

CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE
COMMON COUNCIL
PRE-COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 28, 2019

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 March 28, 2019, at the hour of 4:30 p.m.

President Bunder called the meeting to order and presided.

Present: Peter Bunder, Jonathan Jones, Larry Leverenz, Gerald Thomas, and Norris Wang.

Absent: Nick DeBoer, Gerry Keen, Steve Dietrich, and David Sanders.

Also present: Mayor John Dennis, Corporation Counsel Eric Burns, Clerk Sana Booker, IT Director Brad Alexander, Director of Development Erik Carlson, Facilities Director Tim Clark, Human Resources Director Diane Foster, City Engineer Ed Garrison, City Controller Peter Gray, Fire Chief Tim Heath, WWTU Director David Henderson, Parks Superintendent Kathy Lozano, Building Commissioner Chad Spitznagle, and Deputy Police Chief David VanVactor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 05-19 Before The Common Council Of The City Of West Lafayette An Ordinance Vacating An Alley Located On The Morton Center Property (Sponsored by Mayor John R. Dennis) [PUBLIC HEARING]

President Bunder read Ordinance No. 05-19 by title only.

There was no discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 06-19 An Ordinance To Amend Ordinance No. 28-18, To Fix The Salary Schedule For Appointed Officers, Employees, And Members Of The Police And Fire Departments Of The City Of West Lafayette, Indiana (Prepared by the Controller)

President Bunder read Ordinance No. 06-19 by title only.

City Controller Gray referenced two positions in the Street Department on Page 4, Fleet Manager and Mechanic/Equipment Operator, by stating that the positions are moving from a clothing allowance to uniforms. Due to combining employees within the new City Hall, the Parks and Recreation Department have made some changes within the department which are listed on Page 4 of the salary ordinance. He further explained that the Recreation Director position is moving from being exempt to non-exempt. The position for the Morton Center Director has been eliminated. The Skating Center Director and Pool Manager position has been moved under a Recreation Director, which has allowed the Department to have two Recreation Directors. The Morton Administrative Assistant position has been moved to a regular Administrative Assistant position.

There was no further discussion

Ordinance No. 07-19 An Ordinance To Amend Ordinance No. 29-18, To Fix The 2019 Salary Schedule For The Wastewater Treatment Utility As Submitted By The Board Of Works And Safety For Approval By The Common Council Of The City Of West Lafayette, Indiana (Presented by the Board of Public Works)

President Bunder read Ordinance No. 07-19 by title only.

City Controller Gray explained that this is dealing with the Fleet Manager position, moving from a clothing allowance to uniforms. He noted that the position is one that is split between two salary ordinances.

There was no further discussion

Ordinance No. 08-19 To Amend Certain Portions Of The Unified Zoning Ordinance Of Tippecanoe County, Indiana, Designating The Time When The Same Shall Take Effect. (UZO Amendment #95) (Submitted by Area Plan Commission)

President Bunder read Ordinance No. 08-19 by title only.

Building Commissioner Spitznagle explained that this is an amendment to the zoning ordinance and was brought forth by the County Building Commissioner. He explained that this gives the Administrative Officer (AO) the ability to go through a notification of a zoning violation and issue a fine after 15 days. He explained that the main intent is to relieve some legal enforcement. The AO is able to internally hold the violator accountable through fines instead of beginning a legal enforcement action against them.

There was no further discussion

Resolution No. 03-19 Resolution Adopting A Proposal For The City Court Of The City Of West Lafayette To Implement The Statewide Case Management System Called Odyssey (Sponsored by Councilor Steve Dietrich)

President Bunder read Resolution No. 03-19 by title only.

Councilor Wang explained that Odyssey is a Statewide computer database system that all of the courts for every county is able to tap into. The system manages calendar schedules and anyone can access it. It is directed to be a means of notifications to people for citations and other notices sent out. This is something that the courts have not had in a long time, and they are bringing it county-wide. It is being paid-for by the State, so it is beneficial that there is no cost to us. There will be training offered to Court staff, Corporation Counsel, and if available, to any Council members that may be interested. The system is an invaluable tool that will keep us more up-to-date and efficient.

Corporation Counsel Burns stated that by passing this resolution, it merely gets us in line. There is a large demand for this system, and it could be a year before we are able to get it. There is a letter attached to the resolution that requires signatures. The letter will not be signed off on until all of the personnel training and other items that the City has to provide from the Clerk's Office, Controller's Office, and Judge have been completed.

Councilor Wang added that the system is in high demand, and it will take time for the installers to train on the system. It is beneficial for the City to get in line quickly.

Councilor Bunder asked who we should be expressing our gratitude towards for this idea, to which Corporation Counsel Burns responded that it stemmed from questions about City Court that Councilor Dietrich had brought up. Once the questions were brought it, Mayor Dennis, Clerk Booker, Controller Gray, and himself began to work on ideas that would be deemed helpful. Their ideas were concluded quickly after they realized that Odyssey was an option. It is extremely easy to use once you have it, and is automatically renewed. The Supreme Court has a fund to pay for the system Statewide, and it includes our City Court. Currently we are using an old system that will not be around forever and will soon not be able to be updated.

There was no further discussion

REPORT BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Dennis confirmed that he will be discussing the Rental Inspection Program on Monday at Council.

COMMUNICATIONS

► Councilor Bunder stated that a student asked him to provide flyers to the Council as he was leaving the Honor's College this afternoon. The Purdue Muslim Student Association and Diversity Ambassadors Program is hosting a discussion on the intersection of identities. The details for the information is provided on the flyers.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business at this time, Councilor Leverenz moved for adjournment. President Bunder adjourned the meeting, the time being 4:39 p.m.