

**THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CIVIL CITY OF NEW ALBANY, INDIANA,
HELD A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING IN THE THIRD FLOOR ASSEMBLY
ROOM OF THE CITY/COUNTY BUILDING ON THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2013 AT
7:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Council Members, Mr. Coffey, Mr. Caesar, Mr. Phipps, Mr. Blair, Mrs. Baird, Mr. Gonder, Mr. Zurschmiede and President McLaughlin. Mrs. Benedetti was not present.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Hall, Mr. Gibson, Colonel Pennell, Mr. Wood, Mr. Duggins, Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Brewer, Mr. Rosenbarger, Mr. Thompson and Ms. Glotzbach.

MOMENT OF REFLECTION:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:

Mr. Phipps moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for July 1, 2013, Mr. Gonder second, all voted in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC:

COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OFFICIALS:

Mrs. Baird stated that she had a very good meeting with Mr. Duggins regarding the Farmer's Market and the Fire Museum and he suggested that they get some of the other members involved in a meeting to bounce around ideas before they put together a resolution.

Mr. Coffey stated that he would like to know about the Fire Museum because they aren't going to give money from Redevelopment and the Council so he would like to know who they are requesting the funds from.

Mrs. Baird explained that they have asked for money from the Council.

Mr. Coffey stated that they need to go back and pull the offer of \$140,000.00 from Redevelopment

Mrs. Baird stated that they could just cut back on the amount that the Council is going to give to them.

Mr. Coffey stated that he met with Mr. Peters and they talked about the need for local government's role in funding all the non-profit organizations and they really need to start standing firm on this especially when they are asking for funds from the same pocket.

Mr. Duggins stated that they have not approached Redevelopment for money and it was just a general conversation and that is why they would like to get other council members involved in the conversation.

Mrs. Baird stated that she didn't want to keep the rest of the council in the dark about this and bring it to them after she had been working on it for 6 months. She explained that she would love to get their input and come to some agreements together and keep everyone informed during the entire process.

Mr. Caesar stated that he has tried to stay away from the Fire Museum because he has a full plate but he thinks they just wanted to make sure there was community support and for the council members to take it to their constituents to let them know what is going on.

Mr. Blair stated that he thinks it is important as they move along to get a plan and some financial projections of how things are going to be paid for. He explained that he mentioned at previous meetings that they had an opportunity to meet with the Jeffersonville City Council and Mr. Gonder, Mr. McLaughlin, and himself met with Dennis Julius for lunch to talk about what they could learn from one another and he would like to continue to do this on a monthly rotating basis.

Mr. Gonder stated that at the most recent Redevelopment meeting the subject of sidewalks came up and last Monday on trash day he noticed people that were walking had to get even farther out in the road to go around the cans. He explained that he feels like sidewalks are becoming a real safety issue and he believes that they need to really focus on this issue and figure out a way to start addressing it.

Mr. Coffey stated that there are actually 400-500 homes in that area so it could just be a one side walkway.

Mr. Phipps stated that he would like to know the areas in the city that do not have sidewalks.

Mr. Rosenbarger explained that back in 1981 they did an analysis of this and they could get to together with the Redevelopment Commission to look at it even though it hasn't been updated since then.

Mr. Gonder asked when it comes time to make a choice between repairing and a new build what the preference would be.

Mr. Rosenbarger stated that they would have to weigh both issues of funding mechanisms and need or if it is going to be utilized.

Mr. Gonder stated that Captain Frank has drainage swales along the road and asked if that would bring the cost down.

Mr. Rosenbarger stated that it wouldn't necessarily change the cost depending on what had to be done to bring the area up to specs.

Mr. Blair asked if it is possible to get the list and prioritize what he thinks are the most important areas and then give them a cost estimate.

Mr. Rosenbarger stated that he could do that.

Mr. Gonder asked if the \$3M per mile includes right-of-way acquisition.

Mr. Rosenbarger replied no.

