

CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE
COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES
AUGUST 6, 2018

The Common Council of the City of West Lafayette, Indiana, met in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Morton Community Center on August 6, 2018, at the hour of 6:30 p.m.

President Bunder called the meeting to order and presided.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: Peter Bunder, Nick DeBoer, Steve Dietrich, Jonathan Jones, Larry Leverenz, David Sanders, Gerald Thomas, and Norris Wang.

Absent: Gerry Keen

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

MINUTES

Councilor DeBoer moved for acceptance of the minutes of the July 5, 2018, Pre-Council Meeting, and the July 9, 2018, Common Council Meeting. Councilor Dietrich seconded the motion, and the motion passed by voice vote.

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

There were no comments.

REPORT OF THE APC REPRESENTATIVES

Councilor Leverenz stated that at the Wednesday, August 15, 2018, meeting there will be two items dealing with properties in West Lafayette. The first item will be the new Wabash Village, which is the old Marsh store, to ask for a four lot commercial subdivision. The second item will be for a rezone for Fowler Apartments from R3U and R2U to PDRS.

President Bunder asked why the tasks were necessary, to which Councilor Leverenz responded that the staff report is not on file yet so he is not sure.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: None

FINANCIAL REPORT

City Controller Gray stated that the City is 58% percent through the year, and the overall budget is at 58%, which includes encumbrances.

LEGAL REPORT

This report is on file.

SPECIAL REPORTS: None

Joint Board Report

Councilor DeBoer stated that he was unable to attend the last Joint Board meeting, but the administration sent a replacement for him.

Facilities Director Clark added that the meeting lasted approximately 3 minutes and the only business was to pay bills.

Project Update Report - City Hall and Indoor Recreation & Aquatics Center - Mayor John Dennis and RDC President Larry Oates

Mayor John Dennis explained that the City is looking to build a recreation center on the north end of town. Then, we are also looking to turn one of the most iconic and loved buildings in our community, the Morton Community Center, into City Hall. It was determined early on when the City Building was on Navajo Drive that the building was not in great shape and could not accommodate our needs. There were issues involving the quality of air within the building due to an aggressive invasion of bacteria and mold. The City offices were then moved to the Morton Center as a temporary location four years ago, and we have discovered that it is a neat building and a place to call home. In order to try to find a more suitable location, the City did go through other processes. After comparing the cost, value to the City, and what we are doing with the new downtown area, the Morton Center seemed to be the only logical choice. He stated that we will begin the process of utilizing the Morton Center structure as our new home, and it is projected to be a three year renovation. We are currently reviewing proposals for what will eventually be the developer. We have a creative way of assuring high quality and low cost. All of the department heads will be back under one roof. It has been proven that traveling for a meeting is inefficient. Sometimes the best business is done in a casual conversation that takes place in a hallway. Mayor Dennis stated that we strongly believe that this area is our new downtown core. The Morton Center will satisfy the needs of a City Hall and the needs of having a rentable component. The thing that we care about the most is our taxpayers' dollars. When compared to other sites, the cost to renovate the Morton Center is an easy decision. Mayor Dennis explained that it will require some effort on our part and from our department heads. During the process of construction we will have to relocate City Hall. We will utilize the Happy Hollow Middle School building and the City services will be relocated there for the duration of the construction project. Once the renovation is completed at the Morton Center, all of the City departments will move back under one roof. He assured everyone that the City will continue to have the rentable space and provide the services for those who are utilizing the Morton Center. In conjunction with the building plans for a new City Hall, will be the construction for a new Recreation Center. The City of West Lafayette is not geographically that large, but the population density is predominately based south of Sagamore Parkway and even more so north of Sagamore Parkway. By working in the Morton Center we are able to see how many of the citizens utilize the provided recreational services through the Parks and Recreation Program. In some cases those services are in conflict with each other because of the lack of space. It was incumbent upon us to be able to provide a recreation center that would accommodate the present and future needs of this community. The center will include rentable space, basketball courts, a pool, and other various spaces. The decision for location was predominately based on economics, which will be at the north end at the corner of Kalberer Road and Salisbury Street. Mayor Dennis noted that both projects are substantial and will continue with this renaissance period that we are experiencing. There are no intentions to bankrupt the City, and we are in a financial position to be able to complete these projects without incurring any additional tax on our citizenry. It will be able to be done in a way that will suit the needs that utilize our resources.

Redevelopment Commission President Larry Oates, explained the process that led to the City hiring the firm Pizzuti, who looked into determining what the possibilities were for a new City Hall building. Pizzuti worked for a time period of six months and were able to put together their

