

UTILITY BOARD/COMMON COUNCIL

Tuesday, December 17, 2024

5:30 P.M.

The Common Council and Utility Board of the City of Huntingburg met in joint session on Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at the hour of 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Huntingburg City Hall at 508 E. Fourth Street, Huntingburg, Indiana. Members Kissling, Wehr, Bounds and Bolte were physically present. Member McPherron was absent. This meeting was opened to the public, and made available to members of the public and the media streamed through the City of Huntingburg's YouTube channel accessed via the City of Huntingburg's website. Also present were Mayor Elkins, City Attorney Schneider and Clerk-Treasurer Dippel.

Mayor Elkins called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Wehr, seconded by Kissling and carried to approve the minutes of the November 26, 2024 regular meeting.

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

The Mayor presented the bid tab from the bidding of the Huntingburg Senior Center. The only bid received was from Seufert Construction in the amount of \$1,070,000.00. The funding will come from the ARPA funds and TIF funds from Northwest and East Styline TIF Areas.

A motion was made by Wehr, seconded by Bolte and carried to approve the bid of Seufert Construction in the amount of \$1,070,000.00 and authorize the Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer to execute a construction contract subject to approval.

Proposed ordinances were presented to create the position of Sergeant and to amend the 2025 Salary Ordinance.

A motion was made by Bolte, seconded by Kissling and carried to introduce Ordinance No. 2024-23 entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 37 OF THE HUNTINGBURG
MUNICIPAL CODE PROVIDING FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF THE
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Bolte and carried with unanimous consent to suspend the rules and consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-23 at the same meeting it was introduced.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Wehr and carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-23.

Upon call of roll for the adoption or rejection of Ordinance No. 2024-23 the vote being 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent (McPherron), in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2024-23 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 5:40 P.M.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Bolte and carried to introduce Ordinance No. 2024-24 entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2024-21 FIXING
SALARIES FOR THE YEAR 2025**

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Wehr and carried with unanimous consent to suspend the rules and consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-24 at the same meeting it was introduced.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Bolte and carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-24.

Upon call of roll for the adoption or rejection of Ordinance No. 2024-24 the vote being 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent (McPherron), in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2024-24 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 5:43 P.M.

Ruger Kerstiens and Scott Steinkamp, addressed the Council to request approval to begin a residential 5 year tax abatement for their new development, Poplar Ridge. A public hearing would be conducted in January 2025. The Mayor noted that the City still needs engineering plans to determine water discharge rates to follow the City's UDO.

It was noted that the Huntingburg Economic Development Commission has recommended to the Common Council of the City of Huntingburg that the area is an economic development target area and the City would need to create an Economic Revitalization District, and the same area must be designated an economic development target area. A proposed declaratory resolution along with a proposed ordinance designating an Economic Development Target Area was presented. It was also noted that a public hearing would be needed for the Tax Abatement for the Poplar Ridge Economic Development Target Area.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Bounds and carried to adopt Resolution No. 2024-25 entitled:

**A DECLARTORY RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
ESTABLISHING THE POPLAR RIDGE ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION
AREA AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TARGET AREA**

A motion was made by Wehr, seconded by Bolte and carried to introduce Ordinance No. 2024-26 entitled:

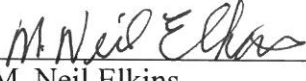
**AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING A CERTAIN AREA OF THE CITY OF
HUNTINGBURG, INDIANA AS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TARGET
AREA AS RECOMMENDED BY THE HUNTINGBURG ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Bolte and carried to set a public hearing for Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 5:30 P.M. at the Huntingburg City Hall Council Chambers.

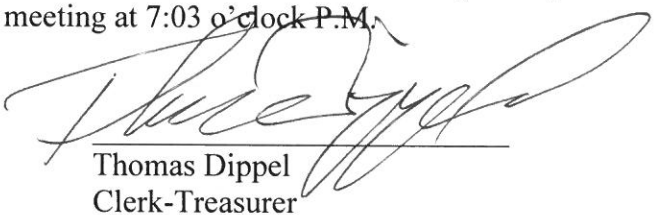
Janet Schnell addressed the Council concerning hoarding. There was discussion including firefighter safety, individuals' rights and multiple violations.

Panhandling was discussed due to a recent incident. Attorney Schneider will research for a proposed ordinance.

There being no further business before the Council, a motion was made by Bolte, seconded by Wehr and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 o'clock P.M.



M. Neil Elkins
Mayor



Thomas Dippel
Clerk-Treasurer