

COMMON COUNCIL  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2020  
6:00 P.M.  
COMMUNITY CENTER, 311 N. WASHINGTON STREET

Mayor Werling called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk-Treasurer Adrich was absent and Mayor Werling took the roll call:

Present were Gayle Conner, Mike Isley, Spencer Kingery (remote), and Cody Nelson. Sandra Flora was absent.

Minutes from the meeting held on September 8, 2020 were presented for approval. Mike Isley moved for approval. Second by Cody Nelson. Motion carried (4-0).

Mayor Werling suspended the meeting and opened the Public Hearing on the 2021 Budget at 6:11 p.m. There being no speakers on the matter of the budget, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:12 p.m. and the regular meeting resumed.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Proposed Ordinance 2020-11, *Budget Ordinance for 2021*. Cody Nelson moved for passage on second reading. Second by Gayle Conner. In the discussion that followed, Kevin Watson from Baker Tilly (via Zoom) advised that LIT and EDIT funds were expected to remain flat or to decrease slightly in 2021 over 2020. Council members Conner and Nelson expressed concern in offering a 5% across-the-board increase when it might mean no increase in the following year. Council member Kingery expressed that he was in favor of the 5%, even if it meant no increase in the following year. Council member Isley thought the 5% was necessary for retention given that wages and salaries in Delphi are lower than surrounding communities. Councilperson Nelson moved to amend the budget with a 4% across-the-board increase in salary and wages. Second by President Pro Tempore Conner. Nelson and Conner voted aye. Kingery and Isley voted nay. Mayor Werling cast the deciding nay vote. Motion failed. (3-2) Discussion continued concerning the gym pass to be offered to full-time employees. A separate line item not being found, Werling increased the Mayor's promotional line item from \$1,000 to \$3,000. Discussion of the EDIT budget led to increasing the EDIT Dues & Seminars line item from \$2,500 to \$3,500 offset by a decrease in EDIT Promotional from \$15,000 to \$14,000. A discussion of zeroing out the EDIT Community Development & Code Enforcement did not result in a motion to amend. A discussion concerning the Highway Relinquishment Fund did not result in a motion to amend. A motion to pass the 2021 budget as amended was made by Mike Isley. Second by Cody Nelson. Motion carried (4-0).

Proposed Ordinance 2020-12, *Salary Ordinance for 2021*. Gayle Conner moved for passage on second reading. Second by Mike Isley. Motion carried (4-0).

Proposed Ordinance 2020-13, *Wages Ordinance for 2021*. Cody Nelson moved for passage on second reading. Second by Gayle Conner. Motion carried (4-0).

Proposed Ordinance 2020-4, *An Ordinance Amending Penalties for Ordinance Violations* and Proposed Ordinance and Proposed Ordinance 2020-9, *An Ordinance Regarding Unsafe Buildings* remained tabled.

**New Business:**

Following discussion Councilperson Kingery moved to set the date for Trick or Treat in the City of Delphi to Friday, October 20 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Second by Mike Isley. Motion carried (3-0) with Gayle Conner abstaining.

Mayor Werling updated the Council on the Small Business Resilience Grant program. Letters and a new income survey were mailed to qualifying recipients with surveys to be returned to K-IRPC by September 24. The surveys will determine eligibility for reimbursement to the City from the OCRA grant received for this purpose. Also being reviewed is the status of reports from the grant recipients on how dollars were spent. An update will be provided to Council on October 5.

**Council Comments and Requests:**

Gayle Conner asked if there were plans to reopen the City Building to the public. Mayor Werling indicated that there were none at the present time and stated that the public could schedule a time to come in to review public documents. Conner also asked how delinquent water bills were being handled now that the State's mandate preventing water turnoffs had expired. Werling indicated that letters had been sent by Clerk-Treasurer Aldrich notifying delinquent accounts that water shut off could occur if bills were not paid and encouraging the arrangement of payment plans.


Mike Isley indicated how nice it was to see businesses open and new businesses starting in the downtown.

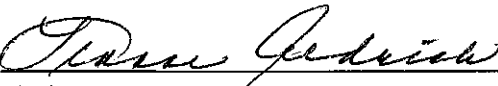
Cody Nelson wanted to clarify that he felt Trick or Treat in the City was warranted due to the relatively low incidence of cases among the young.

**Public Comments and Requests:**

Tony Brooks expressed concern about the unsafe condition of the building at 106 E. Main Street and stated that it should be torn down.

Cody Nelson moved to adjourn. Second by Mike Isley. Motion carried (4-0). The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

  
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Mayor Anita Werling

  
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Clerk-Treasurer, Leanne Aldrich, Attest