

UTILITY BOARD/COMMON COUNCIL

Tuesday, August 30, 2016

7:00 P.M.

The Common Council and Utility Board of the City of Huntingburg met in joint session at its regularly scheduled meeting time on Tuesday, August 30, 2016 at the hour of 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Huntingburg City Hall at 508 E. Fourth Street, Huntingburg, Indiana. Members Wehr, Kissling, McPherron and Blessinger were present. Also present were Mayor Spinner, City Attorney Schneider and Clerk-Treasurer Dippel. Member Bounds was absent.

Mayor Spinner called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Blessinger, seconded by Kissling and carried to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2016, August 16, 2016 (10:30 A.M.) and August 16, 2016 (1:30 P.M.) meetings.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by McPherron and carried to approve the claims as presented.

The Mayor presented a Proclamation to proclaim the week of September 17 through 23 as constitution week. He noted September 17, 2016 marks the two hundred and twenty-ninth anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention.

The Mayor presented the Stellar Quarterly Update recently sent to the State. He highlighted completions and ongoing status of Stellar projects.

The Mayor indicated that on August 17, 2016 the City received documentation from the Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) that the City has been awarded the grant for funding from the State for Market Street Park. He indicated the grant from the State is for \$1.4 Million. He noted the City's share of the costs of the project are not to exceed \$1.5 Million.

A motion was made by Blessinger, seconded by Kissling and carried to accept the Grant from OCRA in the amount of \$1.4 million.

The Mayor presented an agreement for professional services between the City and Taylor Siefker Williams Design Group, LLC (TSWDG) for design, landscape and engineering services for the Market Street Park project. The agreement is not to exceed \$420,221.00 for labor and expenses, to be billed in 5 phases.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Wehr and carried to approve the agreement for professional services between the City and TSWDG as noted above in the amount of \$420,221.00.

The Mayor informed the Council of his appointment of Molly Prior to the Dubois County Airport Authority and his appointment of Ron Mundy to the Huntingburg Board of Zoning Appeals.

Tara Damin of Cash Waggner was present to update the Council on the Community Crossing Grant. It was noted that the City of Huntingburg will received \$1 million for projects from INDOT through this grant.

Water Superintendent Stamm presented his monthly report. He indicated he will meet with representatives of Badger meter with others from the City to discuss the use of Badger ERTs with the ITRON handheld meter reading software. It was noted that private fire hydrants will be tested by the City but the private owner will have to pay for repairs and maintenance of the hydrants.

Stamm informed the Board of the 3 interviews he had today to fill the open position in the Water Department.

Stamm is looking into lightning protection at the water treatment plant for protection of the plant and the SCADA equipment at the plant. He feels it is important and would like to continue to investigate lightning protection.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Wehr and carried to allow Superintendent Stamm to investigate a lightning protection program.

Energy Superintendent Reutepohler presented his monthly report for the Gas Utility.

Reutepohler presented quotes for a new utility truck for the Gas Department. The low quote was from Ruxer Ford in the amount of \$47,980.50 with a \$13,500.00 trade-in.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Blessinger and carried to approve the purchase of a Ford F-450 Extended cab truck for the Gas Utility as noted above.

Reutepohler presented the Electric Department monthly report. Net metering was discussed. Albert and Randy Fischer who install and consult on home solar systems were present and offered their experience with utilities' and home owners' issues. Documentation required and meter ownership were discussed. Attorney Schneider will draft another ordinance to be considered by the Council. He noted that the new tariff will require the Utility Rate Advisory Board to make a recommendation to the Council.

Clerk-Treasurer Dippel presented a budget summary that included estimated 2017 budget, tax levy and tax rates. He indicated the assessed value (AV) of \$130,000,000 will be used in the advertisement of the budget as required through the State's Gateway system. He indicated that reduced assessed value will generate a tax rate of approximately \$1.4819 per \$100 of (AV). He estimates the rate will be approximately \$1.20 per \$100 of AV. He noted the budget public hearing will be September 27, 2016 and the adoption meeting will be October 11, 2016.

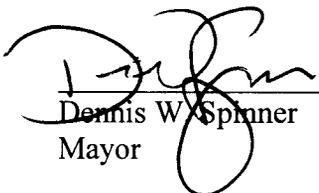
A motion was made by Blessinger, seconded by McPherron and carried to approve advertising the 2017 budget as presented.

The Mayor reminded the Council that the Grand Opening of the Lofts at St. Josephs will be tomorrow at 11:00 A.M. He also reminded the Council that the 3rd Annual Latino Festival will be at the City Park this weekend.

Leigh Neu asked for an update of the Paragon project. The Mayor replied that the City has not received an application.

A citizen asked if the location of the proposed park near him had changed. The Mayor indicated the location had not changed. The Mayor also indicated that the scope or funding source of the Corps of Engineers drainage study has yet to be determined. A citizen also asked if the camera work had been done in his area to find a sewer leak and questioned elevation changes in the sewer project. He was referred to Wastewater Superintendent Kemp.

There being no further business before the Council, a motion was made by Kissling, seconded by McPherron and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 o'clock P.M.


Dennis W. Spinner
Mayor


Thomas A. Dippel
Clerk-Treasurer