

COMMON COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 18, 2017
PUBLIC HEARING AND MEETING

Mayor Shane Evans opened the meeting and led in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll call was given and the following council members were present: Carolyn Pearson, Brian Garrison, Richard Traeger, Dale Seward and Mike Shockley.

Mayor Evans opened the public hearing on the proposed budget for 2018. Mayor Evans asked for comments or questions from the public attending the meeting. There were none.

With no questions presented for Mayor Evans or council members, Mayor Evans closed the public hearing.

Mayor Evans introduced Kyle Kurtz of Anderson's. Mr. Kurtz stated Anderson's would like for farmers to be able to use our Main Street, including the redone section of the former highway, to bring their semi's loaded with grain. Their usual grain season spans September 1st through November 15th. Even though they would also like it to include cob delivery, they are not requesting a time span for that issue. Anderson's feel with the present truck routes they could lose business as it would be easier for farmers to go to Brookston.

Brian Garrison stated the City had redesigned the downtown area spending \$22 million to be pedestrian friendly. The streets are narrow now making this a safety issue. Mr. Garrison stated he feels all trucks should use the set alternative routes.

Carolyn Pearson noted she had ridden in the semis delivering in the past. The farmer operating the combine is waiting on the return of the semi. Carolyn stated, after giving this matter a lot of thought, she would be willing to compromise with a 6-week variance. Mrs. Pearson also noted Anderson's was annexed and did not object to the process. The annexation made them a large contributor of tax revenue.

Mayor Evans questioned the council members, if we allow the variance to Andersons, do we have to give variances to UD Ag or IPC.

Aaron Lyons, street superintendent, stated we did a band-aid. If we have trucks pounding over this road, there is no way it will last. We spent 1.2 million to rehab and the next time it will require a total re-do and the cost will be on us. This time we used highway relinquishment funds as well as the community crossing grant.

Carolyn Pearson referred to the statement made by Laura Walls of we are not business friendly if we are not truck friendly.

Richard Traeger noted most cities have truck routes.

Dale Seward felt a variance could be tried for one year and then make a decision.

Mayor Evans reminded the council members we passed an ordinance for the truck routes and if we want a variance, we need to send recommendations to our city attorney for drafting.

Dale Seward made the motion to direct our city attorney to draft a change to our present ordinance. Second by Mike Shockley. Motion carried. 3 Ayes (Carolyn Pearson, Dale Seward and Mike Shockley)

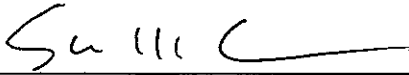
Two Nays (Brian Garrison and Richard Traeger).

Laura Walls of EDC wanted to state they did not take action to take a side on this issue. It was agreed by EDC trucks are an important part of business operation but good truck routes must be developed for the benefit of all concerned.

Debbie Lowe questioned if we were thinking about going back to parallel parking because it is definitely too narrow with the bump outs and angle parking.

Dale Seward made the motion to adjourn. Second by Mike Shockley. Motion carried. (5-0)

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 P.M.



Mayor Shane Evans



Carolyn Pearson



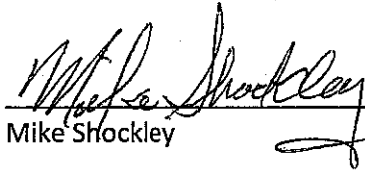
Brian Garrison



Richard Traeger



Dale Seward



Mike Shockley