Mr. Gibson presented the council with the budget to actual report through June. He explained that they are at 46% for the year in the general fund which is right on pace with where they expected to be and they hope to continue that for the rest of the year. He stated that if they have any questions to please give him a call but this gives them a good idea of where they should be for the rest of the year. He stated that they have a good six months of the MVH and he will get those numbers for them in August to see what they need to finish out the rest of the year.

Mr. Coffey stated that they really need to be commended on the way that they have handled their budget because they are 4% below and they have kept the council updated on what is going on.

Mr. Gibson stated that the department heads have done a really good job and this has been a group effort. He explained that they passed realistic budgets for the last two years and that has really helped them stay in line.

Mr. Coffey stated that they are going to have to address the issue of software very soon.

Mr. Gibson stated that it is time to think about it and the sooner the better especially with the changes that are going to be coming in the Controller's office.

Mr. Coffey stated that it will save the city money in the long run.

Mr. Blair stated that they do need to designate a project manager to implement this.

Mr. Phipps asked where they are on the sirens.

Mr. Gibson stated that they only received one quote and it is in front of the Board of Works now.

Mr. Thompson stated that they took the bid under advisement to let Mr. Robison review it.

Mr. Gibson stated that they would hope to have this awarded in the next two weeks.

Mr. McLaughlin asked if they have heard from the county regarding these sirens.

Mr. Gibson stated that he would check with Mr. Robison.

COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:

Michael Hall stated that they are halfway through their summer concert series and the reception from the public has been great in his mind and the crowd keeps growing. He thanked the Council for all of their support. He explained that on July 28th there will be a cycling event in downtown from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. with 10 different races for all ages and skill sets. He stated that the Vintage Baseball and Old Fashion Day in Binford Park will be held August 10th starting at 11:00 a.m. and they will be playing by the 1862 baseball/softball rules. He invited them all to come out for these events.

APPROVAL OF CF-1 FORMS:

Hitachi Cable America, INC., Compliance with
Statement of Benefits referencing R-06-36

Hitachi Cable America, INC., Compliance with
Statement of Benefits referencing R-11-19

Hitachi Cable America, INC., Compliance with
Statement of Benefits referencing R-07-26

Clark Foods, Inc., Compliance with
Statement of Benefits referencing R-11-10

SAMTEC, Inc., Compliance with
Statement of Benefits referencing R-10-42

SAMTEC, Inc., Compliance with
Statement of Benefits referencing R-08-51

Mr. Duggins stated that there are two abatements for Hitachi Cable and one is above the hiring and one is below and the one that is below is from their first large expansion. He recommended approval.

Mr. Zurschmiede moved to approve the above CF-1s, Mr. Gonder second, all voted in favor

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS: READING

R-13-11 RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RELEASE OF GONDER
APPROPRIATED FUNDS FOR THE SECOND
BAPTIST CHURCH CLOCKTOWER

Mr. Gonder introduced R-13-11 and moved to approve, Mr. Zurschmiede second, all voted in favor

Mr. Gonder went over the figures that were passed out to the council before the meeting and explained that the steeple replacement phase is the one that is of immediate interest. He explained that there is a slight overrun in cost but some of the structural contingencies may have already been taken care of.

Alice Miles, President of the Friends of the Town Clock Church, stated that in the first phase some of those items have already been done.

Mr. Gonder asked if it is safe to assume that the number will come in lower than \$78,000.00 for the steeple

Irv Stumler stated that they don't know at this point how much it will take to install the spire and the structural engineer has to determine if they can get it up without additional support.

Mr. Gonder asked if the number could be considerably lower.

Mr. Stumler replied that it could be lower if there are no structural components.

Mr. Gonder stated that as he understands it the Mayor is envisioning this as a resolution that is passed this evening and the funds be handed over so they can try to get the bidding done.

Ms. Miles stated that they are trying to be diligent stewards of the funds that are given and they are most gracious for the money that they have appropriated. She explained that it is so important to preserve this building and a piece of the community's history.

