

CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE
COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES

JULY 3, 2006

The Common Council of the City of West Lafayette, Indiana, met in the Council Chambers at City Hall on July 3, 2006, at the hour of 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Mills called the meeting to order and presided.

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

Present: Griffin, Hunt, O'Callaghan, Satterly, and Truitt.

Absent: Keen and Plomin.

Also present were City Attorney Bauman, Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes, Director of Development Andrew, City Engineer Buck, Public Works Director Downey, and Police Chief Marvin.

MINUTES: Councilor Griffin moved for acceptance of the minutes of the June 1, 2006, Pre-Council Meeting, and the minutes of the June 5, 2006, Common Council Meeting. Councilor Satterly seconded the motion, and the vote was AYE.

COMMITTEE STANDING REPORTS:

STREET AND SANITATION: Councilor Satterly presented this report.

On the Street Department's June monthly highlights, Milestone Contractors has finished milling the streets that were scheduled for resurfacing and have started resurfacing. Fairfield Contractors continues reconstruction of curbs and sidewalk safety improvements on the project on Salisbury Street. Tapawingo project has completed the island improvement on State Street and [US] 231 South. The Sanitation Department has started service in Lauren Lakes and Prophet's Ridge. One note concerning garbage pickup, the notice sent out to all the citizens stated that those areas of the City that have their garbage normally picked up on Tuesday would be picked up today [Monday]. A large number of people didn't put their garbage out, so the Sanitation Department will get the garbage in University Farms on Wednesday and in Barberry Heights on Thursday. So those who didn't get their garbage picked up today in those two areas, Wednesday for University Farms, Thursday for Barberry. That concludes that report.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT UTILITY: Councilor Satterly presented this report.

We had 4.86 inches of precipitation in the month of May. 99.5% of the total flow to the treatment plant was treated. There was 1.25 million gallons of combined sewer overflows. Seven hours at the Wet Weather Facility, 7.5 hours at Dehart Street, and 3.75 hours on the Quincey Street overflow point. The department continues to clean sewers, 3,769 lineal feet of sanitary, 1,500 feet of storm sewer, and they continue to televise the sewers, sanitary sewers 4,243 lineal feet, and storm sewer 2,200 lineal feet. That completes that report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mayor Mills said that I will just say that I know you all received in your boxes monthly reports from Phil Drew the Fire Chief, and also from Chief Marvin who is here tonight. But those should be in your boxes, and those are certainly available to any of the citizens in City Hall.

PURDUE RELATIONS: No report.

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, JULY 3, 2006, CONTINUED

PARKS AND RECREATION: Councilor Hunt presented this report.

Councilor Hunt said the summer programs are very popular. Swimming and diving lessons are full or near capacity, and today was very busy at the pool. At 5:30 p.m., they had 205 swimmers, so I sure hope they were cooling off. The Wednesdays in the Wild Program also continues to be popular. The Wabash Heritage Trailside Park Project at North River Road and Quincey's been completed. They'll do a little bit more site furnishing, but then that will be totally done. There's been some concern about the Lincoln Park development, the park there on Lincoln Street, but a public meeting regarding the planned park is scheduled for July 12 at 5:30 p.m. in the Lilly Nature Center. I think there's some concern about the historic house that's nearby. There are four new Adopt-A-Spots along Nighthawk Drive. Riverfest is 9:00 to 5:00 this coming Saturday, July 8. Dragon boat races, last year the West Lafayette dragon boat team beat Lafayette's dragon boat team in two heats. That was lots of fun and quite interesting boats. Dancing in the Streets is 4:00 p.m. to midnight on July 29. The next Park meeting is July 17 at 4:30 in City Hall. That concludes my report.

