed back because of equipment not being available. **Tom LaRue** – tracking down wiring issues on Truck 102, Driver/Operator class is coming to an end, ladder testing went pretty well with Truck 107 having three fixable deficiencies, will be in Fort Wayne Friday afternoon for the annual local Emergency Planning Commission tabletop exercise, two guys down with injury and on light duty. **Matt Heiden** - pool seems to be going well, swim team started their season, clearing branches over the drive as you come into Morsches Park and also on the trail, new picnic tables placed around the heavier traffic areas of the parks, preparing for the Independence Day celebration.

ATTORNEY REPORT Marcia McNagny reported she just returned from 2 days of legal seminars down in Indianapolis. She advised the topics on both days all included AI, cybersecurity, and social media. She shared the concerns and issues everyone is

having seems to be a very big topic and very concerning. She advised she would be getting a summary out to the Mayor and Rosie soon on the things she felt they needed to sit down and start looking at.

MAYOR REPORT They were anticipating having the Utility Rate Advisory Board present to Council tonight but will be delayed until the next meeting because of trying to get numbers from Baker Tilly. He reminded Council that last year there was a 3-year rate plan that was put together to address going forward with the utility rates and it was requested that after the first year they come back. He advised the Advisory Board met and they have a proposal to make at the next meeting. He reported that Trick or Treat will be on Saturday, October 26th from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. City Hall will be closed on July 4th in observance of Independence Day.

Having no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Daniel called the meeting adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle