

CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE  
COMMON COUNCIL  
PRE-COUNCIL MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 26, 2009

The Common Council of the City of West Lafayette, Indiana, met in the Lower Level Conference Room at City Hall on February 26, 2009, at the hour of 4:30 p.m.

In Mayor Dennis' absence, Council President Hunt called the meeting to order and presided.

Present: Bunder, Dietrich, Hunt, Keen, and Roales.

Absent: Burch, Thomas.

Also present were City Attorney Burns, Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes, City Engineer Buck [arrived at 4:40 p.m.], Police Chief Dombkowski [arrived at 4:33 p.m.], Street Commissioner Downey, Fire Chief Drew, Human Resources Director Foster, WWTU Director Henderson, Parks Superintendent Payne, and Redevelopment and Neighborhood Planner Shaw. Director of Development Poole arrived after the meeting concluded.

Council President Hunt said the agenda, as you see, does anybody have any questions about their reports or anything like that, the committee standing reports, that you want to let us know about now? Gerry [Councilor Keen] do you have anything from APC?

Councilor Keen said not right now, no.

Council President Hunt said okay.

Councilor Keen said I don't think there was anything pertaining to West Lafayette.

Council President Hunt said okay. The special reports—let me just, so I don't forget it as a special report—you know how, during the America in Bloom visit, we had a place you could drop off your drugs, a drug drop? And they collected lots of unwanted medicine, and then they disposed of it appropriately, rather than dumping it in the water supply. So this is an announcement that on March 14 and 15, on particular dates on the North Salisbury Marsh, you can drop off your medicines and sharps—that means epi-pens, insulin syringes, that kind of thing—and on Saturday, March 14, it's 9:00 to 5:00, and on Sunday, it's 11:00 to 5:00. Would you each like one of these flyers? I'm sure I can get some copies and have it at your places Monday.

Wastewater Utility Director Henderson said I have it as an email I could forward to everyone.

Council President Hunt said that would be wonderful. That would be great. Because there's some details I didn't know. Okay, Public Relations, the West Lafayette Beautification Award, I haven't asked anybody who would like to do it. It is the Steins who live on Ravinia, and nobody will be there to pick it up. But the garden is quite lovely. It's on Ravinia, as you go down the hill.

If anybody in particular would like to present it? Steve [Councilor Dietrich], you haven't. Would you like to do it, or does anybody have a particular close relationship with the Steins?

Councilor Dietrich said that would be fine.

Council President Hunt said okay. I'll give you the write-up. It's on the web, if you want to look at it now. And then I'll tell Mayor Dennis that you will present it. And then, Paul [Councilor Roales], you have a nomination for District 1 Traffic Commission member?

Councilor Roales said yes, Nick De Boer. I sent everyone his résumé.

Council President Hunt said okay. Judy [Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes], is there anything you want to say about the financial report today?

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said we don't have our budget order.

Council President Hunt said all right.

Council President Hunt said so it's all new business.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 2-09 An Ordinance Requesting An Additional Appropriation – Perimeter Parkway Fund (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer)

Council President Hunt said Judy [Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes] has prepared this, and then [City Engineer] David Buck has information about it. Judy, do you want to start? David Buck is not here yet. He's at a meeting with Chandler. Chandler Poole and David are meeting with PRF at 4:00, but they thought they'd be here, at least David Buck said he'd be here soon.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said the Perimeter Parkway Fund was established to hold two sources of funds, as well as all those that would come in the future. The two sources in there now are INDOT, Indiana Department of Transportation, grant reimbursements for engineering services for design of the perimeter parkway, or often called the ring road system. That is part of the master plan for Purdue over the next 20 years. Currently, engineering work is done, invoices are submitted to INDOT, and then INDOT reimburses us for 80% of the expense. The remaining 20% is a local share, split equally between Purdue and the City. The Purdue contribution, 10% of the total amount, was also deposited into this Perimeter Parkway Fund. The other 10% is a line item in the EDIT budget, in fact a purchase order that's been carried over since, I think, about 2006. This is an appropriated fund, so in the absence of a carryover purchase order, if there's nothing outstanding, invoices ready to be paid, the appropriation lapses. It has been the practice of Mr. [City Engineer] Buck and myself that he would come to the Council annually and give them an update on the progress of this project and ask for the appropriation to spend for what he estimated would be the grant proceeds for the coming year. Mr. Buck isn't here, but I will convey what he said to me. This fund has had low activity for several years, however it's speeding up, because of INDOT scheduling of the western leg of 231. He expects a lot of activity, the entire remaining grant, which is expected to be drawn down pretty soon. At that point, in order to fund the next step, he would need to come to the Council for an appropriation. You have information about this project, that very large capital

sheet, the one that the Engineering Department prepared for you. I believe the engineering work so far has been largely centered on Williams Street.

Council President Hunt said so far?