Mayor Mills said I'll just add a note. The Trailside Park that Councilor Hunt was talking about on the part of the Wabash Heritage Trail at Wabash Pond, the landscaping is done, and it's really a beautiful addition to the trail, to the Wabash Heritage Trail, so I encourage people to go down there and enjoy that area. I often walk down there, because that's close to my house, and there are some very, very large turtles and very large fish in that little Wabash Pond. You'd be amazed at the size of both of them. It's a great spot in the evening to go out. It's also been a regular haunt of a male eagle on a very regular basis all through the early spring and summer, right there at that little Wabash Pond. So I encourage you to take advantage. And then I also would like to encourage people to come out and cheer the West Lafayette team on, on Saturday. It is the dragon boat races, and the City Challenge, we're always the first race, and that starts at 10 o'clock. We have the trophy in our possession as of last year, and the City of Lafayette issued us a pretty hefty challenge, all in good fun. So we are planning to defend the trophy and have it reside here in City Hall for another year. It's a great time, and it's really a great way to celebrate the riverfront. I think we're working harder to really take advantage of the river. It's one of our best natural features, so I encourage people to come out and enjoy the day.

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT: Councilor O'Callaghan presented this report.

The Redevelopment Commission met on June 26, and discussed continuing meeting with INDOT about the crosswalks on Salisbury and [US] 52. The Sagamore Parkway Task Force wanted countdown lights there, and INDOT is in control of that road, so hopefully we'll be able to get something done there. The lighting project, though, along Sagamore Parkway is continuing. The Tapawingo Plaza, the concrete was poured in time for Taste of Tippecanoe, so that was great. Work continuing on Tapawingo South, and very obviously on Salisbury Street as well. Some great news about Med Institute moving into the Great Lakes building. That's just great to have that big building being used by another one of our wonderful companies in the Research Park and leaving a nice space for another company to move into. We'll talk about an abatement later tonight for SSCI. So lots of great things going on in the Research Park. CDBG, the application process is continuing with the completion of the environmental review for HUD. Next Redevelopment Commission meeting I can't remember—7/17, July 17, and it's actually at 11:00 a.m. because of the Park Board luncheon at noon.

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PERSONNEL: No report.

BUDGET AND FINANCE: Councilor Truitt presented this report

The budget process has begun. We've had our two nights of presentations, so the process is started. So we'll be spending the time between now and the next 60 days reviewing the information. I'm sure we'll have some Budget and Finance meetings between now and then. That concludes my report.

REPORT OF APC REPRESENTATIVE: No report.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES: None.

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

West Lafayette Community Beautification Award

Councilor Griffin said the Beautification Award goes to a resident on Leslie, and Sharon Dull is here tonight. In a moment I'll ask her to come forward. Like most of, in fact I think all of, the recipients of our beautification awards, if we look back over the several months, Sharon has a long history of tearing it out and putting it back differently. She has a substantial amount of beauty to show in her front yard. Sharon, would you go ahead and come forward and allow me to present this to you. We have a nice picture here of Sharon's front yard and some other pictures. She lives at 334 Leslie, and if you drive by her house any more times than my wife and I did yesterday afternoon, you may run the risk of being stopped by the Police. We really enjoyed looking at her property. Sharon, thanks very much for helping to beautify West Lafayette. Congratulations. Here is your award, signed today by the Mayor, and pictures of your beautiful property. We thank you again. Won't you step to the microphone just a moment and give us a long speech.

Ms. Sharon Dull said thank you very much.

Councilor Griffin said step to the microphone.

Ms. Sharon Dull said Ann [Councilor Hunt] was very gracious when she came to my home, and I think many of us have a love of gardening, and it's always been in my family, and my home has just been a labor of love in my yard and in my home. Thank you very much for the recognition. I appreciate it.

Councilor Hunt said Madam Mayor, may I make a comment?

Mayor Mills said certainly.

Councilor Hunt said she was nominated by 12 different people, so it's just a wonderful garden, and I think, as we were doing the interview and the photograph, a person went by and stopped and said, "Oh, I'm so glad you're getting the award." So we are, too. Congratulations, Sharon [Ms. Dull].

Mayor Mills said thank you for being here tonight.

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Announcement of Award for Councilor O'Callaghan

Mayor Mills said I'll just mention one other item. Councilor O'Callaghan was honored last week at the Tobacco Free Partnership meeting for Tippecanoe County as the local public leader, she got the Local Public Leader Award from the Indiana Public Health Association. This is for all of her hard work on the smoke-free ordinance, so I just wanted to recognize Councilor O'Callaghan and her recognition by the Indiana Public Health Association. Congratulations.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said you've received your State Board of Accounts reports, as well as the summary cash transaction report. You'll see continuing trends, in terms of expenditures, notably personnel expenses in the property tax fund, the General Fund, now running 7.7% over last year.

