



March 18, 2024
Common Council

Present:

Mike Hartman, Mayor
Tracey Hawkins, Council District 1 and Council President
Kristie Laub, Council District 2
Darren Alloway, Council District 3
Gale Ryan, Council District 4
Bill White, Council at Large
Angela Eck, Clerk-Treasurer
Vivian Likes, City Planner
Ron Mausteller, Fire Chief
Donald Stuckey, City Attorney
Matt Traster, Police Chief

Absent

Scott Lanning, Wastewater Superintendent

Mayor Hartman opened the regular session of the Common Council at 7 pm at 215 South Broadway.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Hartman introduced Jim Morris from Surf Internet. Mayor Hartman has been working with him since last fall to possibly bring fiber internet access to Butler. Surf Internet is currently working in Waterloo and other towns in the county. Mr. Morris stated that if everything moves forward, Surf Internet may be able to start in Butler as early as this summer. They have been in business for over twenty years.

Council Member Laub asked Mr. Morris what speeds and prices would be. Mr. Morris said the speed would be 500 megabytes, 1 gigabyte and 2 gigabytes. The corresponding prices would be \$55, \$75 and \$95 per month. There are no contracts and no connection charges. The price would be locked in for life. He also stated there are no data caps.

Mr. Miller also stated that Surf Internet likes to participate in events in the communities that they serve.

The Council thanked Mr. Miller for the information.



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The minutes from the March 4th meeting were presented. Council Member Ryan made a motion to approve the minutes and Council Member Alloway seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Mayor Hartman asked for public comments pertaining to the agenda items. None.

Proposed Ordinance 1779, Revision 2, was presented for its second reading by title. Council Member Alloway made a motion to approve Ordinance 1779 on its second reading by title and Council Member Hawkins seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Proposed Ordinance 1789, An Ordinance for Additional Appropriations, was presented for its first reading by title. The additional appropriations are needed because Mayor Hartman didn't know that Indiana Brownfield wouldn't pay for any demolition costs and enough funds were not appropriated. The rebuilding of the engine on Fire Engine 33 was an unexpected expense and the Fire Department's Garage and Motor budget needs to be increased to cover the expense. Council Member Alloway made a motion to approve Ordinance 1789 on its first reading by title and Council Member White seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Fire Chief Ron Mausteller reported that he is working on determining all of the needed information for the full-time firefighter positions that are budgeted for. He is going to have all applications for the positions picked up and returned to City Hall. He is also working on setting up an Active School Shooter Training with the Indiana State Police, School Resource Officer Rick Short and Butler PD. Auburn and Angola have already done this training.

Police Chief Matt Traster reported that his officers have an Active Shooter Training coming up. He is accepting application for the full-time police officer position until April 5th.

Street Superintendent Mark Cline reported that his new hire just started his second week on the job, Austin Robison. He has scheduled Cemetery Clean Up for April 15th. He is looking into installing a new parking lot at Maxton Park Pavilion 2. People are parking there for Disc Golf. He is also working on other various park clean-up projects.

Clerk-Treasurer Angela Eck reported that she has completed the January 2024 Bank Reconciliations.

Mayor Mike Hartman reported that he has been in discussions with Brett Henderson concerning the concrete paths at the War Memorial. Mayor Hartman would like to use some of the Emerick Estate Funds to redo the landscaping there.

Council Member Gale Ryan asked if any work was going to be done at the Gazebo this summer. Mr. Cline reported that he will be replacing the timbers and some of the plants. He is waiting to see what INDOT needs done when they install new traffic lights this summer.



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Mayor Hartman also stated that INDOT plans on a substantial upgrade of the main intersection in 2028.

Council Member Kristie Laub asked if the City was notified in advance of trains stopping and closing the railroad crossings. Police Chief Traster and Fire Chief Mausteller replied that there is no notification system for that.

Mayor Hartman stated that he is still working on filling vacant appointed positions. He also asked the Council if any of them would like to attend the next AIM Roundtable Meeting in Middlebury. It is April 10th and he will need to know soon.

Council Member Hawkins made a motion to adjourn at 7:35 and Council Member Alloway seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.



Mayor



Common Council



Clerk-Treasurer