## JUNE 3, 2013 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Randy Strasser opened the meeting and invited former council member Hannah Germond to lead in the pledge of allegiance.

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

The minutes from the meeting of May 6, 2013 were presented for approval. Carolyn Pearson made the motion to approve the minutes with two minor corrections having been made. Second by Nelson Smith. Motion carried. (5-0)

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Stellar Update report was distributed in the packet given to council members. A copy of this report is on file in the clerk's office.
- B. Logsdon Property: Mayor Strasser noted he was not at the last council meeting and wanted information on what determinations the council members came to in regard to the property. John Bennett explained he had arrived late for the previous meeting and did not understand why the city would want to buy the property. Mayor Strasser explained the Logsdon home had been damaged more than 51% in the flood of 2003 and the county would not allow the structure to be repaired. The owner continued to make his mortgage payment as well as pay his property taxes. The owner should have received a settlement for his home at that time through FEMA. Recently we have received a letter from FEMA stating enough loss has been established in Carroll County from April rainfall we could receive funds. Mayor Strasser explained this parcel of land is connected to the interurban trail and we will buy sooner or later. If we wait till later then it will end up making us pay more for the property. The process of securing the land will involve surveys and appraisals and other possible expenses. Brian asked if we know what price the family has set for the property. Mayor Strasser replied he felt the property could be purchased now for \$10,000. Brian noted the mayor's email had mentioned \$15,000 to \$20,000. Brian stated Kathy Mylet said 2 to 3 other properties could be involved requiring the city to purchase. Mayor Strasser was not aware of this situation and reported all surveys and appraisals had been done on properties associated with the Interurban Trail. At this point Brian questioned why surveys are not shown to the council. Brian also questioned why he had not received information on the housing awards. Mayor Strasser replied it is your (council) responsibility to come to us for information. Mayor Strasser referred this to Abigail Diener and she replied she did not have the information. Brian stated he had been waiting on this information since the 13th of May. Mayor Strasser explained we are protecting citizens and the city. Nelson questioned where we are with the Logsdon property. Brian noted Lori Wilson is the grant administrator in Tippecanoe Co. and they purchase flooded property. Brian offered contact

information to Kevin Kologinsky for Lori Wilson. John Bennett feels the owner needs to set a price and that demolition must happen. Mayor Strasser explained we need 2 appraisals. Brian feels it would be a good idea if we purchased the property jointly with Little League. Little League could use for parking and we would have access to the trail. Dick Traeger felt we need more information on how to purchase wanted and Abbey to look into the process needed.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

In September of 2012 information had been provided to council members on utility improvements. Two months ago this information had been updated. Mayor Strasser noted the need to move forward on the well projects. A work session is needed in the next couple weeks with Peerless Well, Umbaugh and BF&S. John Bennett questioned if we should schedule the work sessions at this time. Carolyn Pearson expressed the need to set dates and make ourselves available to work with consultant's schedule. The 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of June at 6:00 P.M. in the council chambers was decided upon.

## **Department Reports:**

Wastewater: Dick VanSickle filed a written report for board members. Dick explained Maddox Construction had done a lot of work. A new stairway had been installed, booster package, pump and soon will be installing a new level sensor.

Street: Aaron had filed a written report and explained of tree removal and some painting on signs in street (RR). A summer rec program will be held and Gayle Conner will be in charge. She will put an ad in the paper and Aaron will put on our web page. The second spring clean up will be held and volunteers will drive around and pick up for people who cannot handle the load. Brian thanked Aaron for their work on alleys and questioned what dictates where you run the street sweeper. Monday is a set route with downtown and highways and the rest of the city is when it can be worked in. Carolyn Pearson thanked Aaron for working on volunteers for spring clean up.

Police: John Chapman was not present for the meeting but had emailed a report to board members.

Community Development: Kevin Kologinsky explained meetings had been held with 40 owners of buildings in the downtown area. New designs for store fronts are almost done. Mr. and Mrs. Madison had purchased the old Kerlin building. The parking area will be shared with Jacob's Closet, Kathy Bell and the new owners. Plans for a large mural on the back of the building are in the works. After the completion of the facades then the street scopes will be done. The plans for the gateway trail integrating the city with the canal center are ready. Floodgates are dealing with a delay due to property issues. Abbey has talked with attorneys for Underhills and 2 new appraisals are ordered. Safe Routes will start soon and is to be completed before school starts. Interurban Trail is dealing with a couple parcels that involve 2 lots with temporary buildings and these will have to be purchased. Freedom Bridge is looking to show progress. If we run out of money, we can seek additional funds to enhance the project later on with other funds.

Mayor: Mayor Strasser had two meetings with a developer interested in senior housing and loft apartments. There are 6 to 8 developers interested in our area. Purdue is interested in establishing a "center for regional development". Through Economic Development, a company came in for s site visit. They looked at 2 areas in Flora, 1 in Camden, Globe Valve area and the 60 acres in TIF area. They have shown a strong interest in the 60 acres. Initially it will mean 25 more jobs but can move forward quickly. This company is a highly skilled ag business, related to crops and we should hear in the next couple of months. Mayor Strasser informed the board members he had been invited to return to Japan and China but he is turning down the offer due to the heavy load of current projects. On June 12<sup>th</sup> from 5 PM to 6PM a public meeting on ADA will be held at the canal center. The hope is for input from our community concerned about these issues. Mayor Strasser turned the floor to Hannah Germond. Hannah wanted all to know how good it felt to visit us. Recently she was elected President of the Student Council and so her work continues.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Mayor Randy Strasser

Carolyn Pearson

**Brian Garrison** 

Dick Traeger

ohn Bennett

**Nelson Smith**