

COMMON COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 4, 2013
7:00 P.M.

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

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

The minutes from two previous meetings were presented for approval. The first record of minutes was from the special council meeting held on September 23, 2013. The second set of minutes was from the council meeting of October 7, 2013.

Brian Garrison made the motion to approve the minutes of September 23, 2013 as presented. Second by Nelson Smith. Motion carried. (5-0)

Carolyn Pearson made the motion to approve the minutes of October 7, 2013 as presented. Second by Dick Traeger. Motion carried. (5-0)

OLD BUSINESS:

ADA: Steve Moore of VS Engineering was unable to be here to work with council on understanding the ADA transition plan. Mayor Strasser noted he understands there is a lot to read and digest and feels it can and must be handled at the next council meeting. John Bennett stated he has not read the entire plan but what he has read proves to be a plan identifying barriers with no liabilities for the city. Brian Garrison thanked Mayor Strasser for the copies of the ADA plan that was delivered to them making it easier for the council members to read.

Police Repeaters: John Chapman introduced Nicole Sherrill, Government and Public Safety Officer with Motorola to explain the solution for in car repeaters. Nicole met with Chief Chapman, Sherriff Burns and RACon. The system she had our department try out is the best answer to the needs in our area. Policemen can still communicate when leaving their vehicle. The very best solution would be a new tower but the probable cost of a new tower could exceed \$500,000. The cost of 3 repeaters would be \$36,271.95. John Bennett noted he had met with John Chapman and the county and understands this fix is affordable compared to a new tower. Flora put in a tower but it did not help the situation here. Nelson wanted to know the range of the repeaters and was informed it could be 2 to 3 blocks from the vehicle. John Bennett noted the county deputy told of the schools being in dead spots. Nicole noted that is a common situation. The repeaters are actually for vehicles and not men. John Bennett made the motion to take money from Riverboat Fund in an amount not to exceed \$36,271.95. Second by Nelson Smith. Motion carried. (4-0) Carolyn Pearson abstained.

Conflict of Interest: Abby Diener explained the conflict of interest form in regard to Corey Whitesell. Hannum Weigle is planning to bid on parking project and Corey will need to recues himself from the bidding process. The actual form was filled out by Mayor Strasser and Corey Whitesell and sent to OCRA. A copy of the conflict form was not available for the council members but Mrs. Diener

noted she gives her approval after reviewing the form. Carolyn Pearson questioned where we are on the parking project and Mrs. Diener did not feel that we were far along. Carolyn Pearson made the motion to approve the conflict of interest form. Second by Brian Garrison. Motion carried. (5-0) Mayor Strasser explained he will draft a letter to accompany the conflict of interest statement.

School Resource Officer: Mayor Strasser explained he had stopped by the school 2 weeks ago and had been approached by Walker concerning a school resource officer. On the 15th of October Mr. Walker sent copies from another school to John Chapman and Mrs Diener. Mayor Strasser was hoping a school board member would have attended the meeting and explained their wishes. Mayor Strasser noted John and our officers spend a lot of time at the school with our officers being limited. Mr. Walker had explained there were two possibilities with the first being the school would have their own officer or the second option would be the city would partner with the school and the second was the preference of Mr. Walker. Mayor Strasser asked for the thoughts of the council members. Dick Traeger feels we need to read the material given to the council members and see what kind of questions we would have. John Bennett noted Flora has a resource officer and Nelson Smith explained the Flora School is paying the town for a part time employee. Flora assumes liability and equipment. This information brought up questions of hours required, rate of pay, etc. Mrs. Diener asked for clarification on responsible party for the grant. Mayor Strasser explained he has to go to the school next week and he will address the issues. John Chapman feels we should set up a separate meeting and two of our council members would work on the proposal. Brian Garrison and Nelson Smith volunteered to help. John Bennett offered to serve as backup if needed.

Department Reports:

Fire: Darrell reported 520 man hours with lots on fire prevention. Darrell brought the resolution approved by the Fire Territory board for billing with fees included. Mrs. Diener, city attorney, read and approved the resolution. Dick Traeger made the motion to approve Resolution 2013-7, Second by John Bennett, Motion carried. (5-0) Darrell also reminded the council members and guests their annual ham and bean/chili dinner will be this week-end from 6 to 8:30.

Street: Aaron used the encumbered funds from last year with paving a section of Indiana St. and the parking section at Riley Park. The men are picking up leaves. Carolyn asked about the rest rooms at the park and Aaron informed the board they are open and will continue to be open till freezing weather arrives. Carolyn questioned Aaron if the camera had been put in the park and Aaron assumes it has been done.

Utilities: Dick VanSickle reported the annual oil changes on the big equipment are completed.

Police: John Chapman reported working with area plan on address changes for Samuel Milroy Rd. Both addresses will be usable for one year. Brian Garrison asked if notices would be mailed to residents. John explained that will be decided who does so at the next area plan meeting.

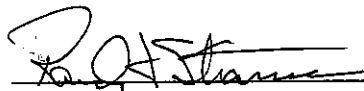
Mayor: A positive community meeting was held at the school on bullying. There will be another meeting this Wednesday as well as a meeting on the 13th. Purdue is doing a good job on working with schools to get this message out.

Community Development: Floodgates grant, OCRA and KIRPC is working to get past land issue. Safe Routes to School is done. Interurban is over budget, HWC is asking for more money from INDOT.

Freedom Bridge will have 13 interpretative panels with historic stories. Heartland and Canal is trying for a grant to secure land to bridge.

Bob Burton, owner of home on Cottage St., questioned what is plan for old 25. Bob wanted to know if homeowners would pick up more rights of way. Aaron Lyons explained the right of way goes from state to city and not to property owners. City will repave. The relinquishment settlement gives us money over a four year period of time to be used to repair as well as maintain. Aaron noted he has some old estimates. Mayor Strasser explained solutions need to be found for storm water, drainage, sidewalks and paving. Meeting will have to be held to make all these determinations but a plan has been in effect. Mayor Strasser said all this had been taken into account with negotiating with the state so a basic plan is in place. Aaron noted he does not have a formal plan, just old numbers. Brian Garrison finds driving from Lafayette to Delphi on old 25 is great. The drainage and paving is excellent. Brian hopes we did not make a mistake by taking the cash settlement as it seems a lot to take on when looking at the present condition of the road we inherited.

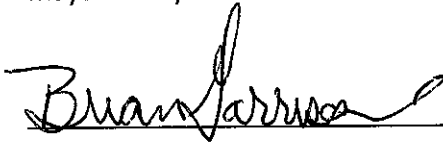
Meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.



Mayor Randy Strasser



Carolyn Pearson



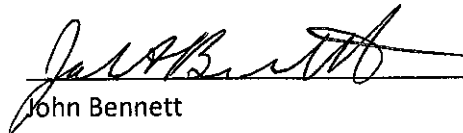
Brian Garrison



Nelson Smith



Dick Traeger



John Bennett