Tonight, I think, there's big news that ought to be discussed with the public. On June 30, the City closed on a \$8.345 million loan for Wastewater Treatment improvements. I think it's very important that all aspects of debt issuance get full and complete disclosure. Last month, we were talking about my desire to have the annual review of the Wastewater Utility reissued because of several problems with it. Little did I know that while I was speaking, in fact that was occurring. Unfortunately, the updated financials for the Utility were not provided to me. They weren't provided to the Council, either. They were filed on June 5 with the State Revolving Fund Program in Indianapolis. Thanks to them, I was able to learn what documents were on file, and I was able to obtain those documents and provide at least several of them to the Council. As Clerk-Treasurer, I sign on any debt issuance for the City. I was asked to sign a debt issuance without having ever seen any of the documents associated with it. The debt that we closed on wasn't the debt we discussed at the Council meeting several months prior. I think it's very important that when the City enters into debt, that its elected officials, on this Council and this Clerk-Treasurer, receive at least the same amount of information that we're providing to bureaucrats in Indianapolis. I shouldn't need a State agency in order to get documents that rightfully belong to everyone of us here elected to represent the citizens. And I hope in the next issue, which I understand is proposed for 2007, this process doesn't repeat. This is the second time around for this. We went through this in 2004. I think two times is enough. Let's get it right the third time. There was a great job done to close the loan, to take advantage of interest rates, but there is nothing in the public disclosure process that would have slowed up meeting that deadline, that would have interfered with us doing the best job for the citizens. I will personally say the contempt that was delivered to me while I attempted to get the documents that I was required to sign is, in my view, contempt for all the citizens who elect a Clerk-Treasurer and a Council. Thank you.

Mayor Mills said well, I have to comment. I'm not going to let that go without any comment. We did close on a bond issue. We closed on a bond issue sooner than we anticipated, because we were informed by our bond attorney that they had learned from the SRF staff that the interest rate was going to go up. We were not in a rush to get this done. We intended to do it this summer, as you all know, since we have talked about the digester project, but we were not in a rush. But we were informed that the interest rate would go up in the next quarter. I learned that right before I went on vacation, the day before I went on vacation, and I asked H.J. Umbaugh to move forward with putting the papers together to make this happen in a timely fashion, so that we could take advantage of the interest rate. I think you know, Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes, there

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was not an intent on my part not to share that. I was out of the office for two weeks. I was able to get to email most of the time, but the weekend in the middle, the email was down, and it's my understanding that the email was down for the whole weekend, because we couldn't get in your office on Friday to fix an electrical problem. So I was without email out of the City for the whole weekend. When you asked for information, you were provided with everything, and, again, it was never an intent not to provide any of you with anything. The issuance would have been the same as what we had discussed previously, but there was a request from the SRF staff to change the situation of the bond. They did not like the way that Umbaugh had structured it. They wanted the wrap changed a bit, and so it was at their request that the issuance is different than what we talked about with Umbaugh when they presented the stuff to us in the spring. So, again, there was no intent to not make information available to you or the public by any means. I think it's my responsibility as Mayor to make sure our infrastructure projects move forward in a timely way, and in a way that best provides the upgrades to our infrastructure and service at the best cost to the ratepayer, which are all of us. So I did that in a way that I thought was timely and appropriate, and, again, when you asked my office for information that you hadn't received, I think you had it in several moments.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said during the course of the past month, I had an opportunity to talk to the Wastewater Utility Director regarding when our financial advisors would be able to update the report. In fact, he said they were awfully busy and probably wouldn't be able to get to it. I can understand why, because they had already updated basically all the schedules and filed them the day we were meeting in the Council meeting, June 5.

