

CITY OF WINCHESTER
COMMON COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2014

SWEARING IN OF COUNCILPERSON

Mayor Croyle introduced Larry (Moe) Lennington, Councilperson for District 1. Mr. Lennington was appointed by Claudia Thornburg, President, and Randolph County Republicans. Mayor Croyle administered the oath to the new Councilperson.

Public Hearing @ 6:30 pm for Tax Abatement of 926 Waterview Street

Mayor Croyle opened the floor for public comment on the matter of tax abatement for 926 Waterview Street. There being no one requesting to speak the floor was closed and the public hearing was adjourned at 6:31 pm.

Public Hearing @ 6:35 pm for Tax Abatement of 930 Waterview Street

Mayor Croyle opened the floor for public comment on the matter of tax abatement for 930 Waterview Street. There being no one requesting to speak the floor was closed and the public hearing was adjourned at 6:36 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Croyle
Prayer – Mike Burk

Regular meeting @ 6:37 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 five City Council Members present.

Precinct 1	Councilor Larry Lennington
Precinct 2	Councilor Tom Sells
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; Bradley Cottrell, Police Detective; Bill Yost, Fire Chief; and Frank Lowrance, Street Department Superintendent.

Citizens Present:

Tim Yost, Errol Klem, Jeffrey Naylor, and Paul Beatty (arrived at 6:45 pm)

Media Present:

No news media represented.

Approval of the Minutes:

Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2014 meeting. Councilor Friend seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

UNFINISHED 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 Dollars (\$500.00). The ordinance's first reading was at the August 18, 2014 meeting. Formal action on the ordinance is scheduled for this evening, September 15, 2014. The state of Indiana's deadline for a third class city to adopt a Salary Ordinance is November 3, 2014.

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

Councilor Schroeder moved to suspend the rules and have the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2014-4 by title only. Councilor Nunez seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Third and final reading complete.

Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2014-4. Councilor Sells seconded. Councilor Lennington asked if the rates on the ordinance will take effect in 2015. Mayor Croyle stated they will take effect on January 1, 2015. Councilor Lennington asked how raises are given. Mayor Croyle proposes the rate of the pay increase, which was Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for full time employees this year. This equals Twenty Four Cents (\$0.24) per hour. Motion passed 5-0. Thus it becomes Ordinance No. 2014-4.

Ordinance No. 2014-5

Ordinance No. 2014-5 was presented by Clerk-Treasurer Haney and was entitled, "ORDINANCE FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES." At the August 18, 2014 meeting, the Council conducted the public hearing on the 2015 budget and had the first reading on the ordinance. Because the final, certified budget can never be higher than what was advertised, the budget estimates that were advertised for 2015 are purposely overstated. The amounts in the ordinance are within the advertised amounts. Clerk-Treasurer Haney stated the budget for 2015 is Eleven Million Two Hundred Twelve Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Two Dollars (\$11,212,452.00). Councilor Schroeder moved to have the second reading of Ordinance No. 2014-5 read by title only. Councilor Nunez seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Second reading complete. Councilor Sells moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 2014-5. Councilor Schroeder seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Councilor Schroeder moved to suspend the rules and have the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2014-5 by title only. Councilor Lennington seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Third and final reading complete. Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2014-5. Councilor Sells seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Thus it becomes Ordinance No. 2014-5.

Aging in Place Grant

Aging in Place Grant, an informational meeting for the Housing Program (improvements to owner-occupied homes) will be held on September 17, 2014 at City Hall at 4:00 pm. Additional applications are wanted for the program. The income requirements may change for the next phase of the project. Information may be obtained at the Clerk-Treasurer's Office about the changes in the program and applications.

Fountain Park Cemetery

Councilor Nunez reported a meeting was held on September 9, 2014. Many compliments have been received on the grounds. Items have been donated for the garage. Lots and headstones have been sold recently. The new grounds keeper works on the equipment so it keeps maintenance costs low for the cemetery. Mayor Croyle complimented the Fountain Park Cemetery for their great work.

Wind Turbine

Councilor Sells asked for an update of the Wind Turbine Project. Mayor Croyle stated the turbine components are being delivered as we speak. The turbine should be ready to set on Friday. The cranes will be on location then. On Friday at 1:30 pm an opportunity will be available for persons to sign the wind turbine blade. It is anticipated that the turbine will be producing energy by October 3, 2014. Councilor Nunez suggested the people who attend Mardi Gras could take a tour to the Wind Turbine to see it operational.

