

COMMON COUNCIL

JANUARY 3, 2022

6:00 P.M.

Mayor Werling called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Those in attendance rose for the pledge of allegiance.

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. Spencer Kingery was nominated by Cody Nelson. Without objection the nominations were closed. Spencer Kingery was duly elected President Pro Tempore of the Common Council for 2022 by a unanimous vote.

Minutes from the special meeting held on December 20, 2020, were presented for approval. Cody Nelson moved to approve. Second by Mike Isley. Motion carried. (5-0) Without objection, department head reports were incorporated by reference into the minutes.

OTHER BUSINESS

Richard Hawkins, 306 Armory Road, was invited to address Council for five minutes on the topic of speeding on Armory Road. Stating he had gotten support from the school for his concerns about speeding, Hawkins called for the installation of speed bumps and sidewalks.

Councilwoman Conner expressed opinion that speed bumps should be installed and made a motion to pursue speed bumps in at least three locations. Second by Sandra Flora expressing concern about speeding as a Council person and as a resident on Armory Road. Cody Nelson agreed that something needed to be done but felt that more thought was needed for the solution. Superintendent Lyons advised that asphalt bumps would be needed rather than speed humps that were pinned to the street and would be destroyed by snowplows. Conner asked to table the motion. Attorney Robeson indicated the motion could be amended but not tabled once it had been seconded. Sandra Flora moved to amend the motion to allow Superintendent Lyons time to research and report back to Council at the next meeting. Second by Cody Nelson. The amendment carried. (5-0) The amended motion carried. (5-0)

Mayor Werling indicated that a resident on Summit had asked to have the one-way designation rescinded. Chief McCain indicated that the road was designated one-way due to its narrowness and that two cars could not travel the road in opposite directions without one pulling over. With parking restricted to the south side of the street, there often would not be room to pull over to accommodate a passing car. The consensus of Council was to leave the status of Summit Street between US421 and Prince William Road as one-way eastbound. Superintendent Lyons was asked to check that all signage was visible.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Proposed Ordinance 2021-15 to set the rate for trash collection was presented for third and final reading. Cody Nelson moved to approve. Second by Mike Isley. No discussion followed. Motion carried. (4-1: Ayes—Sandra Flora, Mike Isley, Spencer Kingery, Cody Nelson; Nay—Gayle Conner.)

## NEW BUSINESS

CF-1 forms were presented requesting Council's determination on whether the four properties involved in the Canal Commons project were in substantial compliance to receive tax abatement for 2021 payable in 2022. Mayor Werling expressed the opinion that the properties were in substantial compliance with the terms of the tax abatement. Cody Nelson moved to find the properties in compliance. Second by Sandra Flora. Councilwoman Conner raised the concern that the CF-1 forms should have been presented for approval mid-year 2021 and questioned whether the Council could act on them in 2022 for a tax abatement granted in 2021. Mayor Werling indicated that the Assessor's office had stated that the signed documents could be presented following the January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, Council meeting if compliance was approved. Attorney Robeson indicated that the action was allowable stating that it might be noted in a future audit. Motion carried. (4-0-1: Ayes—Sandra Flora, Mike Isley, Spencer Kingery, Cody Nelson; Abstain—Gayle Conner.)

Proposed Resolution 2022-1 authorizing application and match for the 2022-1 round of Community Crossings Matching Grant program was presented for approval. Mayor Werling explained that the application deadline will be January 28. While the list of projects is not finalized, the maximum grant amount that could be requested is \$1,000,000 which would require a match of \$333,333. The resolution asked for match not to exceed that number with up to \$150,000 from MVH and up to \$183,333 from Highway Relinquishment Fund. The match commitment are contingent upon receipt of CCMG funding from INDOT. Cody Nelson moved to approve. Second by Gayle Conner. Councilwoman Conner asked if sidewalk projects would be included. Mayor Werling indicated that sidewalk projects were included when already present or during a major road reconstruction project which might add curb and sidewalks where none had existed. Motion carried. (5-0)

Proposed Resolution 2022-2 authorizing application for a community-wide bicycle and pedestrian improvement master plan was presented. Deadline for the application is January 20. No match is required for this grant from the Indiana Department of Health, Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity. Spencer Kingery moved to approve. Second by Cody Nelson. Councilwoman Conner asked if the planning grant would require that future projects be undertaken. JT Doane and Mayor Werling indicated that an advisory board would participate in the planning and that no commitment for future funding was required. The master plan would aid in prioritizing future road and sidewalk projects. Motion carried. (5-0)

## Council Board Appointments

- Carroll County Area Plan Council Appointment. Sandra Flora was nominated by Cody Nelson. Without objection nominations were closed. Sandra Flora was appointed unanimously.
- Northwest Indiana Solid Waste District. Cody Nelson was nominated by Gayle Conner. Without objection nominations were closed. Cody Nelson was appointed unanimously.
- Carroll County Administrative Transportation Committee. Mike Isley was nominated by Gayle Conner. Without objection nominations were closed. Mike Isley was appointed unanimously.
- Delphi Redevelopment Commission with two Council appointments. Gayle Conner was nominated by Cody Nelson. Spencer Kingery was nominated by Sandra Flora. Without objection the nominations were closed. Conner and Kingery were appointed unanimously.

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

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

#### BOARD COMMENTS

Sandra Flora raised a question about the additional appropriation at yearend to cover attorney fees that were over the amount budgeted. Clerk-Treasurer Aldrich stated that it was a transfer, not an additional appropriation and moved funds from a similar account to cover the shortfall.

Mike Isley thanked the department heads for all that they accomplished in 2021. Isley also specifically thanked the police chief and department for keeping the city safe stating the yearend statistics speak for how busy the officers are.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

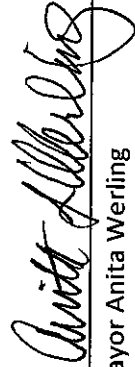
Sharon Milburn corrected the naming of Summit Street as East not North.

Richard Hawkins expressed need to add 30 mph sign near intersection entering Armory Road from US 421. Superintendent Lyons indicated that the 30 mph sign had been removed when the 20 mph when school in session signs were placed and expressed concern that adding the 30 mph sign would add confusion.

Elena Jacot asked the definition of school in session since students were present on the grounds after school and in the evenings for athletic and other events. Chief McCain indicated that the sign referred to when classes were in session.

Sharon Milburn expressed opinion that stopping cars on Armory Road was not enough; tickets needed to be issued. Chief McCain expressed his opinion that warnings were equally deterrents as tickets. Superintendent Lyons asked for additional clarification on the area to be reviewed for speed bumps. Councilwoman Conner expressed the need for speed bumps at least from US421 to the safe routes to school crossing.

There being no further public comment, Spencer Kingery moved to adjourn. Second by Cody Nelson. Without objection the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.



Mayor Anita Werling



Clerk-Treasurer, Leanne Aldrich, Attest