



June 2, 2025
Common Council

Present:

Mike Hartman, Mayor
Tracey Hawkins, Council District 1
Kristie Laub, Council District 2
Darren Alloway, Council District 3, Council President
Gale Ryan, Council District 4
Bill White, Council at Large
Angela Eck, Clerk-Treasurer
Gavyn Aden, Wastewater Superintendent
Mark Cline, Street Superintendent
Braxton Minkey, IT Specialist
Stuart Mutzfeld, Code Enforcement
Andrew Provines, City Planner
Donald Stuckey, City Attorney
Matt Traster, Police Chief

Absent

Ron Mausteller, Fire Chief

Mayor Hartman opened the regular session of the Common Council at 7 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 May 19th meeting were presented. Council Member Hawkins made a motion to approve the minutes and Council Member Ryan seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

City Planner Andrew Provines reported that all of the CF-1 reports have been sent to the Council via a Google Link. He asked if they would like a representative from each company to be present at the next Council on June 16th. They replied in the affirmative.

Code Enforcement Officer Stuart Mutzfeld reported that he issued warning tags for six parking violations and has supplied the Council with a draft letter that will be sent to every resident concerning parking enforcement. He has also requested that the Street Department mow three lots for the year, two of which ended up being mowed by an unknown person.



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Mayor Hartman reminded the Council that official notice only needs to be given to high grass violators once a year, which gives them seven days to mow. After that, notice does not need to be given.

IT Specialist Braxton Minkey reported that the City's new domain is up. He is now waiting for Allstar to get the new email addresses registered to begin moving over to Microsoft.

Wastewater Superintendent Gavyn Aden reported that they had to move a fire hydrant at the corner of Main and Broadway for an INDOT project. It was moved back from the intersection by ten feet.

Clerk-Treasurer Eck reported that the Utility Office has had increasing difficulty getting residents to fix leaks once they are found. One of the adjustments that was presented at the Board of Works meeting this morning had a significant leak for three months. She would like the Council to set a time limit for residents to call the Utility Office and let them know when a plumber will be coming once a leak has been confirmed. There was discussion. Street Superintendent Mark Cline stated that these leaks contribute to the Water Loss Report that the City has to provide annually.

Mayor Hartman and Clerk-Treasurer Eck stated that they would like to see a limit of seven days for the resident to get a plumber scheduled and that if the resident has not called the Utility Office to provide the date the plumber will be there; the water can be shut-off. There was more discussion. The Council agreed that 7 days is a reasonable amount of time.

Clerk-Treasurer Eck next asked the Council if they would consider a time limit as to when adjustment requests can be made. There was discussion as to when bills are issued and when leaks are found. Residents are notified immediately if they have extremely high usage. At this time, some customers wait three or four months before they request an adjustment. This makes it very difficult to confirm that there was a leak and that it has been corrected. The Council agreed that 30 days after a bill has been issued is a reasonable time limit to ask for an adjustment.

Clerk-Treasurer Eck reported that she found an error in the way that large industrial wastewater bills are being calculated. The error goes back two years. She discovered it when the Mayor asked a question about water bills and realized that the industrial bills were not calculating correctly. She expressed her frustration that the Indiana State Board of Accounts did not find this error when they audited 2022 and 2023 last summer. They even specifically looked at the SDI invoicing. The amount of this error totals a little over \$200,000. She is happy to report that SDI and New Millennium have already paid the Wastewater Utility for the corrected invoicing.

Clerk-Treasurer Eck has corrected the formulas for the large industrial billing and locked them so that they are much more difficult to edit. The actual rates are also now showing on each invoice that is issued for large industrial billing.



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Council Member Alloway thanked the City for getting the tree at the corner of Elm and Liberty cut down. He also reported that the Disc Golf Tournament over the weekend had 40 players.

Council Member Laub showed her appreciation for the street banners honoring the areas veterans.

Council Member Ryan made a motion to adjourn at 7:28 pm and Council Member Hawkins seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.



Mayor



Common Council



Clerk-Treasurer