Mr. Coffey stated that they appropriate the money but didn't think they told them how it had to be spent.

Ms. Miles stated that it was her understanding that the City wanted them to use the money to replace the steeple.

Mr. Coffey stated that he doesn't remember that being put in the resolution or the ordinance.

Ms. Miles stated that it is their desire to replace the steeple as well.

Mr. Coffey stated that they just want them to know that the council is not telling them how to spend it.

Mr. Phipps stated that he voted against this to begin with because of a desire to keep the church and state separate but now that the appropriation has been made, he will vote to release it because that is how it should be done once money has been appropriated.

Mr. Blair stated that he also voted against it as well because of concerns over funding to compete the funding and he too will vote to release the funds because they have shown that they have the funds to do this.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:

Mr. Coffey stated that they are going to have to turn some money loose for demolitions and asked Mr. Brewer how many houses need to come down.

Mr. Brewer stated that there are roughly 18 that need to be addressed soon. He explained that cost is a big determinate on whether something should be demolished.

Mr. Coffey asked what kind of money they are looking at.

Mr. Brewer stated that \$150,000.00 would give them the support they need. He thanked Mr. Coffey for bringing this up and thinking about giving them the help that they need.

Mr. Blair asked if he could list the number of liens that have been applied to the properties on the list so they can gauge what their recovery might be.

Mr. Brewer replied yes. He explained that \$127,000.00 was recouped in code enforcement in the last year and a half but it goes quick because of the constant forced cleanups.

Mr. Gonder asked if one of the houses on the list is the one on 5th & Oak that is sinking into the ground.

Mr. Brewer explained that they are close to getting this one down.

Mr. Gibson stated that there is a neighboring person interested in buying it.

Mr. Blair asked about the progress on the old Hardees building on State Street.

Mr. Brewer stated that they have been trying to work out the details on those and the state has started to implement some tools that they can use when they are in similar situations in the future.

Mr. Zurschmiede stated that this appropriation needs to be drafted up and put on the next agenda because it needs to get done. He asked Mr. Brewer if he could get the council the list by the first meeting in August.

Mr. Brewer replied yes.

Mr. Gonder asked if there is some type of fumigation that can be done before a demolition to prevent spreading of vermin and insects.

Mr. Brewer stated that they do everything they can to protect the neighbors when these houses are coming down.

Mr. McLaughlin asked if they have had much trouble with bed bugs.

Mr. Coffey stated that there has been a tremendous problem in the housing authority.

Mr. Brewer stated that they have been forcing a comprehensive plan with regards to this and it seems to be getting a little better.

Mr. Phipps asked about the abandon house that is three doors east of him on Spring Street and if there is anything that can be done to put pressure on the owner to do something to it. He added that it is a historic home so they don't want to tear it down.

Mr. Brewer stated that the bank is paying the taxes on it instead of foreclosing on it and that makes it hard for the city to do anything about it. He explained that the administration is not afraid to go after them and the council is standing behind him so hopefully they can do something about it with liens for work they have to do.

Mr. Phipps stated that they have people coming into the area and he thinks that one home is preventing more interest.

Mr. Brewer stated that he thinks they should see some activity on that property soon.

Mr. McLaughlin asked Mr. Thompson where they are at on the paving.

Mr. Thompson stated that they did accept Gohmann who was the low bidder and they are working on getting that contract signed. He explained that if the council has any areas that are of concern for them they can get that to him.

Mr. McLaughlin asked how many lists he has in so far from council members.

Mr. Thompson replied four.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that the council needs to have an executive session next Thursday at 6:00 p.m. regarding contract negotiations.

Mr. Coffey stated that state legislature has passed a new law and he doesn't know why they are dealing with this the way they are now. He explained that never should have been in these negotiations to begin with and he doesn't want to go down that path again.

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC (non-agenda items):

IN COMMITTEE:

TABLED ORDINANCES:

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Pat McLaughlin, President

Vicki Glotzbach, City Clerk