

## REGULAR MEETING COMMON COUNCIL – March 10, 2020

The Common Council of the City of Huntington met in Council Chambers, Third Floor, City Building, Huntington, Indiana, on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020, at 7:00 p.m., in regular session and in accordance with all applicable requirements and notice.

**INVOCATION:** Reverend Ray Selihamer gave the invocation.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Strick called the regular meeting of the Common Council to order.

**ROLL CALL:** Common Council Members present: Joe Blomeke, Charles Chapman, Seth Marshall, Jerry Meehan Jr., and Paul Pike. Absent: PJ Felton and Dave Funk.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Mayor Strick opened the public hearing for Ordinance 2-C-20: “Alley Vacation Bethel United Methodist Church Riverside Drive”. Church representative Chuck Denbo explained that the church is requesting to put a handicap ramp on the east side of the church which will extend 3 feet into the undeveloped alley. With no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Strick closed the public hearing.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Council Member Marshall moved to approve Council’s February 11, 2020 meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Council Member Chapman. Motion passed 5-0. Minutes signed.

### **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, BOARDS OR COMMISSIONS:**

Council Member Committee reports were presented as well as District reports:

Jerry Meehan Jr.: Solid Waste Board: With the new fence installed at the recycling drop off, solid waste is seeing 75-80% less trash being dumped, they are looking into a new prescription drug bin pick up company INMAR at a cost of \$1,600 per year, currently Director Scott Husband is taking the prescription drugs to Indianapolis and has taken up to 1,200 pounds.

Charles Chapman: Huntington Public Safety Committee: Flaxmill Road location for new antenna, new radios are needed, Fire Department is looking into a FEMA grant to help with the cost. Board of Works: Considering and approving special events permits as well as dealing with ordinance issues. District Report: Chapman had flooding in his area and took it to the State, and it has been taken care of along Highway 24.

### **PETITIONS OR COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:**

Curt Juergens of the Veterans Transport Network reported on the program. They had a few vehicles available to them, so they needed to get the program up and running or the vehicles would be taken back by the VA. They transported over 820 miles in the first month. The transportation is totally free to veterans. In June, a new vehicle is coming to replace one of the older ones. They can only go to the VA appointments and back home. Huntington Area Transportation (HAT) has been doing the transporting to these appointments at the cost of \$23,000 in 2019, due to so many out of county

appointments. This Veteran Transport Network will help HAT free up some of the transportation issues they face by being booked and having to turn away requests. Sometimes special transportation is needed for dialysis appointments and wheelchair bound veterans, HAT can take care of these type of situations. The two organizations have been working together to leave no veteran behind. The special transportations may be reimbursable by the local VFW. Mayor Strick expressed the community's appreciation for providing this much needed service.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Council Member Blomeke made a **motion to approve on first reading Ordinance 2-C-20: "Alley Vacate- Bethel United Methodist Church- Riverside Drive"**, seconded by Council Member Chapman. Motion passed 5-0. Council Member Chapman made a motion to suspend the rules and consider Ordinance 2-C-20 for a second reading, seconded by Council Member Pike. Motion passed 5-0. Council Member Pike made a motion to approve on **seconded and final reading Ordinance 2-C-20: "Alley Vacate- Bethel United Methodist Church- Riverside Drive"**, seconded by Council Member Chapman. Motion passed 5-0. Ordinance signed.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

Mayor Strick discussed the "Steller Communities Grant Program". It is an 80/20 match grant which requires that at least two entities partner to present a project for consideration. He has met with the County Commissioners as well as the outlying towns: Roanoke, Markle, Andrews, Mt. Etna, and Warren.

Mayor Strick distributed to Council materials outlining the City's history with its Long Term Control Plan (LTCP). As more projects are coming, he wanted Council to be informed and understand to process as we move forward. Several questions were asked and answered.

Clerk-Treasurer McElhaney presented the CF-1 Statement of Benefits compliance forms for Gerdau. Council Member Pike made a motion to approve the forms, seconded by Council Member Blomeke. Motion passed 5-0. CF-1 forms signed.

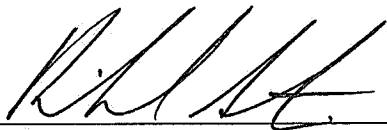
Clerk-Treasurer McElhaney presented the February 2020 Budget Report for review.

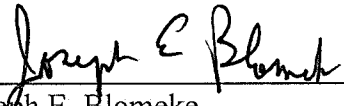
**ADJOURNMENT:**

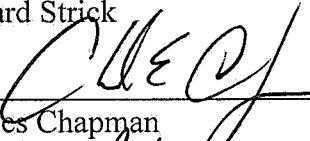
Council Member Chapman made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Pike. Motion passed 5-0.

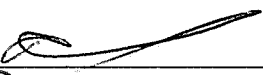
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APPROVED:

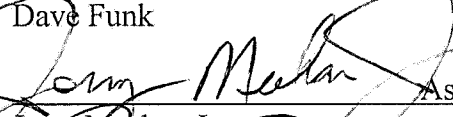
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Strick As Mayor

  
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Joseph E. Blomeke As Member

  
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Charles Chapman As Council  
President

  
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Dave Funk As Member

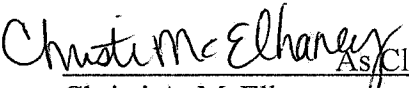
  
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PJ Felton As Member

  
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Jerry Meehan Jr. As Member

  
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Seth Marshall As Member

  
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Paul Pike As Member

Attest:

  
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Christi A. McElhaney As Clerk-Treasurer