# COMMON COUNCIL-JANUARY 4, 2020 6:00 P.M. MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM

Mayor Werling called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. This meeting was conducted over Zoom.

Clerk-Treasurer Aldrich took the roll call:

Present were Gayle Conner, Sandra Flora, Mike Isley, Spencer Kingery, and Cody Nelson.

Nominations were opened for President Pro Tempore of the Council. Cody Nelson was nominated by Gayle Conner. Spencer Kingery was nominated by Cody Nelson. Without objection the nominations were closed. The vote was conducted for candidates in the order nominated. On Cody Nelson: Ayes—Conner; Nays—Flora, Isley, Kingery, and Nelson. On Spencer Kingery: Ayes—Flora, Isley, Kingery, and Nelson; Nays—Conner. Spencer Kingery was duly elected President Pro Tempore of the Common Council for 2021.

Minutes from the meeting held on December 7, 2020 were presented for approval. Spencer Kingery moved to approve. Second by Mike Isley. Motion carried. (Ayes: Conner, Flora, Isley, Kingery, and Nelson; Nays: none.)

Minutes from the special meeting held on December 30, 2020 were presented for approval. Cody Nelson moved to approve. Second by Spencer Kingery. Motion carried. (Ayes: Conner, Flora, Isley, Kingery, and Nelson; Nays: none.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mayor Werling provided an update to the discussion that took place at the December 30<sup>th</sup> Council meeting in which a council member stated that the State Board of Accounts (SBOA) had grave concerns about how the City of Delphi was being managed. Two SBOA names were mentioned: Todd Caldwell and Susan Gordon. Mayor Werling indicated that she had spoken with Todd Caldwell about that characterization. He responded that SBOA's duty is to respond to procedural questions as they are presented; SBOA does not make management characterizations. Mr. Caldwell stated that if SBOA ever had grave concerns about a community's management, they would be in there with an immediate audit. When asked if there were specific items SBOA would address in the Delphi audit, Mr. Caldwell indicated that encumbrances and CARES Act accounting were on the list; he volunteered that nearly every community would be audited for CARES Act accounting as the procedural guidance from the State had not been well defined.

Clerk-Treasurer Aldrich added that she had spoken with Susan Gordon about the same issues and had received similar responses. Aldrich stated that she hoped we could put this matter behind us and move forward in a cooperative spirit. She stated that by working together we could accomplish what is best for the citizens of Delphi and what they expect from us.

**NEW BUSINESS** 

## **Council Board Appointments**

- Carroll County Area Plan Council Appointment. Spencer Kingery nominated himself. Cody Nelson nominated Sandra Flora. Without objection nominations were closed. On Spencer Kingery: Ayes—none; Nays—Conner, Flora, Isley, Kingery, and Nelson. On Sandra Flora: Ayes—Conner, Flora, Isley, Kingery, and Nelson. Sandra Flora was appointed.
- Northwest Indiana Solid Waste District. Cody Nelson was nominated by Spencer Kingery.
  Without objection nominations were closed. Ayes: Conner, Flora, Isley, Kingery, and Nelson.
  NaysCody Nelson was appointed.
- Carroll County Administrative Transportation Committee. Mike Isley was nominated by Mike Isley. Without objection nominations were closed. Ayes: Conner, Flora, Isley, Kingery, and Nelson; Nays: none. Mike Isley was appointed.
- Delphi Redevelopment Commission with two Council appointments. Cody Nelson nominated Gayle Conner. Sandra Flora nominated Randy Strasser. Mike Isley nominated Kevin Gaskill. Without objection the nominations were closed. The vote was in the order of nomination. On Gayle Conner: Ayes—Conner, Flora, Isley, Kingery, and Nelson. On Randy Strasser: Ayes—Flora, Kingery, and Nelson; Nays—Conner and Isley. No vote was taken on the third candidate since majorities were obtained by the first two nominations. Conner and Strasser were appointed.

Mayor Werling announced the following appointment of Councilors to work with department heads:

- Councilwoman Conner: Aviation and Fire
- · Councilwoman Flora: Wastewater
- Councilman Isley: Water and Clerk-Treasurer
- · Councilman Kingery: Police and Mayor
- Councilman Nelson: Streets and Parks

Proposed Ordinance 2021-1, read by title alone, *An Ordinance Enacting and Adopting a Supplement to the Code of Ordinances for the City of Delphi* was presented with the request that it be passed on all three readings. Cody Nelson moved to pass Ordinance 2021-1 on first reading. Second by Mike Isley. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Spencer Kingery moved to suspend the rules to allow passage on the same day as introduction and requiring a unanimous vote. Second by Sandra Flora. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Mike Isley moved to pass Ordinance 2021-1 on second reading. Second by Gayle Conner. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Gayle Conner moved to pass Ordinance 2021-1 on third and final reading. Second by Sandra Flora. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

#### Small Business Resilience Grant program Round II

The Council discussed the scoring rubric used for Round I. The addition of a yes/no question—based on this application, should funds be granted. Gayle Conner raised the question about determining percentage of funding based on the scoring rubric and stressed the need to stay objective. Mike Isley observed that businesses are struggling and need the help. Sandra Flora stressed need to keep businesses healthy for post-COVID. Cody Nelson said that businesses that did not comply with reports from Round I would not be eligible for Round II. Mayor Werling stated that only one business failed to report and thus far had not submitted an application.

Mayor Werling indicated that OCRA was offering Phase III grants for COVID relief with a letter on intent due by January 19, 2021. The Council without objection agreed that a LOI should be submitted.

#### **Board Comments.**

Spencer Kingery offered that he was looking forward to the year and stressed the importance of working together. Encouraged not overtaxing the Clerk's office with information requests that could be delayed to a future date.

Sandra Flora congratulated Kingery and looks for a prosperous year ahead.

Mike Isley encouraged all to work well together during the coming year.

Gayle Conner asked for an update on the number of approved applications for the Riverfront Development District. Mayor Werling responded that two applications were approved in 2020. Conner asked for a response from the Mayor about the County Commissioner's mask statement. No response since the Mayor had not heard about this issue.

Cody Nelson expressed that the new year offered a chance for the Council to do what it can for Delphi.

Clerk-Treasurer Aldrich had no comment.

There being no public comment, Cody Nelson moved to adjourn. Second by Mike Isley. Without objection the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Mayor Anita Werling

Clerk-Treasurer, Leanne Aldrich, Attest