Mayor Mills said and actually the schedule was updated and everyone on this Council got a new form of that schedule by email, because that came from me.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said I'm not going to go through the financial document in the number of corrections that were needed, clearly it was not one schedule. But I did want to say there were opportunities for the Utility Director, when he talked to me, to have told me there was a report filed. On June 14, the Utility Director signed the letter to the SRF, saying that all the transfers had been done for private bond issues. The City Attorney, who is very knowledgeable about this matter and, in fact, the correspondence showed, I wasn't given the documents until with the assistance of the SRF. A request was made to forward them to me. We're not in some kind of adversarial legal environment in which you have to ask just right to get the information that, frankly, is a public duty to provide to me and this Council. That's my point. The \$13.66 million bond issue that was discussed several months ago didn't go through the SRF, no surprise. The only project which the Council had approved a Preliminary Engineering Proposal on was the digester and alternate power project. It was not possible to fund the North River Road Interceptor project, because there was no approved PER. That's not changing the rules. We've known those rules for 12 years. I think we knew very early, at least by the beginning of June, that the debt was going to be restructured. I know that. You've seen that. That report was dated June 2, and you all know it wasn't done on June 2. It took some time to pull that report together. My point is: Nothing would be lost, a great deal would be gained, if only, when you were filing financial documents about the Utility and about our debt with a State agency, you would file them here locally. That doesn't require special intervention on your part. That should be just the way it works here, the way we operate, because you know we have a local process.

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Councilor Truitt said Madam Mayor, may I say something?

Mayor Mills said Councilor Truitt.

Councilor Truitt said we've had multiple conversations in regard to this flow of information. However, I am so confused in regard to— I mean, this stack of emails I've been trying to figure out what in the world's going on in regard to all this, and can I request a synopsis or a summary or something just from a standpoint— Because you know in past meetings, I've been very uncomfortable when trying to make decisions, and regardless of whether we have to make decisions, I mean we're already beyond a certain point, what I would like is for someone, whether it's Mr. [Public Works Director] Downey, Mr. [City Attorney] Bauman, it doesn't matter, someone to sit down with at least me and go through some of this information that's in these emails. Because, quite frankly, I am confused, and that makes me uncomfortable.

Mayor Mills said Councilor Truitt, I'm happy to do that, but you received a memo from me on June 26 that highlighted exactly what the changes were on this bond issue from what we had discussed previously, so there would be no question as to what was different.

Councilor Truitt said yes, and here's the thing.

Mayor Mills said it's pretty simple.

Councilor Truitt said I'm not saying anything. Please do not read into— I'm asking for, I'm just asking for some clarity in regard to this thing.

City Attorney Bauman said I'd be happy—

Councilor Truitt said can you do that? I'd appreciate that. Just more just from a standpoint— Now, in regard to everything else going on, I'm not— I don't understand everything that's happening.

City Attorney Bauman said I'd be happy to do that. I might add the amount of money the City did save by being able to get it closed by the 30th was just a little over \$130,000. It was just a few days before that that I was contacted and told that, contrary to the previous plan, when SRF had told Umbaugh that they weren't expecting a rate increase, so we weren't in any hurry.

Councilor Truitt said right.

City Attorney Bauman said they said, "Well, we've just been told by SRF that it will go up, so we want to try to get this closed for you so you can save some money."

Councilor Truitt said right.

City Attorney Bauman said so it was a hurry-up, so we could save that \$130,000.

Councilor Truitt said sure.

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Mayor Mills said I will add one additional item that Mr. [Councilor] Plomin brought up in an email, that we rushed through the closing in December, which we didn't rush through, I think we had discussed it, but we did close in December on the Interceptor bond, at the advice of Umbaugh, because they know that, often at the beginning of the year, the new quote of the interest rates go up. It didn't happen, they didn't go up. But we wanted, again, to be safe and to try to get the best interest rate for the bond that we could for the ratepayers. It's no different than this time. We are not trying to do anything in secrecy. You knew about the bond issue.

Councilor Truitt said and I did not say anything about that at all. And I understand why you had that reaction. We've had these conversations, so—

Mayor Mills said we have.

Councilor Truitt said I'm fine with that. But what I just want to feel comfortable with, I mean, there's so many numbers flying back and forth—

Mayor Mills said there are.

