

CITY OF WINCHESTER
COMMON COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2014

Public Hearing @ 6:30 pm for 2015 Budget Adoption

Mayor Croyle opened the floor for the purpose of receiving public comment on the proposed 2015 Budget.

Clerk-Treasurer Haney stated the City is proposing the 2015 Budget in the amount of Eleven Million Two Hundred Twelve Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Two Dollars (\$11,212,452.00). There being no one desiring to speak Mayor Croyle closed the floor and adjourned the public hearing at 6:32 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Croyle
Prayer – Mike Burk

Regular meeting @ 6:33 p.m.
Council Chambers / City Hall / 113 E. Washington St.

Mayor Croyle called the meeting to order and presided over the meeting. Clerk-Treasurer, Vicki Haney, recorded the minutes.

The Clerk’s roll call showed four City Council Members present.

Precinct 1	Councilor Larry Preston	
Precinct 2	Councilor Tom Sells	absent
Precinct 3	Councilor Santiago (Jim) Nunez Jr.	
Precinct 4	Councilor Leesa Friend	
At Large	Councilor Todd Schroeder	

Additional Officials Present:

Gary Girton, Randolph County Commissioner; Meeks Cockerill, City Attorney; Kathy Bond, Parks Department Superintendent; and Mike Burk, Police Chief.

Citizens Present:

Tim Yost, Mr. Keith Williams and Zachery Keith Williams.

Media Present:

Bill Richmond (News Gazette)

Approval of the Minutes:

Councilor Nunez moved to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2014 meeting. Councilor Schroeder seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Councilor Larry Preston

Mayor Croyle stated this is Councilor Preston's last Council Meeting because he will no longer reside in the City limits. Indiana Law requires a Council member must reside within the City limits. A plaque of appreciation was presented to Councilor Preston.

Councilor Preston thanked the elected officials and department heads for working with him for the last six years. He has enjoyed being a part of the City of Winchester and the City Council. Councilor Preston will be truly be missed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Aging in Place

Mayor Croyle stated three homes have been successfully rehabilitated through the Aging In Place Housing Rehabilitation program. Four homes have been approved and rehabilitation will begin once contracts are signed by the Building Contractor.

Fountain Park Cemetery

Councilor Preston stated the cemetery is progressing. Many lots are being sold. The monument sales are increasing. A new roof will be installed on the office and house. Donations have been received in the past couple of weeks that has improved the cemetery fund immensely. Bill Richmond, City Editor, News-Gazette Newspaper, is going to do a newspaper article about Fountain Park Cemetery.

Signs

Councilor Nunez state many street signs are missing around Winchester. Mayor Croyle is hesitant to replace the signs because the City has submitted a contract for a Street Sign Replacement from the State. Mayor Croyle does not want the City to replace the signs and then the State replaces the signs again. The contract has been signed and submitted to the State for this project. The project could begin in late winter or early spring. Sign replacement began several years ago. The amounts of the grants were discussed. Some of the verbiage of the signs may need to be altered. Clerk-Treasurer Haney stated a grant in the amount of Forty Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000.00) was awarded in June 2012.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 2014-4

Ordinance No. 2014-4 was presented by Mayor Croyle and was entitled, "AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES OF APPOINTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF WINCHESTER, RANDOLPH COUNTY, INDIANA AND PROVIDING ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION TO CERTAIN ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS OF THE CITY OF WINCHESTER, RANDOLPH COUNTY, INDIANA FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2015." Mayor Croyle proposed a pay increase for full time employees in the amount Five Hundred Dollar (\$500.00).

Councilor Schroeder moved to have the first reading of Ordinance No. 2014-4 by title only. Councilor Preston seconded. Motion passed 4-0. First reading complete. Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2014-4. Councilor Preston seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Ordinance No. 2014-5

Ordinance No. 2014-5 was presented by Clerk-Treasurer Haney and was entitled, "ORDINANCE FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATE."

