

CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE  
COMMON COUNCIL  
PRE-COUNCIL MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 27, 2020

The Common Council of the City of West Lafayette, Indiana, met in the Council Chambers at the Temporary City Hall – Former Happy Hollow Elementary School on February 27, 2020, at the hour of 4:30 p.m.

President Bunder called the meeting to order and presided.

Present: James Blanco, Peter Bunder, Nick DeBoer, Shannon Kang, Kathy Parker, and Gerald Thomas.

Absent: Larry Leverenz, David Sanders, and Norris Wang.

Also present: Mayor John Dennis, Corporation Counsel Eric Burns, Clerk Sana Booker, Street Commissioner Ben Anderson, Director of Development Erik Carlson, Facilities Director Tim Clark, Human Resources Director Diane Foster, City Controller Peter Gray, Police Chief Troy Harris, Fire Chief Tim Heath, WWTU Director David Henderson, Parks Superintendent Kathy Lozano, and Building Commissioner Chad Spitznagle, and Interim City Engineer Marcus Smith.

President Bunder asked that everyone keep Councilor Wang in their prayers as he is in the hospital.

PRE-COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS:

Resolution No. 02-20 (Downtown Plan) Amendments

President Bunder stated that he has decided not to move forward with the proposed amendments that had been included on the agenda.

REPORTS OF CITY DEPARTMENTS ON FILE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

President Bunder noted that the agenda no longer lists Council committees under this section of the agenda.

REPORT OF APC REPRESENTATIVES

Councilor Parker stated that there were three items discussed at APC relating to West Lafayette. One was about the senior living facility, which had an item approved at the last Council meeting. The second item related to a sorority that has requested to condense three lots into one. The third is the final detail plans for Evergreen Campus Rentals.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 02-20 An Ordinance To Establish The Cumulative Capital Development Fund And Readopt West Lafayette City Code Provisions Concerning The Fund (Submitted by Controller) [No. of Readings 2 of 2] **PUBLIC HEARING**

President Bunder read Ordinance No. 02-20 by title only.

There was no discussion.

Resolution No. 02-20 A Resolution To Amend The Comprehensive Plan For Tippecanoe County To Include The West Lafayette Downtown Plan As A Land Use Element (Submitted by Area Plan Commission) [Continued from February 3, 2020] [No. of Readings 1 of 1]

President Bunder read Resolution No. 02-20 by title only.

There was no discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 03-20 An Ordinance To Annex Certain Lands To The City Of West Lafayette (3464 Bethel Drive) (Submitted by Tyler Ochs of Ball Eggleston) [No. of Readings 1 of 2]

President Bunder read Ordinance No. 03-20 by title only.

Tyler Ochs (Ball Eggleston PC), representing the petitioner, stated that this is a request to annex land located at 3464 Bethel Drive, off of US 52. It is a commercial area zoned as General Business. The land is going to be sold to a buyer and turned into a liquor store. He explained that his client has a liquor license for West Lafayette, so they need to be annexed into the corporate limit for the City to develop that land.

Councilor DeBoer asked if it is a liquor store from the area. Mr. Ochs responded that it is; it is Village Bottle Shoppe.

Mr. Ochs noted that there is a corresponding Resolution [below], and asked the Council if they would prefer to pass the Resolution this month or if they would prefer to wait to pass it with the second reading of the Ordinance in April. Corporation Counsel Burns stated that either would be fine, and President Bunder stated that we will go ahead and handle the Resolution on Monday.

There was no further discussion.

Resolution No. 03-20 A Resolution Of The City Of West Lafayette Adopting A Fiscal Plan And Definite Policy For Annexation Of 3464 Bethel Dr. Annexation Area (Submitted by Tyler Ochs of Ball Eggleston) [No. of Readings 1 of 1]

President Bunder read Resolution No. 03-20 by title only.

There was no discussion.

Resolution No. 04-20 Resolution Of The City Of West Lafayette Approving Applications For Tax Abatement (Saab Aeronautics Indiana, LLC) (Submitted by Department of Development) [No. of Readings 1 of 1]

President Bunder read Resolution No. 04-20 by title only.

Director of Development Erik Carlson stated that there will be a full presentation for this Resolution on Monday night, but there is a team from several entities here ready to answer any questions now.

There was no further discussion.