Councilor Truitt said and timing and interest rate changes and so on, and if someone comes up as a constituent and asks a question, I don't want to feel the way that I feel right now, because it's a little confusing.

Mayor Mills said we'd be happy to give a sheet with all the details, point-by-point, so that people can be—

Councilor Truitt said just a verbal for me would be perfect.

Mayor Mills said very talkative to their constituents. That'd be wonderful. You would do us a favor by being able to talk about it to the people you serve.

Councilor Truitt said I just need a 15, 20-minute, just a quick little summary and I'll be dangerous, so—

Councilor Griffin said Madam Mayor, I thought your summary on the 26th was quite effective, and I appreciated that.

Mayor Mills said thank you. Councilor O'Callaghan.

Councilor O'Callaghan said I guess I would just like to say that I appreciate that we have bond counsel that has been recognized throughout the State as an excellent bond counsel, and looking out for us for the best interest rate possible. The great relationship that we have with SRF that they even let us know ahead of time that there was coming up and we were able to save \$130,000 this time. For me, the easiest way to think about it is that, in December we talked about the whole project, everything that we would need to do, but you can't close on a specific bond issue until there is the Preliminary Engineering Report. And so we knew back then, we discussed all the projects that we wanted to do, but then the Preliminary Engineering Report is now done for the digester, so we're able to do that now, and then when the

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Preliminary Engineering Report will be done for the Western Interceptor, we'll be able to do that, so—

Mayor Mills said for the North River Road.

Councilor O'Callaghan said for the North River Road Interceptor, we'll be able to do that, so I feel like Mr. [Councilor] Plomin was a little bit confused, thinking that we were closing on a bond issue in December, and we weren't closing on that one then, because we didn't have the Preliminary Engineering Report.

Mayor Mills said right. And I will just remind everyone that we heard about the digesters again this spring.

Councilor O'Callaghan said discussed very much.

Mayor Mills said we didn't just stop talking about it in December. Okay. If there's nothing else on that issue, we'll move on.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 16-06 An Additional Appropriation (Police Merit Commission, Legal, Cumulative Firefighting Building and Equipment Fund) (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer) Councilor Griffin read Ordinance No. 16-06 by title and moved that it be passed on second and final reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Satterly.

Mayor Mills said we have tonight the final reading for Ordinance No. 16-06 and the public hearing. This is an additional appropriation, in the General Fund, Police Merit Commission for Legal Services, \$12,000, and in the Legal Department, \$59,000, for a total of \$71,000 in the General Fund. And in the Cum Fire Building and Equipment Fund, Repairs-Building & Structures, \$7,000, and Other Equipment, \$13,000, for a total of \$20,000. Is there any discussion among the Council? Any questions? If not, I will open the public hearing at this time. If there is anyone from the public who would like to address the issue of an additional appropriation, please come to the microphone. No comment? All right, I'll close the public hearing. Are you ready for the vote? All right, will you call the roll, please?

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 16-06 passed on final reading, 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 17-06 An Ordinance To Amend Gun Permit Processing Fees Payable To The City (Submitted by the Police Chief) Councilor Griffin read Ordinance No. 17-06 by title and moved that it be passed on first reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Satterly.

Mayor Mills said Chief Marvin is here. Do you want to give us a little bit of background information, please, Chief Marvin?

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Police Chief Marvin said yes, we just need to change the City ordinance so it is in line with the new State law that became effective July 1, which adds some new licenses that they didn't have before, lifetime licenses, and it changes the fees at the State level, and the local fee. So we need to make sure that we match up with what the State law says.

Mayor Mills said thank you. Any questions for the Chief?

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 17-06 passed on first reading, 5-0.

Ordinance No. 18-06 An Ordinance Requesting The Transfer of Appropriations (Clerk-Treasurer, City Hall, Police) (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer) Councilor Griffin read Ordinance No. 18-06 by title and moved that it be passed on first reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Satterly.