Gateway Project

The mowing of the Gateway Project area was discussed. Councilor Nunez met with Sue Hall of INDOT to discuss this issue. Six islands need to be mowed by the City from now on. Mayor Croyle stated the islands for the monuments are the City's responsibilities, but the other areas are the responsibility of the State of Indiana. Councilor Nunez wanted to have the State's permission to be in the area. Councilor Nunez is asking permission from the City Council to continue on the project and gather more information. Two mowing firms have been asked for bids to mow these areas. The incline of the ground in this area will make it dangerous to mow. Councilor Nunez asked City Council if he could move forward with this project. Mayor Croyle stated the concern is that the south side of the bridge will look very good and the north side will not look as good. Councilor Nunez wants Council's permission to maintain this area. The City would have to enter into an agreement with the State for this to happen. An agreement would have to be signed by both parties. Councilor Nunez stated the City Council would have to pay half of the mowing costs and the Redevelopment Commission would pay the other half of the costs.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 2014-11

Resolution No. 2014-11 was presented by Mr. Jeffrey Naylor and was entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF WINCHESTER, INDIANA WAIVING NON-COMPLIANCE OF CERTAIN CONDITIONS CONCERNING THE GRANTING OF A DEDUCTION FOR REHABILITATION OR REDEVELOPMENT OF REAL

PROPERTY FOR KELM WINCHESTER PROPERTIES, LLC.” Mayor Croyle stated tax abatements are generally applied to residential properties before construction but a waiver of non-compliance allows property owners to apply for the tax abatement after construction. Tax abatements have been approved for industrial properties in the past but not residential properties.

Councilor Schroeder moved to have the reading of Resolution No. 2014-11 by title only. Councilor Nunez seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Reading complete. Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the reading of Resolution No. 2014-11. Councilor Nunez seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Thus it becomes Resolution No. 2014-11.

Resolution No. 2014-12

Resolution No. 2014-12 was presented by Mayor Croyle and was entitled, “COMMON COUNCIL OF WINCHESTER, INDIANA A PRELIMINARY RESOLUTION GRANTING TAX ABATEMENT TO KLEM WINCHESTER PROPERTIES, LLC.” Mayor Croyle stated this resolution is a preliminary resolution granting tax abatement to 926 Waterview Street. A confirmatory resolution will be presented at the next meeting if the preliminary resolution is approve tonight. Councilor Nunez moved to have the reading of Resolution No. 2014-12 by title only. Councilor Friend seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Reading complete. Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the reading of Resolution No. 2014-12. Councilor Sells seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Thus it becomes Resolution No. 2014-12.

Resolution No. 2014-13

Resolution No. 2014-13 was presented by Mayor Croyle and was entitled, “A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF WINCHESTER, INDIANA WAIVING NON-COMPLIANCE OF CERTAIN CONDITIONS CONCERNING THE GRANTING OF A DEDUCTION FOR REHABILITATION OR REDEVELOPMENT OF REAL PROPERTY FOR KELM WINCHESTER PROPERTIES, LLC.” This ordinance is waiving non-compliance for 930 Waterview Street. Councilor Schroeder moved to have the reading of Resolution No. 2014-13 by title only. Councilor Friend seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Reading complete. Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the reading of Resolution No. 2014-13. Councilor Friend seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Thus it becomes Resolution No. 2014-13.

Resolution No. 2014-14

Resolution No. 2014-14 was presented by Mayor Croyle and was entitled, “COMMON COUNCIL OF WINCHESTER, INDIANA A PRELIMINARY RESOLUTION GRANTING TAX ABATEMENT TO KLEM WINCHESTER PROPERTIES, LLC.” Councilor Schroeder moved to have the reading of Resolution No. 2014-14 by title only. Councilor Lennington seconded. Councilor Lennington asked if the tax abatement is for five years. If the property is sold the tax abatement is transferable to new owner within the five year period. Motion passed 5-0. Reading complete. Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the reading of Resolution No. 2014-14. Councilor Friend seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Thus it becomes Resolution No. 2014-14.

Department Reports

Frank Lowrance, Street Department Superintendent –submitted a written report. Crack seal and slurry seal has been applied to several City streets and is nearly finished.

