

UTILITY BOARD/COMMON COUNCIL

Tuesday, September 28, 2021

5:30 P.M.

The Common Council and Utility Board of the City of Huntingburg met in joint session at the regularly scheduled meeting time on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 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, Bounds, Dubon and McPherron were physically present. Member Wehr was present virtually. 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 Schwinghamer and Clerk-Treasurer Dippel.

Mayor Schwinghamer called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Bounds to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2021 Regular meeting and the September 14, 2021 Executive session. Upon call of roll for the acceptance of the motion, the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of approving the motion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Dubon to approve the claims as presented. Upon call of roll for the acceptance of the motion, the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of approving the motion, the motion carried.

The Mayor updated the Council on the City's purchase of 407 N. Jackson Street. He noted the sale closed yesterday morning. He indicated that the previous owner was given until October 15, 2021 to get their items out of the building.

The Mayor updated the Council on progress on updates to the China Wok building (317 E. 4th Street) noting new windows have been installed.

Rachel Steckler, Director of Community Development, updated the Council on the Wayfinder Signage Project. She presented the Huntingburg City Wayfinding & Gateway Study containing Wayfinding policies and standards; and identification, directional and gateway signage suggestions for review.

Brian DeKemper, President of Destination Huntingburg, presented the 2021 update of Destination Huntingburg activities to the Council.

Energy Superintendent Reutepohler presented the monthly Gas Utility report. He reported on the activities of the utility.

Reutepohler presented the monthly Electric Utility report. He reported on the activities of the utility. He noted the foundation for the electric charging station has been installed near city Hall.

Water Superintendent Austin presented his monthly report. He reported on the activities of the utility.

Austin informed the Board that St. Henry Water called after hours due to another bore crew sticking a drill through one of their water mains. He sent 3 men and a truck to help them noting that they will reimburse the City for the expense.

Austin indicated that he was in contact with Ruxer Ford about quoting a water service truck and noted that they declined to quote. He indicated that Uebelhor was able to quote, but he noted the low quote was still from Sternberg Ford for a 2022 F-350 in the amount of \$52,155.52, with a trade in of \$9,000.00 for the Utility's 2007 F-450 (net amount after trade-in is \$43,155.52).

Austin informed the Board that John Wetzel, of Midwestern Engineers, has been in contact with SRF about leaving the loan date open for as long as needed for the purchase of the service truck and needed water meters.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Wehr to approve the purchase of the water service truck; 2022 Ford F-350, subject to SRF financing, as noted above. Upon call of roll for the acceptance of the motion, the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of approving the motion, the motion carried.

Austin informed the Board of water leaks at the west most intersection on Hickory Drive. He noted service is back on using a temporary repair, but the leak is in further need of repair. He presented a list of materials needed to fix the leak from Team EJP in the amount of \$15,559.00. He noted the work will be done in-house.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Bounds to approve the purchase of the materials from Team EJP in the amount of \$15,559.00. Upon call of roll for the acceptance of the motion, the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of approving the motion, the motion carried.

This is the date, time and place advertised for the public hearing of the 2022 City budget. The Mayor opened the public hearing. Clerk-Treasurer Dippel presented the proposed budget in the amount of \$10,948,142. He estimated that the tax rate would be down to \$1.1448 per \$100 of assess value. The Mayor asked for comments from the public. No comments were received.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by McPherron to introduce Ordinance No. 2021-35 entitled:

ORDINANCE FOR APPROPRIATION AND TAX RATE
(2022 City Budget)


Upon call of roll for the acceptance of the motion, the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of approving the motion, the motion carried.


The Budget Adoption meeting will be held on October 12, 2021.

Clerk-Treasurer Dippel informed the Council that the infield of League Stadium was in need of sod. Mike Uebelhor, of Uebelhor Oil, indicated that he would like to donate \$5,854.00 to the League Stadium Fund to help pay for the sod. The League Stadium Fund is set up to accept donations for League Stadium maintenance.

A motion was made by Dubon, seconded by Bounds to accept the donation to the League Stadium Fund from Uebelhor Oil in the amount of \$5,854.00. Upon call of roll for the acceptance of the motion, the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of approving the motion, the motion carried.

There being no further business before the Council, a motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Wehr and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 P.M. Upon call of roll for the acceptance of the motion, the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of approving the motion, the motion carried.


Steven J. Schwinghamer
Mayor


Thomas A. Dippel
Clerk-Treasurer