Resolution No. 05-20 A Resolution To Provide Free Menstruation Products In Restrooms Of All City Buildings (Sponsored by Councilors Parker and Kang) [No. of Readings 1 of 1]

President Bunder read Resolution No. 05-20 by title only.

Councilor Parker explained that she had not thought about this issue until a few years ago when her daughter mentioned it to her after taking a college class. She realized it just makes sense for feminine hygiene products to be as available as toilet paper; wherever toilet paper is free, so should tampons be free. It is a movement that is taking shape across the country, and why not here?

Councilor Kang stated that Mayor Dennis has told them that we are figuring out the implementation process, and will be good to go. She noted that she hopes to see both pads and tampons to accommodate all needs.

President Bunder noted that his daughter sent him a link from a Scottish newspaper article about how such products are free in Scotland.

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 04-20 An Ordinance To Amend Ordinance No. 27-19 (Amended), To Fix The 2020 Salary Schedule For Appointed Officers, Employees, And Members Of The Police And Fire Departments Of The City Of West Lafayette, Indiana (Presented by Controller) [No. of Readings 1 of 1]

President Bunder read Ordinance No. 04-20 by title only.

Controller Gray explained that with the leaving of IT Director Brad Alexander at the end of December, Mayor Dennis has decided to restructure the IT Department. It will fall under the Controller's Office, and some titles and salary ranges need to be changed. This pertains to both Ordinance Nos. 04-20 and 05-20 [below]. One of the four positions in the IT Department will be covered 100% under the City's General Fund while the other three are split 60/40 with WWTU.

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 05-20 An Ordinance To Amend Ordinance No. 28-19, To Fix The 2020 Salary Schedule For The Wastewater Treatment Utility As Submitted By The Board Of Public Works And Safety For Approval By The Common Council Of The City Of West Lafayette, Indiana (Presented by Board of Works) [No. of Readings 1 of 1]

President Bunder read Ordinance No. 05-20 by title only.

There was no discussion.

Ordinance No. 06-20 An Ordinance Requesting An Additional Appropriation To The 2020 Budget (Local Income Tax for Public Safety) (Submitted by Controller) [No. of Readings 1 of 2]

President Bunder read Ordinance No. 06-20 by title only.

Controller Gray reminded the Council that a new local income tax (LIT) was approved last year [Resolution No. 09-20] specifically for public safety. We did start receiving funds from that in January, but they cannot be spent until this body appropriates the expenditures for them. This Ordinance is to make those appropriations for \$250,000.00 for each the Police and Fire Departments. The Departments have already put together a list of possible things they want to spend those funds on and are working through particulars and priorities. We will get a total of a

little under \$1 million of revenue coming in for those funds. Those funds will be earmarked for public safety and carry over to future years.

Councilor DeBoer asked if we should anticipate another appropriation later in the year for the remainder of the amount. Controller Gray stated that we are still looking at what we want to spend the money on, so we do not anticipate it again this year.

Councilor DeBoer asked that the Departments give a brief overview on Monday of how they want to spend the money.

There was no further discussion.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

► Fire Chief Heath stated that Fire Station No. 2 is currently not staffed while repairs are being made. He anticipates that they will be able to return within the next couple of weeks.

► Councilor Blanco stated that he is excited about the County Council race this year, which is the first one in a long time to actually have a primary. One of his good friends is running and he is happy to be supporting him.

#### CITIZEN COMMENTS

► Zachary Baiel (124 Connolly Street) stated that he wonders if there could be discussion about the IT Department wages. It looks like the wages are going down from the higher level and we are removing a Director position. It would be nice from the public side, and having a professional IT background, to have some of the restructuring of those changes. It looks like we are putting more money in the actual technicians and removing it from some of the higher-level senior people and specialists, so he is curious about the thought process behind that. In regards to the Downtown Plan, he and others have written to the Councilors and the Mayor and have not heard anything back from their representatives. This is disappointing, and he would encourage people to follow up with their constituents.

► Facilities Director Clark spoke on behalf of Lauren Kish, who could not attend the meeting. He stated that Ms. Kish is half way to her goal of raising \$10,000 to install ADA swings in City Parks. This is a part of Ms. Kish's Girl Scout Gold Award Project. Some of the Councilors had expressed interest in donating, so the Clerk's Office will email the information on how to do so.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business at this time, Councilor DeBoer moved for adjournment. President Bunder adjourned the meeting, the time being 4:46 p.m.