Mayor Mills said we have an ordinance requesting a transfer of appropriations, and in the General Fund from Clerk-Treasurer Insurance to City Hall Furniture & Fixtures and Other Equipment in the amount of \$1,949.00, and from Police from Repair Parts & Equipment to Other Supplies in the amount of \$3,000.00. In the Clerk-Treasurer's Office, this is to pay for the cost of rugs for the Police Station, which that amount exceeded the available appropriation, and for additional microphones for the Police Merit Commission hearing and the repair of the handheld microphone, and in the Police Department, to pay for neighborhood parking permits and parking envelopes. Are there any questions or either the Clerk-Treasurer or Chief Marvin? Any discussion?

Councilor O'Callaghan said the only discussion would be the fact that this is an ordinance as opposed to a resolution. As we discussed at Pre-Council that the Department of Local Government Finance requested that this be an ordinance. That's why Councilor Griffin will ask for second reading tonight on this ordinance. We need two readings—

Mayor Mills said apparently the Clerk-Treasurer has received new information that it may not stay that way.

Councilor O'Callaghan said information that it might not stay that way.

Mayor Mills said but we're going to go ahead and move forward.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said please do.

Councilor O'Callaghan said and that was—

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said another level of confusion.

Councilor O'Callaghan said and that was the conditions essentially of how we approved it by substitution to an ordinance in Pre-Council, that we continue to investigate and be able to do it by resolution if we can.

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Mayor Mills said right. Thank you, Councilor O'Callaghan. Will you call the roll, please?

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 18-06 passed on first reading, 5-0.

Councilor Griffin moved that the rules be suspended, to consider Ordinance No. 18-06 on final reading. The motion was seconded by Councilor Satterly.

The voice vote to suspend the rules to consider Ordinance No. 18-06 on second reading was AYE unanimously.

Councilor Griffin said Ordinance No. 18-06 on the table for second reading. I move for passage on final reading at this time, and the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Satterly.

Mayor Mills said okay. Any additional discussion?

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 18-06 passed on final reading, 5-0.

Resolution No. 15-06 A Resolution Appropriating The Necessary Funds Resulting From The 2006 Community Development Applications Of The City Of West Lafayette Under Title I Of The Housing And Community Development Act Of 1974, As Amended (Submitted by Department of Development) Councilor Griffin read Resolution No. 15-06 by title and moved that it be passed on first and only reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Satterly.

Mayor Mills said Mr. [Director of Development] Andrew is here tonight. This is our typical resolution to appropriate the Community Development Block Grant funds that we use for the public services in our community, for some street and public improvements, and also for housing rehabilitation monies. It's in the amount of \$450,325. Is there any discussion or are there any questions?

Councilor Hunt said I'd like to make— This is a multi-step resolution. Earlier in the winter, we had, I think, two public hearings, where the public service, social service, public service people presented and then the housing rehab and a variety of other issues. Then there was input from Council and the people on the commission, committee, commission, whatever that group was. And then it was pretty much consensus, and then now it's coming back, and the first step— Isn't this the first step that we get it?—Don't we get it again?

Director of Development Andrew said this is the final step.

Councilor Hunt said okay. So it's a multi-step with lots of community input is my point.

Mayor Mills said good, thank you. I'm glad you said that, Councilor Hunt. We do have a

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Citizens Participation Committee for the Community Development Block Grant program. We do have two public hearings, and we hear from the public services who ask for money, and then it goes to the Development Department, and Allen Grady. Everything is reviewed and ranked and that's how we decide what the appropriations will be. Thank you. It's nice to be reminded of how the process really works. Any other comments or questions?

There was no further discussion.

Resolution No. 15-06 passed on first and only reading, 5-0.

Resolution No. 16-06 A Resolution Approving The Designation Of An Economic Revitalization Area For Property Tax Abatement For SSCI, Inc. (Prepared by the City Attorney) Councilor Griffin read Resolution No. 16-06 by title and moved that it be passed on first and only reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Satterly.

Mayor Mills said thank you. Mr. [Director of Development] Andrew, would you like to give us some background, please?