Councilor Schroeder moved to have the first reading of Ordinance No. 2014-5 by title only. Councilor Preston seconded. Motion passed 4-0. First reading complete. Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2014-5. Councilor Preston seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Ordinance No. 2014-6

Ordinance No. 2014-6 was present by Mayor Croyle and was entitled, "A JOINT ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF WINCHESTER, INDIANA AND THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF RANDOPH COUNTY, INDIANA DETERMINING AND CERTIFYING MAXIMUM LEY ADJUSTMENTS BASE ON AGREEMENT TO TRANSFER ALL 911 AND PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH SERVICES TO RANDOLPH COUNTY, INDIANA." Attorney Cockerill stated this agreement started in 2009. The ordinance was passed last year, but the tax adjustments could not be made by the state. Attorney Cockerill received a letter from the Department of Local Government and Finance (DGLF) stating that this action has been approved by the state. The Randolph County Central Dispatch Board will have an appointment by the Sheriff's Department, the Mayor and Randolph County Commissioners.

Councilor Schroeder moved to have the first reading of Ordinance No. 2014-6 by title only. Councilor Preston seconded. Motion passed 4-0. First reading complete. Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2014-6. Councilor Preston seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Councilor Schroeder moved to suspend the rules and have the second reading of Ordinance No. 2014-6 by title only. Councilor Preston seconded. Councilor Nunez liked all the details in the ordinance and all the hard work that went into it. Motion passed 4-0. Second reading complete. Councilor Schroeder moved to approve Ordinance No. 2014-6 by title only. Councilor Preston seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Councilor Schroeder moved to suspend the rules and have the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2014-6 by title only. Councilor Preston seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Third and final reading complete. Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2014-6. Councilor Preston seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Thus it becomes Ordinance No. 2014-6.

Greenville Avenue Speed Limit

Councilor Friend presented a concern from Frank Knasinski, 430 E. Franklin Street, regarding the speed limit on Greenville Avenue. Mr. Knasinski is concerned with the speed of the cars in that area and would like to see the speed limit be 20 miles per hour. Councilor Friend has spoken to Mayor Croyle, Mr. Knasinski and Councilor Nunez about this issue and if the speed limit is reduced golf carts would be allowed on Greenville Avenue. Golf carts should not be allowed on Greenville Avenue because of the safety issues already existing in that area. Councilor Nunez has also spoken to Mr. Knasinski about this issue.

Blighted Properties

Councilor Nunez stated he attended an IACT (Indiana Association of Cities and Towns) workshop regarding Blighted Properties. Monte Poling, City Manager, City of Union City, was also in attendance. Councilor Nunez distributed copies of the handouts distributed at the workshop. Councilor Nunez has also spoken to Chief Burk about blighted properties located in Winchester.

Department Reports

Frank Lowrance, Street Department Superintendent – no report submitted. Councilor Nunez thanked the Street Department for repainting many curbs in the City; it makes the city look cleaner.

Mike Burk, Police Chief – submitted a written report.

Kathy Bond, Parks Department Superintendent – submitted a written report.

Bill Yost, Fire Chief – no report submitted.

Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the department reports. Councilor Preston seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Accounts Payable Vouchers

The end of July accounts payable vouchers (APV) totaled Forty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Forty Dollars and Twenty Three Cents (\$48,940.23).

General Fund	\$5,190.11
Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	\$791.72
Fire Department Non Reverting Training Fund	\$78.61
Operation Pull Over	\$1,193.28
Aging in Place	\$16,474.10
Employee Welfare Benefit Fund	\$24,740.41
Weed Assessment Fund	\$192.00
Animal Control Fund	\$280.00

The August 1 thru August 14 accounts payable vouchers totaled One Hundred Ninety Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Fourteen Dollars and Seven Cents (\$198,914.07).

