

**COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2010
7:00 P.M.**

Mayor James Fleck – Present
Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle – Present
Attorney Lindsey Grossnickle – Present

Council members

Walter Crowder – Present
Nicole Penrod – Present
Donald Sexton – Present
Roger Seymoure – Present
Daniel Weigold – Present

The Columbia City Common Council met in regular session with all members present, Mayor Fleck presiding.

MINUTES Motion was made by Sexton to approve an overview of the June 22, 2010 meeting minutes as presented, Weigold second the motion, all voted aye.

GOLF CART SIGN APPROVAL Mike Petersen distributed a picture of the golf cart sign and explained where it would go. He stated if the proof was what the Council would like to see he asked that they act favorably and approve the quote for \$257.52.

Nicole Penrod questioned if the signs would be the same size as the Tree City USA sign. Chief Petersen advised they would.

Motion was made by Weigold to accept the golf cart sign as presented, Penrod second the motion, all voted aye.

ORDINANCE 2010-18: 3-WAY STOP KLEESPIE COURT/S. EAGLE GLEN TRAIL – 1ST READING Mayor Fleck requested to table the issue to allow for further discussion.

ORDINANCE 2010-19: STOP AT 2ND ALLEY NORTH OF VAN BUREN BETWEEN OAK AND ELM – 2ND READING Motion was made by Weigold to read Ordinance 2010-19 by title only, Penrod second the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2010-19 an ordinance amending the traffic schedules of Chapter 75 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Motion was made by Crowder to accept Ordinance 2010-19 as a second and final reading, Weigold second the motion, all voted aye.

ORDINANCE 2010-20: REZONE – DRATS, INC 2ND READING Motion was made by Seymoure to read Ordinance 2010-20 by title only, Weigold second the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2010-20 an ordinance amending the zoning

classification of certain property from the “I-1” light industrial to “GB” general business zoning district of Columbia City, Indiana.

Motion was made by Weigold to adopt Ordinance 2010-20 as second and final reading, Sexton second the motion, all voted aye.

ORDINANCE 2010-21: SUPPLEMENT TO CODE OF ORDINANCES Motion was made by Crowder to read Ordinance 2010-21 by title only, Penrod second the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2010-21 an ordinance enacting and adopting a supplement to the code of ordinances for the City of Columbia City and declaring an emergency.

Motion was made by Seymoure to suspend the rules so Ordinance 2010-21 could be adopted on first and final reading, Weigold second the motion, all voted aye.

Motion was made by Crowder to adopt Ordinance 2010-21 on first and final reading, Penrod second the motion, all voted aye.

PARK DEPARTMENT Mark Green discussed issues they were having with National Serv-All in getting trash picked up. He stated JFL registration starts July 20th. He reported on the grant from DNR for the Blue River Trail expansion and the bridge. He stated the First Church of God middle school youth group primed and painted the new dugout at the park. He reported on a softball tournament held at the park and had a baseball tournament scheduled for this next weekend.

Mark reported he, Mayor Fleck and one of his park board members met with the school superintendant and Tony Zickgraf regarding the pool. He advised he put together a pool committee to research the future of the pool. He stated they put together a survey on Talk of the Town and had a lot of feedback with the overwhelming majority wanting something done with the pool whether it be renovated or construct a new one. He explained the land the pool is on is leased from the school so the purpose of the meeting was to find out what could be done with the land. He stated we could not really do anything if it was not our land. He advised he also met with the engineer’s who renovated our pool in 1991.

Walt Crowder questioned when we host tournaments how many restroom facilities we have to support it. Mark advised there was not enough and was the reason for bringing in port-a-potties. Walt advised he had some feedback on it and questioned if there was staff there the entire time. Mark explained they came in three times to redo the fields and check bathrooms but in between there was no one there. Walt felt that might be the issue in that there are so many people it does not take long to change the environment. Mark advised he discussed with the Mayor about having someone work the weekend.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT Larry Whetstone reported they met regarding the stimulus money we were to receive for lighting. He explained the grant was for LED’s but then he began investigating the induction lighting which cost about half as much and would save us an additional 10% over and above the 40% for the LED’s. He stated they called down to Indianapolis and they responded to us resubmitting the induction type fixtures. He advised by

doing this they not only could do the outskirts of town but could also do the downtown pole lighting. He reported they received a call from Parkview and had to run an additional 500 ft. of primary to accommodate the extra power they were going to need over and above the permanent power and the other temporary power that was provided.

Walt Crowder questioned if the other type of lighting was equal or better in the light's brightness. Larry explained it was basically the same but was more of an energy savings. Walt questioned if it would be possible to get one of each of the lights to see the difference before making the commitment. Larry did not feel there would be any difference. He stated he could install one at the maintenance facility so they could see the difference. Dan Weigold agreed that it seemed they should see an example before purchasing something for the entire City. Roger Seymoure questioned if they could be used in the decorative lighting downtown. Larry advised they could.

Don Sexton questioned what was happening at Parkview. Larry explained they were starting their MOB (main office building) and it was further to the end from the main hospital building and they had to run more primary there to accommodate the needs of that facility for its construction. He stated their intent was to come out of the existing transformer they put in for the facility but there was not enough earth work done to make it possible so informed the contractor we could build a line but it would be at their expense and they agreed.