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said so far. I believe that's what the preliminary engineering has done. Obviously, there's a tremendous grade issue there. Until Mr. Buck comes, perhaps [Street Commissioner] Dave Downey has some information on what's happening. We could wait for him to come and he could fill you in on the particulars of the project.

Council President Hunt said any questions particularly? David Downey, will this save us any money on the last leg of the Western Interceptor, if 231 gets moving?

Street Commissioner Downey said yes, it should give us some pretty good work at a reasonable rate. We'll get it done, and there is concentration, as Judy [Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes] said, on Williams Street, Chauncey, in that area—Russell Street.

Council President Hunt said I told David I'd wait until he got here to bring this up. I'm sorry I got focused on those numbers, but he told me he would be here. Any questions that can be answered by the officials here about this ordinance? We'll have a public hearing next time, right?

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said yes. We'll have a public hearing before second reading. That would be in April.

Council President Hunt said questions?

There was no further discussion until City Engineer Buck arrived. See additional discussion after Resolution No. 4-09 below.

Resolution No. 3-09 Resolution Approving The City Of West Lafayette Go Greener Commission Bylaws (Submitted by Councilman Bunder)

Council President Hunt said this is the Green Commission. We've seen this before. Any questions on this?

There was no further discussion.

City Engineer Buck arrived at 4:40 p.m. At Councilor Roales request, discussion of Resolution No. 4-09 continued, before resuming discussion of Ordinance No. 2-09.

Resolution No. 4-09 A Resolution Appropriating Insurance Recovery Received For Damage To City Property (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer)

Council President Hunt said this is the insurance recovery. Do you want to talk to us about that, Judy [Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes]?

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said this appropriation, which is done through a resolution, one vote by the Council, allows us to increase the authority to spend insurance recovery. The reason why it's coming to you—and you often don't see these, in fact I think it's been several years—is that,

when we receive an insurance recovery for repair that we're making it in the same calendar year, that's considered a refund, and that's an automatic bookkeeping adjustment. You have additional revenue, and, of course, you have a higher rate of spending, so it doesn't create a deficit in the budget at all. But in the case when you receive the insurance money in a calendar year that is different from the year in which you need the authority to spend it, we need a Council resolution in order to do that adjustment in the appropriation. In this case, we received the money, I believe, on December 29 and, in fact, the Police Department did not, at that time, even have all the quotes in for the repair work. This is a housekeeping function, to allow us to spend the insurance proceeds to repair the vehicles. Police Chief Dombkowski has the particulars, in relation to what the insurance recovery is for. I'm trying to think if it's been two or three years since we've had one of these. I'm pretty sure this Council has not seen one. For the most part, it just happens to be a timing issue.

Councilor Bunder said so this means somebody hit a Police car or ran into the building?

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said the Chief can explain.

Police Chief Dombkowski said here's the bottom line. We had three squad cars crash in December of some various sorts. Money came in the last day or two of December, and, of course, we couldn't get those repairs done until January. Actually, I just signed off on one of the repairs for claims this week. Again, the money came in in '08 calendar. We need to spend the money in '09 to repair the vehicles, and that money is what is in limbo right now until then?

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said the money is in the bank, number one. Number two, it can't be used for the purpose it was provided to the City.

Police Chief Dombkowski said and as for the specifics, two of those accidents were our fault. One of them was Mr. [Street Commissioner] Downey's fault.

[overtalking]

Police Chief Dombkowski said that was when we shut down Wood Street hill after a snowfall, like we often have to, and vehicles continue to slide down the hill, and one of them tagged our squad car that was parked.

Council President Hunt said thank you. Any questions?

There was no further discussion.

**Resumed discussion of Ordinance No. 2-09:**

Council President Hunt said I'm sorry I'd just begun, and Judy [Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes] talked about Ordinance No. 2-09. Now it's your turn.

City Engineer Buck said I'm sorry I was late. I had another meeting. The Perimeter Parkway Fund is the fund we use to pay our bills for the ring road, as you might have heard this project called. It's a long-range transportation plan to develop a four-lane boulevard around the campus. This will promote not only transit, but commuter traffic to and from the University, to go in a circular pattern, rather than through the University, to help improve pedestrian safety and connectivity for the inner-campus area. It will help issues like State Street through the Village, to have less traffic on it, and more traffic on this perimeter parkway. The parkway plan was

divided into several phases over the next 20-plus years, the first of which is termed Phase 1, and of that, Phase 1A. That's what we're currently designing, right now. Phase 1A is all of Harrison Street from Intramural Drive, which has been named Jischke Drive, east to Grant Street, and actually all the way to Chauncey, and then parts of Chauncey, parts of Grant, and then all of Williams Street from Grant Street down the hill to River Road. That's a particular challenge because it's very steep. We're going to try to improve that grade by making it more gradual, but that's going to require a lot of right-of-way, a lot of cost and excavation for dirt and things like that. So we have been working on the flatter part of the project, which is mostly Harrison Street from Grant back over to the west, where Jischke now intersects. As the 231 corridor is built and creates a four-lane highway from River Road, between the campus and the airport up to State Street and eventually all the way up to 52 out by McCormick Road, there's going to be a new entrance into campus, and that will be right there at Harrison and Jischke. That connection is a part of the 231 corridor project. So this will be the first place that gets new traffic on it, because of the relocated 231. That's the biggest reason that we are moving it forward first. Also, it doesn't hurt that Purdue and PRF are the only property owners around this area, and that will help make the right-of-way acquisition much quicker and smoother. I'd be happy to answer any questions about the project. This will help us pay out bills, as I understand it, and there are Purdue portions of the local match, as well as our own 10% local match, and then there's 80% of federal funding involved in the way of demonstration funds.

