

**COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CIVIL CITY OF UNION CITY, INDIANA
JANUARY 23, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Bryan Conklin presiding. Mayor Conklin welcomed all of those in attendance. The meeting was not recorded by K.I.S.S.-TV.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & PRAYER

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all and prayer was led by Mayor Conklin.

ROLL CALL

Those in attendance were: Greg Harshman, Tim Heuss, Jim Hufford, Chad Spence and Ron Holt, Jr.

Also attending were: Clerk-Treasurer Anita Amspaugh, Board of Works members Susan Pyle and Philip Brewer, City Attorney Ryan Prinkey.

Visitors were: Jeannie Collins, Mike Collins, Amanda McFerrin of The News-Gazette, Tom Brewer, Anna Hufford, Brian Claywell.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of:

- Minutes
- Claims

Jim Hufford moved to accept the Consent Agenda as presented and Greg Harshman seconded. All ayes were received (5-0), motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mayor Conklin reported that he met with Senator Leugers' office to get support on the Navistar building. He also reported tomorrow he will be participating in a conference call with OCRA for a young entrepreneur program.

Conklin commended the City employees for the great job of moving snow this weekend.

Councilor Jim Hufford asked where the emergency siren that is on the old water tower is going to be placed. Mayor Conklin responded that several places are being considered. Clerk-Treasurer Anita Amspaugh added that the water tower demolition begin Monday, January 30.

Hufford asked if the informational recorded phone call system was still operational because there was not one sent out for the recent tornado watch. Amspaugh responded that calls are made only for tornado warnings.

Hufford was concerned about barking dogs in the PAWS outdoor dog run bothering the neighborhood. A short discussion was held.

Hufford distributed a sample ordinance from City of Carmel which places the minimum housing ordinance under Public Health & Safety which makes it easier to enforce. He asked the Council members to review the ordinance and prepare comments for him.

Councilor Tim Heuss voiced a concern with commercial contractors who remove snow and bury the end of the sidewalk at the crossings.

City Attorney asked to schedule a meeting with various members of the administration to discuss the minimum housing ordinance changes.

VISITOR QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

Jeannie Collins of 336 South Columbia Street asked for a progress report on her complaint on the house at 340 South Columbia Street and the garage at 328 South Columbia Street. A lengthy discussion ensued.

PRESENTERS ON AGENDA

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Election of Council President – Mayor Conklin opened the nominations for 2012 Council President. Jim Hufford nominated Tim Heuss. No other nominations were made. Council was polled for approval of Tim Heuss as 2012 Council President and all ayes were received (5-0). Tim Heuss was named 2012 Council President.

Unfilled Area Planning Position – Mayor Conklin stated that the open position left by Larry Amspaugh's resignation needs to be filled. Tim Heuss stated that he will speak with Dan Rismiller about taking this appointment. Mayor Conklin asked for any other ideas on who could fill this position, however none were forthcoming.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 2012-01-Creation of Public Works Department and Public Safety Department -- Clerk-Treasurer Anita Amspaugh read the ordinance aloud after which Mayor Conklin discussed his reasons for wanting to merge the departments. A discussion was held during which it decided that the person appointed as Director of Public Safety shall be either the current police chief or fire chief. Chad Spence moved to amend Chapter 30.18 by adding the following to the last sentence: **...who shall be an individual currently in the position of Chief of Police or Chief of the Fire Department.** Tim Heuss seconded the motion for amendment. Council members were polled and all ayes were received (5-0), motion carried. Chad Spence then moved to pass Ordinance 2012-01 with the approve amendment on the first reading and Jim Hufford seconded. Council members were polled and all ayes were received (5-0), motion carried, therefore, Ordinance 2012-01 was passed on the first reading.

Ordinance 2012-02-Amendment to Salary Ordinance -- Clerk-Treasurer Anita Amspaugh read the ordinance aloud. Jim Hufford then moved to pass Ordinance 2012-02 on the first reading and Greg Harshman seconded. Council members were polled and all ayes were received (5-0), motion carried, therefore, Ordinance 2012-02 was passed on the first reading.

Strategic Planning Session – Mayor Conklin set the time for a Strategic Planning Session for Monday, February 27, after the regular council meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Conklin announced that the next regular council meeting will be on Monday, February 13, 2012, at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Council, Chad Spence made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Greg Hufford seconded the motion. All ayes, (5-0), motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Bryan K. Conklin, Mayor

Attest: _____
Anita M. Amspaugh, Clerk-Treasurer