

COMMON COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 3, 2013
7:00 P.M.

Mayor Randy Strasser opened the meeting and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Council members present were: Carolyn Pearson, Brian Garrison, Nelson Smith, Dick Traeger and John Bennett.

Prior to opening the meeting for city business, Mayor Strasser gave notice of the public hearing of the proposed budget for 2014. Mayor Strasser read the proposed budget and then asked if there were any questions or statements from the public. There were none and Mayor Strasser closed the hearing for the 2014 budget.

A group formed to stop the possible quarry near Americas appeared to explain their objections and seek help from the city. The location will be on the Bosma farm before Americus and directly across from Peaceful Valley Reserve. They plan to build an overburden that will actually function as a levee. This will only increase the backup flow affecting the reserve as well as the city of Delphi. Good farm land as well as Indian relics and cemeteries will be affected. Brian Garrison extended his wishes for the committee to succeed but does not know how the city can help. Mayor Strasser feels we can work with DNR and will write a letter in support of the committee.

Minutes of the August 5, 2013 meeting were presented for approval. Carolyn Pearson made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Nelson Smith. Motion carried. (5-0)

OLD BUSINESS: Mayor Strasser asked for concerns or discussions concerning the rate increase and bonds. Carolyn Pearson expressed all of the council is concerned but the fact is we have to have water. Mayor Strasser introduced Sue Beesley to handle the process of the rate increase and two bonds. Sue Beesley introduced Ordinance 2013-1 Rate Increase for Utilities. Water and sewer rate increases are handled in the same ordinance. 2013-2 Bond Ordinance for Sewer Projects. The ban authorization is like a bridge loan. The amount of the bond is not to exceed \$1,410,000 and not to exceed interest of more than 5%. The ordinance sets up accounts for rate covenants, tax covenants, refers to rates in 2013-1 and the final page contains the projects the bonds will finance. 2013-3 Bond Ordinance for Water Projects. The bond is not to exceed \$1,960,000 and an interest rate not to exceed 6%. Carolyn Pearson questioned the 5% interest rate on sewer and 6% on water. Sue was not sure why as this was figures given to her by John Julien but if the council is uncomfortable it can be changed. Nelson Smith questioned why the water bond does not have bans. Sue was not sure but probably due to no urgency in water projects like could be possible with sewer projects. Carolyn Pearson noted she would rather the maximum interest would be 5% and Brian Garrison agreed as well as other council members.

Ordinance 2013-1 Carolyn Pearson made the motion to approve the rates to water and sewer on first reading. Second by Brian Garrison. Motion carried. (5-0)

Ordinance 2013-2 Carolyn Pearson made the motion to approve the sewer bond on first reading. Second by Dick Traeger. Motion carried. (5-0)

Ordinance 2013-3 Carolyn Pearson made the motion to approve the water bond with a change of maximum interest to 5%. Second by Brian Garrison. Motion carried. (5-0)

Resolution 2013-6 – Additional appropriation for \$202,706.66 for airport FAA grant. This will allow the airport to purchase land with FAA funds reimbursing the city over 2 years. Brian Garrison made the motion to approve the additional appropriation. Second by John Bennett. Motion carried. (4-0)
Carolyn Pearson abstained.

