



August 5, 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
Mark Cline, Street Superintendent
Donald Stuckey, City Attorney
Matt Traster, Police Chief

Absent

Scott Lanning, Utility Superintendent
Ron Mausteller, Fire Chief

Mayor Hartman opened the regular session of the Common Council at 7:16 pm at 215 South Broadway.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Hartman asked for comments or questions from the audience pertaining to the agenda items. None

The minutes from the July 15th meeting were presented. Council Member Ryan made a motion to approve the minutes and Council Member Hawkins seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Clerk-Treasurer Angela Eck introduced proposed **Ordinance 1794, Additional Appropriations**, for its first reading by title and summarized the requested additional appropriations. Council Member Ryan made a motion to approve Ordinance 1794 on its first reading by title and Council Member Alloway seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Clerk-Treasurer Eck introduced proposed **Ordinance 1795, Defining the Due Date of Utility Bills**, for its first reading by title. Council Member Laub made a motion to approve Ordinance 1795 on its first reading by title and Council Member White seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Council Member Hawkins made a motion to approve Ordinance 1795 on its second reading by title and Council Member Alloway seconded the motion. The motion passed



August 5, 2024
Common Council

with all in favor. Council Member Hawkins made a motion to suspend the rules and Council Member Alloway seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Council Member Hawkins made a motion to approve Ordinance 1795 on its third reading by title and Council Member Alloway seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Clerk-Treasurer Eck introduced proposed **Ordinance 1796, Setting a Fine Amount for Debris entering the Storm Water System**, for its first reading by title. Council Member Ryan made a motion to approve Ordinance 1796 on its first reading by title and Council Member White seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Council Member Ryan made a motion to approve Ordinance 1796 on its second reading by title and Council Member Alloway seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Council Member Hawkins made a motion to suspend the rules and Council Member Alloway seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Council Member Alloway made a motion to approve Ordinance 1796 on its third reading by title and Council Member Ryan seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Police Chief Matt Traster reported that Officer Martin Wood would be graduating from the Police Academy on August 16th. Chief Traster has also sent another applicant to the Indiana Public Retirement System for approval for the 1977 Police and Firefighter Fund. He is also in the middle of an open application process right now to fill the remaining opening within the department.

Mayor Mike Hartman reported that Stuart Mutzfeld would be the new Code Enforcement Officer starting on August 12. Former Code Enforcement Officer Mike Fry did agree to come back and train Mr. Mutzfeld for two days. Mayor Hartman will be paying Mr. Fry for his time and mileage.

Street Superintendent Mark Cline reported that Shambaugh and Sons would be here next week to look at a couple of street lights that don't always come on. They will be sending the same person that installed them. Mr. Cline also reported that the windows at the Maxton Park Restroom had been broken out again. He has installed plexiglass over the openings for now and is waiting for the glass block to arrive for a full repair.

Mr. Cline reported that the 2024 Paving Project is moving forward. Walnut Street is a one-way street during the project. Traffic is only allowed to flow eastbound at this time. He has also taken care of the potholes on East Willow Street.

City Attorney Don Stuckey asked the Council if he needed to work any further on the post office's request to move mailboxes. Council Member Alloway stated that he did not, the letters that were sent out were only a request, not an order. Mayor Hartman stated that he did invite the Postmaster to attend this meeting.

Council Member Laub asked if anything further had happened with the truck route on Commerce Street. There was discussion. Police Chief Traster did stop several of the actual drivers and give them warnings. Since he did that, he hasn't been notified of any driveways being blocked.



August 5, 2024
Common Council

Council Member Laub asked Mayor Hartman if he had thought any more about going full-time. Council Member Alloway stated that he would like to entertain that idea. Mayor Hartman stated that he can gather his numbers from last year and give them to the Council.

Council Member Hawkins stated that moving the Mayoral Position to full-time needs to be justified, just as the City would do for any other position. That is what happened when the police clerk was moved to a full-time position. Council Members Alloway and Ryan agreed with her statement. There was discussion on comparing a mayor to a town manager.

Council Member Laub asked what Mayor Hartman planned on doing with the vacant city planner position. He stated that it would become a part-time position.

Council Member Ryan stated that he is concerned about potential conflicts of interest with the Mayor's position.

Council Member White stated that he hopes Mayor Hartman goes full-time and that it would be good for the City.

Council Member White asked Mr. Stuckey about the status on the burned trail on Willow Street. Mr. Stuckey stated that the hearing for it would be on the 19th.

Council Member Hawkins reported problems with the west side corner of Northcrest Mobile Home Court. Cars are not parking properly and her car barely fits through at times. Chief Traster stated that there is nothing the Police Department can do about it because it is private property.

Mayor Hartman reminded everyone that Butler Days is this Friday and Saturday and that if anyone would like to volunteer to contact him.

Mr. Hopkins of 606 South Broadway stated that he thinks the former dime store building needs to be demolished.

Council Member Hawkins made a motion to adjourn at 7:53 and Council Member Alloway seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.


Mayor


Common Council


Clerk-Treasurer