Mike Burk, Police Chief – submitted a written report.

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

Bill Yost, Fire Chief – submitted a written report.

Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the department reports. Councilor Friend seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Accounts Payable Vouchers

The end of August accounts payable vouchers (APV) totaled Forty One Thousand Four Hundred Forty Two Dollars and Thirty Three Cents (\$41,442.33).

General Fund	\$17,032.37
Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	\$1,878.40
LLE Continuing Ed. Fund	\$1,185.00
Fire Department Non Reverting Training Fund	\$41.75
Win Fire Dept. Prof Development	\$129.62
DARE Donation Fund	\$205.52
Animal Control Fund	\$540.00
Animal Control Donation Fund	\$20.00
Employee Welfare Benefit Fund	\$20,409.67

The September 1 thru September 10 accounts payable vouchers totaled One Hundred Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty One Dollars and Thirty Cents (\$107,881.30).

General Fund	\$42,828.84
Motor Vehicle Highway Fund	\$4,889.63
Light Fund	\$4,748.66
Court Cash Due County Fund	\$1,302.00
City Court User Fee Fund	\$1,112.00
Fire Department Non Reverting Training Fund	\$912.00
Fire Pension Fund	\$3,184.05
Ambulance Non Reverting Fund	\$650.49
CEDIT	\$35,000.00
Employee Welfare Benefit Plan	\$13,253.63

The Payroll accounts payable vouchers totaled Ninety One Thousand Four Hundred Forty Five Dollars and Four Cents (\$91,445.04). The total of all accounts payable vouchers totaled Two Hundred Forty Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Eight Dollars and Sixty Seven Cents (\$240,768.67). Councilor Schroeder moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers. Councilor Sells seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Public Concerns

Paul Beatty, 516 Westwood Ct, was present to discuss two child safety issues. There are not any signs near Driver Middle School stating school traffic is in the area. Mr. Beatty would like to see signs put in

the area, especially on Highway 32 because of the volume of traffic. The lighting around Willard Elementary is awful. More street lights need to be put in that area. Mayor Croyle encouraged the Council Members to review the area and assess the lighting situation. Councilor Sells asked who's responsibility it is for the signs around the school zone. Flashing lights on highways were discussed. Mayor Croyle stated the City can request permission to put a sign on the State Highway. Chief Yost stated during the last inspection at the new school, the contractor stated the students could be in the new school by January 2015.

Councilor Friend asked when the road project for Summers Pointe will begin. The City Council entered into an agreement with BMMT Management to extend the road in Summers Pointe. Mayor Croyle stated it will be completed soon. A date has not been set for the completion of the project.

Councilor Nunez stated the 68th Annual Mardi Gras will be held October 1-4, 2014. The Winchester Speedway will be featured this year because of the 100th Anniversary. Citizens will be dressed as race car drivers.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Croyle reported a video crew will be in Winchester on Wednesday, September 17, 2014. The video crew will potentially make a promotional video of Winchester. This video could be viewed on the City's Website.

The date for the re-construction project of State Highway 32 East is October 1, 2014. The project has encountered several delays because of the utility companies relocating their lines.

The Greenville Avenue Project appraisals are complete and the offers to purchase the land will be mailed to the property owners this week. The appraisals were completed by the appraisal standards used by the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT). The City of Winchester has received an A+ rating from Standards & Poor's for the bonding for this project.

Mayor Croyle attended an IACT conference recently. Many good workshops and networking was completed.

Announcements

The Board of Public Works and Safety will meet on Tuesday, September 16, 2014 at 8:00 am in the Council Chambers.

The Randolph County Economic Development Board will meet September 16, 2014 at 7:00 pm.

The Park Board will meet on Thursday, September 18, 2014 at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

Winchester Area Chamber of Commerce will host Dinner on the Avenue on Saturday, September 20, 2014 at 6:00 pm at the Towne Square Community Centre. The City reserved a table for eight persons.

Adjournment

There being no further matters to discuss, Councilor Schroeder moved to adjourn. Councilor Friend seconded. Motion passed 5-0. The September 15, 2014 meeting was adjourned at 7:26 pm.

Mayor, Steve Croyle

ATTEST: _____
Clerk-Treasurer, Vicki Haney