General Fund	\$22,382.12
Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	\$155,582.78
Light Fund	\$4,686.13
Court Cash Due County Fund	\$1,344.00
LLE Continuing Ed. Fund	\$1,067.12
City Court User Fee Fund	\$1,872.00
Cumulative Capital Improvement Fund	\$734.95
Beeson Farm Fund	\$400.00
Fire Department Non Reverting Training Fund	\$2,274.99
Fire Pension Fund	\$3,184.05
Ambulance Fund	605.95
CEDIT	\$179.00
Aging In Place	\$1,700.00
Employee Welfare Benefit Plan	\$2,226.07
Sidewalk Rehabilitation	\$674.91

The Payroll accounts payable vouchers totaled Eighty Nine Thousand One Hundred Ninety Four Dollars and Sixty Six Cents (\$89,194.66). The total of all accounts payable vouchers totaled Three Hundred Thirty Seven Thousand Forty Eight Dollars and Ninety Six Cents (\$337,048.96). Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers. Councilor Preston seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Executive Order No. 2014-3 EDIT (Economic Development Income Tax) Plan

Mayor Croyle presented to Council members a copy of the amended EDIT Plan which will be submitted to the Randolph County Council for approval. The two amendments of the EDIT Plan are: 1) City of

Winchester, funds to offset a shortfall in revenue necessary to cover bonding requirements for the City Wind Energy Project amounting to One Hundred Forty Three Thousand Twenty Four Dollars (\$143,024.00) which will be repaid to the EDIT Fund once the wind turbine starts generating revenue; and 2) continuing the partnership with Randolph Central School Corporation, Education Equipment /Program Request in the sum of Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) for the Work Ready Communities distinction. Mayor Croyle explained the Work Ready Communities distinction and what the city and school has accomplished to proceed with this project. Adults are also trained at WCHS (Winchester Community High School) through this program. The City plans to provide funds to update the robotics courses at WCHS. The current class has approximately 19 students participating and will have trade skills upon graduating high school. Mayor Croyle is very passionate about this program. This is an investment in the local youth and the future of Winchester.

Mayor's Report

The Board of Public Works and Safety will meet tomorrow morning and open bids requested by the Street Department for three (3) dump trucks and snow plows.

Mayor Croyle will provide to each Council Member a copy of the Randolph County Economic Development Corporation (REDC) Strategic Plan 2015-2019 for Randolph County. The plan was developed by the REDC Strategic Planning committee who is trying to define the direction that needs to be taken and to define a vision for the county. Four (4) subcommittees are formed in this plan. The subcommittees' will be an important part of the advancement to this plan. Mayor Croyle stated if any Council Members would like to volunteer to be on a subcommittee to please contact him. This is an inclusive plan for the County.

The Mom, Baseball and Apple Pie Festival was held on Saturday, August 16 in the Goodrich Park. The annual auction collected over Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00) to be used toward scholarships for high school seniors in Randolph County. Visitors in the Goodrich Park stated how beautiful and clean it is. A gentleman from Delaware County was present for a meeting at the Lighthouse and he praised how clean the City looks. Mayor Croyle thanked the Street Department for their help keeping the City clean. Mayor Croyle will be attending a Mayor's Roundtable in Peru, Indiana on August 21, 2014.

Zachery Keith Williams, member of Boy Scouts Troop 810, is present this evening and is working toward receiving his merit badge.

Mayor Croyle will be attending a conference in Indianapolis on Tuesday, August 26.

Mayor Croyle stated school is back in session and he wants everyone to be very aware of the children who are out and about and the school activities the children are going to.

Announcements

The Board of Public Works and Safety will meet on Tuesday, August 19, 2014 at 8:00 am in the Council Chambers.

The Randolph County Economic Development Board will meet August 19, 2014 at 7:00 pm.

The Park Board will meet on Thursday, August 21, 2014 at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

The annual Labor Day Softball Tournament will be August 30 – September 1 (Labor Day), 2014 in the Goodrich Park.

Adjournment

There being no further matters to discuss, Councilor Preston moved to adjourn. Councilor Schroeder seconded. Motion passed 4-0. The August 18, 2014 meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Mayor, Steve Croyle

ATTEST: _____
Clerk-Treasurer, Vicki Haney