

**UTILITY BOARD/COMMON COUNCIL**

**Tuesday, November 1, 2022**

**5:30 P.M.**

The Common Council and Utility Board of the City of Huntingburg met in joint session on Tuesday, November 1, 2022 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, McPherron, Dubon and Wehr were physically present. Member Bounds 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 Schwinghamer, City Attorney Schneider and Clerk-Treasurer Dippel.

Mayor Schwinghamer called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by McPherron and carried to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2022 regular meeting.

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

The Mayor presented the Program & Event Report for October.

Energy Superintendent Reutepohler presented the monthly Gas Utility report. He indicated that all (150) of the smart meter modules on hand have been installed. He is now waiting for the next batch to come in; due approximately the 1<sup>st</sup> of January. Boonville would like to purchase the old modules that are being replaced for \$20.00 per unit. Reutepohler estimates we have approximately 650 of the old modules.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Kissling and carried to approve selling the old modules to Boonville for \$20.00 each.

Reutepohler presented the monthly Electric Utility report. Purchase of a new bucket truck was discussed. It was noted that a new bucket truck similar to our current trucks costs approximately \$260,000.00 with a 30 month lead time and approximately 5% per year price increase. Reutepohler indicated that there is no penalty to ordering a truck and then not taking it. He would trade the current 2008 model for the new truck.

A motion was made by Wehr, seconded by McPherron and carried instructing Reutepohler to put in an order for a bucket truck and to solicit bids for a bucket truck.

Reutepohler informed the Board that an Electric SCADA service agreement is needed. A one year agreement costs \$5,475.00 and a three year agreement saves approximately 5%. He recommends the three year agreement and will get and share more information at the next meeting.

Reutepohler informed the Board that an invoice has been sent to PSC for reimbursement for poles upgraded in the St. Henry area for fiber connections.

Water Superintendent Austin presented his monthly report. He informed the Board that the Water Utility generator will be repaired and is covered by insurance; the cost is \$38,914.47, less the \$10,000.00 deductible, totaling \$28,914.47.

Attorney Schneider refreshed the Council on the Chestnut Gardens economic development incentive approved by the Council in August of 2020. Materials were reviewed. He noted the agreement was that the City contribute 50% of the construction of street, storm sewer and curb and gutter; but not more than \$70,000.00. He noted that the developer (S & S Properties Corp.) has completed their required investment (approximately \$5,000,000.00) and that their road and street costs exceeded \$150,000.00. He noted that the agreement did require the developer to prepare the engineered plans and specs, which they did. He noted the project was to be publicly bid, however, they just went out and got 3 quotes. He noted the developer did not technically follow the agreement, but the amount the City was going to contribute was always going to be less

than \$150,000.00 which allows the City to just quote things. He said they (developer) performed substantially as agreed and he recommends approving the payment agreed upon of \$70,000.00.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Wehr and carried to go ahead and pay.

Clerk-Treasurer Dippel presented a proposed \$60,000.00 additional appropriation ordinance for the Police Pension Fund. The additional appropriation may be used for police related costs incurred in the 2022 budget year. He noted the police budget is tight and the funds may be needed to cover for unforeseen expenses.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Kissling and carried to introduce Ordinance No. 2022-37 entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE  
2022 BUDGET YEAR  
(Police Pension \$60,000.00)**

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Kissling and carried to set the public hearing for the additional appropriation for November 22, 2022 at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers of Huntingburg City Hall.

The proposed 2023 employee salary ordinance was presented. Mayor recommended an increase of 7.5%. Various percent options and employee retention were discussed. It was noted that this is an extraordinary year with high inflation over the past year.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Wehr and carried to put forth a 7.5% increase in salaries.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Kissling and carried to introduce Ordinance 2022-38 entitled:

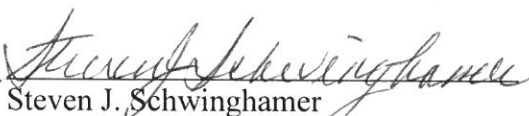
**AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES FOR THE CITY OF HUNTINGBURG,  
INDIANA FOR THE YEAR 2023**

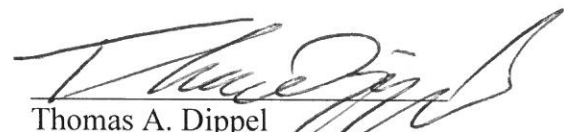
A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Wehr and carried with unanimous consent to suspend the rules and consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 2022-38 at the same meeting it was introduced.

A motion was made by Wehr, seconded by Dubon and carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-38.

Upon call of roll for the adoption or rejection of Ordinance No. 2022-38 the vote being 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent (Bounds), in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2022-38 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 6:15 P.M.

There being no further business before the Council, a motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Wehr and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 o'clock P.M.

  
Steven J. Schwingamer  
Mayor

  
Thomas A. Dippel  
Clerk-Treasurer