

CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE
COMMON COUNCIL
PRE-COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 29, 2014

The Common Council of the City of West Lafayette, Indiana, met in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Morton Community Center on May 29, 2014, at the hour of 4:30 p.m.

Mayor Dennis called the meeting to order and presided.

Present: Bunder, Burch, Dietrich, Hunt, Keen, Thomas, and VanBogaert.

Also present were City Attorney Burns, Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes, Public Works Director Buck, Facilities Director Clark, Police Chief Dombkowski, Street Commissioner Downey, Human Resources Director Foster, Fire Chief Heath, WWTU Director Henderson, Parks Superintendent Payne, and Director of Development Poole.

COMMITTEE STANDING REPORTS

Mayor Dennis asked the Council if they want to continue to go over the reports individually or state that collectively they will be on file, and the Council chose to continue to do them individually.

Councilor Dietrich stated that it the time of year for budget meetings to start and he is looking to have, beginning June 17, standing meetings every Tuesday and Thursday. He realizes that not everyone will make every meeting. The Redevelopment Commission (RDC) will join at least the first meeting.

REPORT OF APC REPRESENTATIVE

Councilor Keen reported that rezone Z-257 Walk His Way, LLC for 600 Lindberg Road will be discussed at the June 18 RDC meeting. He confirmed for Councilor Hunt that it is the adult daycare.

SPECIAL REPORTS:

State Street Master Plan – MKSK

Mayor Dennis stated that there will be a presentation at Council.

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Beautification Award

Mayor Dennis stated that Councilor Keen will be giving the Beautification Award.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 11-14 An Ordinance Concerning The Construction Of Additions And Improvements To The Sewage Works Of The City Of West Lafayette, Indiana, The Issuance Of Revenue Bonds To Provide The Cost Thereof, The Collection, Segregation And Distribution Of The Revenues Of Said Sewage Works, The Safeguarding Of The Interests Of The Owners Of Said Revenue Bonds, Other Matters Connected Therewith, Including The Issuance Of Notes In Anticipation Of Bonds, And Repealing Ordinances Inconsistent Herewith (Sponsored by Mayor John R. Dennis)

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 11-14 by title only.

WWTU Director Henderson stated that the one bid received for the Sheraton and Fairway Knolls Lift Station Improvements project was rejected at the Board of Works meeting [May 27, 2014]. Therefore, the timing for the current State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program funding cycle has come to an end. SRF has said that they should be able to fund the project in the next cycle. Director Henderson stated that he hopes to come back after reviewing the project plans and looking at ways to help contractors give us a better bid. He explained that he would still like to do an SRF loan later this year, and he asked how best to move forward with the current ordinance. He asked if there is a mechanism to put it on hold until we come back or if the ordinance should be withdrawn and move forward with a new ordinance later.

City Attorney Burns stated that his opinion is that the ordinance be tabled until a time uncertain. It may be that a simple amendment to the ordinance will be sufficient when it is time to move forward. If not, it can always be withdrawn at that time.

Director Henderson stated that part of looking at this project may require an adjustment upward of the amount that we want to borrow from SRF.

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 15-14 An Ordinance Requesting An Additional Appropriation To The 2014 Budget And Transfer From Rainy Day Fund (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer) PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 15-14 by title only.

There was no discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 16-14 An Ordinance To Establish The Cumulative Capital Development Fund And Readopt West Lafayette City Code Provisions Concerning The Fund (Submitted by the Clerk-Treasurer) PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 16-14 by title only.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes stated that the CCD Fund is a cornerstone of our budget, particularly this year when we expect an increase in assessed valuation from the annexation. It is essential for planning at the beginning of the budget process. It is important that we maintain our rate at \$0.05. If it is not maintained, the amount of money the rate collects will fall because the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) will adjust the rate down to prevent a windfall because of the growth in the City. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes explained the steps that need taken to file the rate by August 1, including a remonstrance period. Since this has been a regular part of the budget for the past several years, she asked for the Council's support in handling this at one meeting. She confirmed for Council Keen that this item will need two votes and a public hearing at Monday's meeting.

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 17-14 An Ordinance Changing The Classification Of The City Of West Lafayette From Third Class To A Second Class City (Sponsored by Mayor John R. Dennis)

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 17-14 by title only.

Councilor Hunt asked City Attorney Burns if there was anything he wanted to share with Council besides the memorandum he provided.

City Attorney Burns explained that, while this has happened before—where a third class city would go to second class city—it has not happened that often. There is no clear cookbook recipe for how it goes and what to anticipate, so we have been doing our best to try to brainstorm and come up with those anticipated changes. There was one change of importance in the memo regarding the APC membership. As a second class city, West Lafayette would increase its membership on the APC by a total of two. He noted that the memo shows that there is no change to many items on the list. There are obvious changes, such as an additional district and Council member. Another obvious change is that the Clerk-Treasurer will no longer be an elected official, but there would be a Clerk and the Treasurer function would be taken up by an appointed Controller.

Councilor Hunt asked how the business manager at the school corporation feels, and confirmed for City Attorney Burns that she is referring to the playground tax.

City Attorney Burns stated that his understanding is that the school corporation is understanding of it and that they are accepting of it without any particular problem.

There was no further discussion.

Resolution No. 09-14 Resolution Approving The Bylaws Of The West Lafayette Housing Appeals Board (Sponsored by Mayor John R. Dennis)

Mayor Dennis read Resolution No. 09-14 by title only.

There was no discussion.

Resolution No. 10-14 A Resolution Requesting The Transfer Of Funds (IT) (Submitted by the Clerk-Treasurer)

Mayor Dennis read Resolution No. 10-14 by title only.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes stated that this is to adjust the IT budget in CCD based on the new accounting categories and the operation as it has been running this year.

There was no further discussion.

Resolution No. 11-14 A Resolution Appropriating Insurance Recovery Received For Damage To City Property (Police) (Submitted by the Clerk-Treasurer)

Mayor Dennis read Resolution No. 11-14 by title only.

There was no discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business at this time, Councilor Burch moved for adjournment. Mayor Dennis adjourned the meeting, the time being 4:47 p.m.