STREET DEPARTMENT Kelly Cearbaugh reported on the Whitley Street project and advised the striping was done in town. He advised they finished up with brush pickup. He stated they had 7 barrels of mosquito spray left from last year and would be spraying twice a week until it runs out. He stated he has looked at different types of briquettes that might be more effective and last longer.

POLICE DEPARTMENT Mike Petersen reported the 4-H parade was set for this Friday. He stated his manpower was low so in order to counter that he, Captain Anspach and the Detectives were working shifts. He explained they try to offset each other so there is at least one administrator working during the day. He advised they have also used a technique in which they park the spare police cars around town to make it appear as though there is larger coverage than what they really do. He stated he had 2 on military leave, 2 on medical leave and a 3rd has been called up for a potential military assignment in October for overseas.

WATER DEPARTMENT Mike Dear reported they replaced a service line on Spencer Street that was leaking. He advised he met with the contractor at the LB Foster site about getting service there and also has been working with the contractor at Parkview on the water specs for the MOB building.

Roger Seymoure questioned if we were starting to move utilities out by the library. Mayor Fleck advised that was not us and was the hospital's project. He stated we could not do anything until the environmental study has been approved by the state and had no idea when that would be.

Don Sexton questioned if it would be possible to receive some type of flow chart to show the timing or steps. Mayor Fleck explained there was but it was triggered by getting the

environmental study approved, until then it was speculation. Don questioned if there was any kind of agreement, anything on paper or a contract. Mayor Fleck advised that was a very technical legal question. He advised he was as frustrated as everyone else and explained we could not put things in writing as it may eliminate qualification of that part of the job. He advised all he could say was that we have a very good understanding with respect to a commitment.

Dan Weigold stated some of the frustration he hears is that the City was dishing out money towards a project that we do not have anything solid as to what was going on. Mayor Fleck stressed that we have not spent any money that we would not have had to spend to service Parkview. He explained whether that project goes through or not our cost was going to be between \$250,000 - \$400,000 regardless but if we do the project we get reimbursed for most of that. Walt Crowder clarified they were referring to the Engineering Design and advised even though he also has frustrations, Attorney Grossnickle advised we were under contract and to penalize them was the wrong thing to do. Dan Weigold questioned if the money we were putting out now had the potential to be reimbursed. Roger Seymoure stated it would be reimbursed or matching. He explained we were going to pay something sometime whether we pay it up front or at the end. Mayor Fleck advised it was an 80/20 grant and the Engineering contract counts towards that. Dan Weigold advised some of the feedback he was hearing was how much was the project actually going to cost the City to be a part of. He felt they were all at 'I don't know' and that was not a good answer when looking at a project of this magnitude. Mayor Fleck explained the \$500,000 grant we received was the total cost of the project plus our 20% and it could not go beyond that, but what we get for it was the question.

Walt Crowder questioned what the trigger point would be that they would know how it was going towards the project. Mayor Fleck advised it would be when the environmental study was completed. Walt questioned who the lead person was that we were dealing with who was looking out for our best interest. Mayor Fleck advised Scott Crites with StructurePoint. Walt advised it had been several weeks since they asked for him to come in. Mayor Fleck advised Scott has information and would certainly be glad to meet with respect to it. He stated that same information had been given to everyone at some point. Walt stated that information was given early in the process before it was broken into two different entities. He felt that was when the confusion escalated. Mayor Fleck thought Scott could clear up a lot of things. He stated the City's share would not exceed 20% of the grant and it will be very similar to what it was when it was still a combined project.

Dan Weigold felt they were put in a tough position to answer questions from the public when they see money being spent. Mayor Fleck stressed there was no money being spent. Rosie Coyle advised the only thing was to StructurePoint. Dan understood but explained people do not read it like that and it was extremely difficult to explain when he did not know the answer. Mayor Fleck advised he was trying to give as much as he could and Scott with StructurePoint would be able to give the calculations which were all based on a budget. He stated if Council was asking for budgetary estimates they certainly had those and could share them but if Council was asking for exact figures they could not give that and would not know that until the project was let. He stated this Federal grant has rules and we have to trust the process. He advised under the rules we could not even do engineering plans and we cannot figure costs without that.

Don Sexton questioned what the Board of Works was paying for. Attorney Grossnickle advised we had a contract with StructurePoint and that was what we have been paying on. She stated they were working for free for a long time. Roger Seymoure explained they had to come up with preliminary plans otherwise there was no estimate on which to present and request a grant. Don questioned if the Board of Works received those preliminary plans. Mayor Fleck advised they could not. He stated we have not paid them any more than what they are due.

Attorney Grossnickle advised Don Sexton that we had access to anything we have paid for so if he wanted to look at it she did not see a problem with it. Rosie Coyle stated she could get copies of the agreement and anything we have paid for.

2011 BUDGET Rosie Coyle reported she met with the Department of Local Government Finance on Monday and received some figures from them. She explained she pretty much had it put together and had to have it to the County by August 22 for their review.

Walt Crowder questioned if the Insurance Committee had been meeting. Rosie advised she notified them today and they would be working on figures.

A tentative meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 2 at 5:00 p.m.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – STORM ISSUES Mayor Fleck reported public safety met with Cathy Broxon-Ball with EMA in response to the two weather events we had. He stated they did change the trigger times in which notification will come from dispatch.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor James Fleck

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle