

COMMON COUNCIL
APRIL 6, 2015
7:00 P.M.

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

Roll call was given and the following council members were present for the meeting: Carolyn Pearson, Brian Garrison, Richard Traeger and John Bennett. Nelson Smith was absent.

Minutes from the meeting held on March 2, 2015 were presented for approval. Richard Traeger made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Carolyn Pearson. Motion carried. (4-0)

OLD BUSINESS:

Dog Ordinance 2015-2 has been cleaned up from the old ordinance. John Bennett questioned if this ordinance applies to dangerous dogs or would it also apply to exotic animals. Brock Dawson, city attorney, responded it follows state statute and applies only to dogs. Steve Mullin, Police Chief, stated his department is not trained to catch dangerous animals but will work on handling the situation. Carolyn Pearson made the motion to approve Ordinance 2015-2 on 1st reading. Second by John Bennett. Motion carried. (4-0)

NEW BUSINESS:

Area IV Head Start Program is looking for place to provide breakfast and lunch to 18 and under children from June 8, 2015 through July 31, 2015 and the only day not serving will be July 2nd due to the 4th of July. Richard Traeger questioned who will supervise the children between serving meals. Mayor Strasser assured the council the workers with Head Start will be there the entire time. John Bennett questioned if this conflicts with meals the church provides and Mayor Strasser responded it did not conflict. John Bennett questioned if we needed a vote to approve this usage. Mayor Strasser reported he had made arrangements with Head Start and approved the usage.

Leanne explained the fund report as well as the report from Umbaugh on Stellar projects she had given the council members. Leanne also explained the statement she had received from INDOT totaling 630,000+. The invoices had been sent in February and are for the streetscapes project downtown. These funds are not in place in our budget and INDOT had explained to Leanne the project could not start until we had paid our 20% match. Due to the amount of the invoices Leanne requested the council approve the additional appropriation for this amount. Mayor Strasser inserted the information regarding Milestone being the lowest bidder on water and streetscapes and this will allow us to work with them on quotes. On the 13th of April a meeting will be held with the contractors. Richard Traeger stated he felt we should not hold off any longer and start the process immediately. Mayor Strasser questioned the council members if the additional appropriation was wanted by council members. Richard Traeger made the motion for Leanne to start the process of the additional appropriation. Second by John Bennett. Motion carried. (4-0)

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Community Development: Kevin Kologinsky gave a written report to the council members and noted the ribbon cutting for Freedom Bridge will be April 15th at 1:00 P.M. The dedication of the Veterans Memorial Plaza will be done at this time. DLZ will be providing refreshments. Kevin also stated we are in the 3rd phase of final environmental work on the Interurban Trail. Downtown Facades is a little behind schedule but going well. Owner Occupied has changed up some of the paperwork and has pushed our schedule back. The downtown streetscapes will be done in three stages with the first being the Opera House block (Monroe to Main). Kevin noted there is not a final design on Gateway Phase II and we are waiting until we see about the budget figures. The pump station grant has clearance with Brosman property as well as the Underhill property. Mayor Strasser stated there are some environment issues involved.

Andy Royal, guest, questioned the plan for routing the water through his property. Mayor Strasser stated the pump station will only work when in a flood stage. This would result in water from the Wabash coming into the canal. The lift station is on the north side of the culvert and we would pump back into canal bed on Brosman property. Andy Royal stated that would result in a buildup of water on his side due to the stone bridge holding flow back. Mayor Strasser noted two certified letters had been sent to two addresses for Mr. Royal. One of the letters had been returned with label on unable to deliver and the second letter sent had been refused to sign for. Mayor Strasser stated we had engineer reports and we can get together with Brock Dawson, city attorney, as well as BF&S, engineers, and go over the information. Richard Traeger noted we have been through this at a council meeting as well as a special meeting with Mr. Royal in the past.

Street Department: Aaron Lyons reported they were finally able to clean and store all the snow removal equipment. Yard waste pick up begins this week. Pot holes will be fixed from Union to stop light. Cold patch will not work. Carolyn Pearson stated she had noticed work being done at Riley Park. Aaron explained he had been working with Kris Neuman, master gardener. Kris has volunteered her time in design work as well as assisting with the actual landscaping. Aaron has received lots of compliments on the work to this point.

Wastewater: Dick VanSickle had given a written report to the council members. He stated the annual disinfection had been completed. His plant is winning the war against ecoli. The issue with blockage in sewer lines can be traced back to wet wipes in most cases. The wet wipes do not deteriorate and eventually get into the propellers of the pump

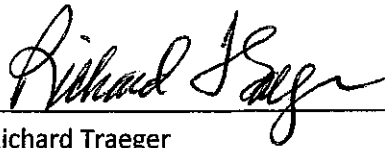
Police: Steve Mullin issued a written report of the activities of his department. Steve also noted his men had been trained of AED and is installed in their vehicles.

Water: Craig Myers gave a written report to the council members. Brian Garrison questioned Craig as to some of the numbers on the report. The time the pumps are running seems very high. Craig responded it could be more days of the month as well as more usage.

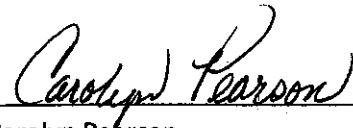
Fire: Darrell Sterrett reported his department needs to replace one of the trucks in service at this time and needs approval from the council. Council members agreed to support the efforts of the fire territory on seeking a new fire truck. Mayor Strasser stated he has found someone from Carmel willing to purchase the old LaFrance fire truck. He will restore the old truck and probably resell. Larry Jenkins, guest, stated the auctioneers have sites on the web and a buyer could be found.

With no further business, Mayor Strasser called for adjournment at 8:55 P.M.

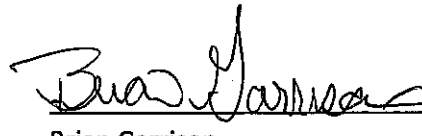
Mayor Randy Strasser




Richard Traeger



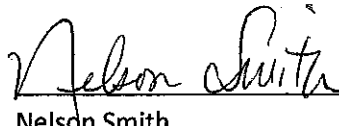
Carolyn Pearson




Brian Garrison



John Bennett



Nelson Smith



Leanne Aldrich, Attest