Councilor Dietrich said does this amount represent our 10%?

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said no, this represents actually grant proceeds that we expect to draw this year.

Councilor Roales said the entire project is like \$71 million.

City Engineer Buck said actually, it's \$29 or \$30 million, but by the time we get done, it might be that big. It's a big, big project. Over 20 years with inflation—

Councilor Roales said so your question about 10%, it would be \$3 million, \$4 million.

City Engineer Buck said the funding, I believe, is mostly through the Levee/Village TIF District for our local match.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said for construction.

City Engineer Buck said for construction. And Purdue has also been providing 10% match, so it's really 10%-10%-80%.

Councilor Roales said does the Levee TIF District reach that far?

City Engineer Buck said it does for the entire plan. This particular phase is a part of a larger project, so it's contributory. I believe the consulting is out of EDIT, is that right? That's already under an existing agreement.

Councilor Bunder said where is this money now? This is in the Perimeter Parkway Fund, and it entered that fund from previous reimbursements from the State?

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said no. All the money is not in the Perimeter Parkway Fund now. This is a budget, and the budget will support all the spending needed, in addition to being required, out of grant funds to be received. The entire grant has not been drawn down yet. This is similar to a budget in which you approve a level of spending, but your revenue—you don't necessarily have all the money at the beginning. What is this number? It is the amount of grant reimbursement we should expect to receive, if the entire grant was drawn down this year. As Mr. [City Engineer] Buck indicated, the pace of the activity is going to really pick up on this project.

City Engineer Buck said there's a chance that some stimulus funding will be able to be obtained for the part that I described earlier along Harrison Street. If we're able to get through the right-of-way phase fast enough, we could meet the obligation requirements for the timeline as a part of the stimulus funds, and, depending on whether or not we get those, we'd be able to make that timeline work, to be able to obligate those funds and go the construction phase in 2010.

Councilor Bunder said so we're changing a budget number, and anticipating that revenue will flow in to support the change in the budget number? Do I have that right?

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said yes. You are creating the authority to spend, based on the anticipated—

Councilor Bunder said anticipation—

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said grant revenues, some of which is in the bank, most of it is not, because we have many more invoices that will be submitted subsequently in this year.

City Engineer Buck said as we move forward with the design and the right-of-way and, hopefully, eventually construction, when we have a better idea if stimulus funds are obtained or assigned to this project or not, I'll probably have to come back and do this again, to more accurately adjust this number.

Councilor Bunder said I don't have any problem with any of this. I'm just trying to understand.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said this is a different mechanism than you usually hear about with other INDOT-funded grants, in which it takes six months to get the money, that's one thing. But in this case, when the engineering firm submits the invoice of completed work, we don't pay the firm and then ask the State for reimbursement. We submit the invoice directly to INDOT as an expense incurred and don't pay the firm until we've gotten the grant money. So it works a little bit differently than a lot of our other arrangements with INDOT.

Councilor Bunder said thanks to everyone.

Council President Hunt said well there's a big lag time when the engineering company—

City Engineer Buck said can be. But on this one, INDOT's been pretty good, I believe.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said yes. Not like Yeager.

City Engineer Buck said Yeager's the one we have a problem with.

Council President Hunt said any other questions? Thank you, Dave [City Engineer Buck].

There was no additional discussion.

OTHER ITEMS:

Councilor Bunder said I should probably say this when John [Mayor Dennis] is here.

Council President Hunt said good time.

Councilor Bunder said the question is, should we have an egg timer for public comments? Should we have—? You know, I love Sam [Mr. Haynes], but—

Councilor Roales said we can talk about that—

Councilor Bunder said then I have nothing else, Madam Chair.

Council President Hunt said so you want to talk about it?

Councilor Roales said after the meeting, I guess.

Council President Hunt said okay. Well, that is a concern. We've talked about that, and, you know, smoking and there was a time on this Council's term—probably about the budget, probably.

Councilor Roales said Ann [Council President Hunt], we should talk about this when John [Mayor Dennis] is here.

Councilor Keen said I think we should set an egg timer for the whole meeting.

[overtalking]

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business at this time, Councilor Keen moved for adjournment, and the meeting adjourned, the time 4:53 p.m.