Dispatch: Several of the council members had asked our attorney, Abigail Diener, for clarification of the dispatch contract and where the city stands in negotiating with the county. Mrs. Diener had sent an email to the council members with an explanation. Questions arose from several of the council members in regard to balance of dispatch funds, who pays, satisfaction of service and contract terms. Mrs. Diener summarized by reporting there is a balance of \$69,000 in their account at this time. State funds are used before they use their reserve account. The contract spells out that it doesn't have to be for specific salaries. Delphi is the only contributor but that is not unusual. Land lines and cell phones revenue goes into one pot and then the state divides it up. John Chapman is our representative on their board. SBOA audits their records. There is a call report. Mayor Strasser stated the county had laid off some employees and at that time we negotiated this contract. It was not meant to be a long term proposition. It was to be revisited in a few years. Carolyn Pearson noted at one time she had questioned Ann Brown concerning the reserve account and was informed it was in place to take care of improvements. Carolyn questioned if we could renegotiate. Mrs. Diener stated we could and needed to do so before July 1st. Brian Garrison had copies of emails of Nick McLeland and Mrs. Diener to change terms in December of 2011. Mayor Strasser stated the letters of notification had been sent to the county. Mrs. Diener noted there are no copies at the court house. Mayor Strasser would like 2 council members to work with Mrs. Diener to find a resolution. Brian Garrison and Dick Traeger volunteered to serve on the committee. Mrs. Diener offered to have paper work to committee members in two weeks.

Employee Manual: Mayor Strasser had given a print out of present and possible future benefits for the police department and requested guidance from the council members. Brian Garrison feels it is unfair to take benefits away from employees. Nelson Smith thinks it should be left as is. Mrs. Diener stated it should be the same for all employees. Mayor Strasser reminded the council members this issue will go before the BOW. Mayor Strasser will put the manual together and bring back to the council.

Fire Territory Resolution: The fire territory board has approved this resolution and they are seeking approval by the council. An ordinance similar to this one was in place since 1988 when the city had a fire department. This covers mostly nuisance runs. The revenue from this resolution would go towards capital expenditures. Dick Traeger questioned if insurance will pay. The homeowner must be billed and they can turn the bill in to their insurance company. Most insurance companies have \$500 written into their policy. This type of billing has not been done the last three years. John Bennett asked for a copy of

this resolution to be given to Mrs. Diener to look over and a copy of their capital plan. Darrell Sterrett agreed to do so and noted Cynthia Harmon had also looked over the resolution. John Bennett questioned if the board had decided to get a financial advisor and would like for the fire territory to use Umbaugh. Darrell reported Umbaugh had done a financial report for the fire territory and met with the fire department board. Council members agree this resolution has their approval if it is satisfactory with Mrs. Diener.

Street: Aaron Lyons work had begun on curbs and resurfacing. Work at Riley Park will be done next. It is now time to getting the equipment ready for leaf pick up. Carolyn Pearson noted the walking trail was broken down in several places and questioned if work could be done on the trail when the contractors are working on the park area. Aaron will look into that.

Wastewater: Dick VanSickle reported Geiger had returned and finished grading and reseeded. Brand Electric is finishing up on work to the control panel. The only project left is the landscaping. John Bennett wanted to know the status on Armory Road and Dick reported it would be completed tomorrow.

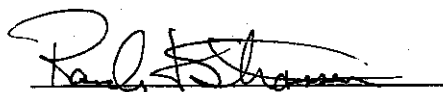
Police: John Chapman was not present.

Community Development: Kevin Kologinsky had given council members a written report. Kevin told council members at this time he is concentrating on public hearings and public meetings on stellar programs. The nature of downtown will change a lot and will become more pedestrian friendly. Kevin noted the following dates:

- September 5th at 6:00 at Canal Center – Kellar Neighborhood Planning
- September 9th at 6:00 at Canal Center – Public Work Shop for Facades
- September 18th at 6:00 at Canal Center – Gateway Trail Work Shop
- September 30th at 6:00 at Canal Center – Work Shop for Streetscapes

Mayor Strasser noted ADA Transition Plan had crept up on us. Mayor Strasser did inspections on several public area and more inspections will have to be done. A budget and plan to correct issues will need to be addressed. One of Mayor Strasser's main concerns is how to handle access to council meetings.

Meeting adjourned.



Mayor Randy Strasser



Carolyn Pearson

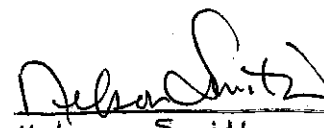
Brian Garrison



Dick Traeger



John Bennett



Nelson Smith