Director of Development Andrew said as I mentioned at the Pre-Council meeting, this is the third abatement we've done for SSCI. Starting in 1991, they first started doing business in an apartment. They're now up to 96 people. They just purchased a 42,000-square foot building, and they're going to be up to 96 employees. The abatement is for five years on equipment for \$2,850,000, and ten years on the real estate improvements for \$1,325,000. Mr. Ferguson is here to answer questions from SSCI, if you have any.

Mayor Mills said thank you. Mr. Ferguson, do you want to come up to the microphone and say anything?

Director of Development Andrew said have him speak to the success story of this particular corporation.

Mr. Richard Ferguson [Chief Financial Officer, SSCI, Inc.] said I don't have a formal presentation. I just wanted to come here and say I really appreciate the consideration you're giving us on this. We're really looking forward to doing this expansion and continuing to grow here in the local community. I can answer any questions you have.

Mayor Mills said thank you.

Councilor O'Callaghan said excuse me, could you tell me your name again? It was—?

Mr. Ferguson said Richard Ferguson.

Councilor O'Callaghan said Richard Ferguson. And you're—?

Mr. Ferguson said I'm the Chief Financial Officer of SSCI.

Councilor O'Callaghan said thank you very much.

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Mr. Ferguson said sure.

Mayor Mills said any questions for Mr. Ferguson? Jody Hamilton [Director of Business and Administration, Economic Development Corporation] is here also from the Economic Development Corporation, if there are any questions.

Councilor Hunt said I have a question.

Mayor Mills said Councilor Hunt.

Councilor Hunt said it's my understanding that you started in a garage and then you rented part of the building and now you're buying the building?

Mr. Ferguson said actually, it started in Steve and Sally's [Byrn, founders of SSCI, Inc.] sewing room.

Councilor Hunt said okay.

Mr. Ferguson said they grew into the garage after that.

City Attorney Bauman said they did make a more detailed presentation to the Economic Development Commission, who did recommend approval, and it is certainly an astonishing success story, and certainly a terrific asset to the community.

Mr. Ferguson said I came here about four years ago for the second abatement. At that time, we were about 30 employees, so we're tripled in the last four or five years.

Mayor Mills said amazing.

Councilor Griffin said can you perhaps give us about what the approximate mean income is of your employees?

Mr. Ferguson said the average employee would be about \$65,000. That's my memory right now, but that's about it.

Councilor Griffin said that's excellent.

Mayor Mills said wonderful. Thank you. Any other questions?

Councilor O'Callaghan said those are the kind of jobs that we do want to have in our community. We're grateful for all your work and that Josh did mention 96 jobs with this expansion, eight new jobs it will be expected at that \$75,000 salary, which is exciting.

Mayor Mills said I'm very pleased that you want to stay here and enjoy that whole building. Thank you very much. Thank you for being here. Will you call the roll, please?

There was no further discussion.

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, JULY 3, 2006, CONTINUED

Resolution No. 16-06 passed on first and only reading, 5-0.

Ordinance No. 17-06 [continued]

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said Madam Mayor?

Mayor Mills said yes.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said perhaps I didn't speak loudly enough, but we have a need to hear Ordinance No. 17-06 on two readings tonight, regarding the gun permit fees, as they are effective July 1.

Mayor Mills said I think we just thought you were talking about the second one

Councilor Griffin said I'm sorry I misunderstood. I thought you were asking about [Ordinance No.] 18-06.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said well, I didn't quite realize that we'd gotten past. I was trying not to interrupt.

Mayor Mills said okay, good.

Councilor Griffin said I move that we suspend the rules to consider Ordinance No. 17-06 on final reading at this time. The motion was seconded by Councilor Satterly.

The voice vote to suspend the rules to consider Ordinance No. 17-06 on second reading was AYE unanimously.

Councilor Griffin said I place Ordinance No. 17-06 on the table for second reading and move for passage on the final reading, and the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Satterly.

Mayor Mills said any additional discussion? Please call the roll.

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 17-06 passed on final reading, 5-0.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business at this time, Councilor Satterly moved for adjournment. Motion was seconded by Councilor Griffin and passed by voice vote, the time being 8:10 p.m.

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, JULY 3, 2006, CONTINUED

Respectfully submitted,

Judith C. Rhodes, Clerk-Treasurer
Secretary of the Common Council