

REGULAR MEETING COMMON COUNCIL – March 28, 2023

The Common Council of the City of Huntington met on the 28th day of March 2023, at 7:00 p.m., in accordance with all applicable requirements and notice.

INVOCATION: Clerk-Treasurer McElhaney gave the invocation.

CALL TO ORDER: Council President Chapman called the regular meeting of the Common Council to order in the Mayor's absence.

ROLL CALL: Common Council Members present: Joe Blomeke, Charles Chapman, PJ Felton, Dave Funk, Todd Johnson, and Paul Pike. Remote: Seth Marshall.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Council Member Pike moved to approve Council's March 14, 2023, meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Council Member Felton. Motion passed 7-0. Minutes signed.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS: No reports from Council Members were given.

PETITIONS OR COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

Scott Thornsberry, Mayne Street, told his story that raising chickens as a kids and being involved in 4-H gave him responsibility and determination. He agrees with the annual permit and the education certificate for anyone wanting to raise chickens or ducks for the eggs.

Joy Bow, Ash Street, told her story about giving kids a purpose of comfort and responsibility to raise chickens and she is willing to help with education.

Hillaine Connor, Schultz Drive, commented that she would be a good and understanding neighbor to someone with chickens and she may decide to get chickens herself.

Megan Bonbrake, High Street, appreciates the thought and cooperation in drafting the Ordinance to allow chickens and ducks in the City. She agrees with the Humane Society inspecting and enforcing any issues with the keeping of chickens and ducks. She asked the Council to strongly consider allowing chickens in City limits.

Matt Shoda, Washington Street, commented he doesn't feel strongly one way or the other, but urged the Council to vote to represent their constituents and not their own personal opinions.

Matt Shoda, Washington Street, commented on Senate Bill 248, that he confirmed with State Senator Zay that the bill is dead and he suggests an amendment to the proposed Resolution that adds wording to provide a gateway to citizenship if the Council supports the issuing of a State ID for undocumented residents.

Ed Roriguex from LaVoz Unida (The United Voice) spoke to Council clarifying Matt Shoda's comments that the bill didn't pass, but that if an amendment at the state level included wording to provide a gateway to citizenship, then it may be considered at the next session. He requests that this bill needs grass roots support and asks that Council consider passing Resolution 1-R-23.

OLD BUSINESS: Council Member Felton made a motion to approve on **second and final reading Amended Ordinance 37-C-22: “An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Huntington, Indiana by Amending Sections 91.09, 91.30, 91.31, 91.32, 91.33, and 91.60” (allowing chickens and ducks in City limits)**, seconded by Council Member Johnson. After some discussion, **Motion failed 3-4, to approve Ordinance 37-C-22**. Ayes: Chapman, Blomeke, and Felton. Nays: Funk, Johnson, Marshall, and Pike.

NEW BUSINESS: Council Member Pike made a motion to approve on **First and final reading Resolution 1-R-23: “A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Huntington Endorsing the Passage of Indiana Legislation Establishing Driver Cards for Undocumented Residents”**, seconded by Council Member Blomeke. Council Member Johnson wanted to clarify that he doesn’t agree with the State ID allowing the person to vote. He read a summary of the Senate Bill 248 and this is his understanding and he does not approve of the voting rights. Other discussion, Police Chief Boxell commented that the State ID would be easier to track residents in the system with a number referenced and not just the name. Council Member Blomeke moved to table until more information could be provided. Motion died for lack of second. After more discussion, **Motion failed 1-6, to approve Resolution 1-R-23**. Ayes: Chapman. Nays: Blomeke, Felton, Funk, Johnson, Marshall, and Pike.

Council Member Blomeke made a **motion to approve on first reading Ordinance 6-C-23: “An Additional Appropriation” (ARPA and General funds)**, seconded by Council Member Johnson. Motion passed 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT: Council Member Felton moved to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Johnson. Motion passed 7-0.

APPROVED:



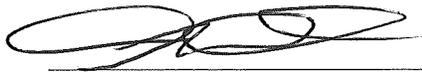
Richard Strick As Mayor

Absent

Charles Chapman As Council President

Absent

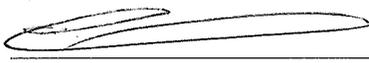
PJ Felton As Member



Seth Marshall As Member



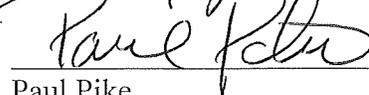
Joseph E. Blomeke As Member



Dave Funk As Member

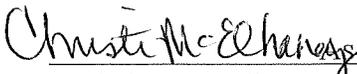


Todd Johnson As Member



Paul Pike As Member

Attest:



Christi A. McElhaney Clerk-Treasurer