recommendations for City Hall. There were three locations that Pizzuti determined viable out of the eight locations that were evaluated. The first location was next to the future site of the Recreation Center in Cumberland Park. The Redevelopment Commission (RDC) looked in the available funding and determined it would not work. Cumberland Park is one of our greenspaces that sit within the urban area. If the Recreation Center and City Hall were both built in that space, the amount of asphalt needed just for the parking would take almost the entire greenspace of Cumberland. We also knew that there was a limited amount of funding available if the Recreation Center was built in the KCB TIF. The funding came about because all of our debts, except for the legacy bond issuance, will be paid off in January, which enables the possibility to issue new bonds that will cover the Recreation Center but not a new City Hall. The next location was the old City Hall site. Even though the City already owns the property, we have to recognize that the site is small. Due to the location being small, it would limit the size of the building. The experts estimated an approximate 16,000 square feet would be required for the current City Hall functions. The building would need to be multiple stories tall, and we would be hard pressed to fit enough parking spaces. The site also sits in the smallest TIF district in the City. We bring in \$400,000.00 a year in that TIF district, and we could not afford to build that size of building there. The only other option would be to enter a general obligation bond and have the tax payers increase their taxes to fund the bond. The final location option was to build at the current Morton Center. There were multiple reasons that the site would be sought as favorable. The building is iconic, and head of historic nature. The City also already owns the building and regardless where City Hall was built, Morton would need to be renovated to fix the current issues. The building is 32,000 square feet compared to the necessary 16,000 square feet to build a new City Hall. After relocating the athletic type events from Morton to the new Recreation Center, the City needs less than the 16,000 square feet for the current programs to continue in the building. The building also sits in the most financially viable TIF district. The approximate cost for the renovation is estimated around \$8.5 million. Mr. Oates stated that he foresees that the building will have asbestos, which will make the costs slightly larger. The plan is to have a bond issuance of up to \$12 million, which \$1 million will go towards financing costs and issuance of the bond. The RDC is in the process of issuing request for proposals (RFP) for three positions of the project. The first RFP is for an architect engineer to figure out how to do the project. The second RFP is for a construction manager as constructor, which is a new form of construction that has been made available within the last year to local City governments. The final RFP position will be a construction manager overseer, who will work directly for the City. This position will allow the City to keep track of exactly what is going on. The reason the new concept of Construction Manager as Constructor is desirable is because it allows the Architect Engineers at the table with the Construction Manager. Collaboration between these entities give the City the possibility to reduce the cost. The Construction Overseer will work directly for the City and will constantly be reviewing the budgets and funds. By all three of the positions being put together we believe that we can put together a building that is engineered for value, use, and needs for the City.

Councilor Sanders commended Mr. Oates on a clear and well-laid presentation.

Mr. Oates explained that bond coverage is the amount of money that we have in the TIF district to be able to pay the bond in case something would happen and cause us to pay the bond directly off. There is 235% coverage on the bond, which means we have 2.3 times the amount of money coming in each year from taxes to be able to pay the bond. The numbers are based on payments for 2018-2019 and does not include any of the additional growth that will go on within the TIF district. Typically when you put a bond out for sale you need to be at least 1.25%, but a good bond is considered to be in the 1.4 times coverage. Mr. Oates noted that this is a situation that we want everyone to feel comfortable about, and understand that the project will not put the City sideways.

Councilor Sanders asked where the City Council will meet over the next couple of years, to which Mr. Oates responded that the RDC is in the process of negotiating with the West Lafayette School Corporation to lease space at Happy Hollow Elementary. If we are able to come to an agreement we will house all City government offices and Morton classes at the school. It has not been determined as to where the City Council will officially meet, but there are multiple ideas within the building. In addition to working on the negotiations, the RDC is adding adequate funds into the 2019 budget to install fiber optic cables.

Mr. Oats moved on to discuss the new Recreation Center. Almost one year ago the City hired an expert to look at the site plan and need for the center. For 30 years now the Recreation Center has been on the strategic plan for the Parks Department. After the City began to discuss the original site plans with the experts there was a problem, which is that there is a regulated drain in the middle of the area. The drain connects a pond at a Purdue Research Foundation (PRF) area across Kalberer Road. Since the drain is regulated, the County has recognized the need for the drain to stay. If we built on that site, the City was looking at \$1 million of extra expenses to put the drain into a pipe and maintain it. The City began to look at the goal to maximize greenspace and provide a particular type of building. With that goal in mind, we looked at the current Park's barn that also needs to be renovated because of its age. We began to brainstorm with the idea of taking the barn down, and replacing it with the Recreation Center. It would allow the City to reuse the current parking lot on the site, with only the need to expand it slightly. It would allow us to dedicate three soccer fields, with the idea that there will be plantings along the roadway to keep soccer balls from going into the roads and have passive greenspace. In addition to the Parks Department offices, there is a lot of equipment stored in the barn. As part of the development plan for the recreation center, there is money set aside to build a new barn at a different location. As part of this initiative, we will move the community gardens by the high school soccer fields. We looked at three different possibilities as how the recreation center will be put together. The first one was to put a competition pool, the second was a Hybrid pool, and the third was no pool at all. After speaking with various groups in the community, we found that the West Lafayette High School and Harrison High School are building new pool facilities. Therefore, there is no desire to have a competition pool. After researching, the City realized that competition pools are 4-8 degrees cooler than Hybrid pools. A Hybrid pool also has zero entry, three to four lanes for potential lap swimming, and other amenities. A facility like that will cost the City an estimated \$31 million dollars. It would also include three gymnasiums, one of which would have a multi-use surface and two wooden competition courts. In addition, even though it has tentatively been laid out, the experts who will be designing the building can change it. The concept is to include rentable space for meetings and have adequate storage. The final option was to not have a pool. This option is viable, but from a user's standpoint, the percentage of residents that would use the facility drops significantly. By installing a Hybrid pool it would serve more people. Due to the space constraint with the Hybrid pool, a quarter mile running track would be on the second story above the pool. The difference between the Center having a Hybrid pool compared to no pool is approximately \$4 million. When we looked at the possibility of adding a pool later on the difference was in the ballpark of \$10 million instead. At that point, with the bonds already being issued, and since all TIF districts will end in 2040, if we don't move on this on this we will not have the wherewithal to do it. The bottom-line decision from the experts is the recreation center should have a Hybrid pool with three gymnasiums, and other amenities. We are also trying to build in greenness, and aspects to be solar powered. The ability for us to issue the bonds in the KCB TIF District is because we are coming to our last payment for Fire Station No. 3. The bond coverage will be 158%, and the bond will be no more than \$34 million. We are in extraordinary times, which causes building projects to rise in price. The final piece to the component is the trail system, which will include a trail that will connect City Hall to the Recreation Center. The initial plans are for the trail to come down Salisbury Street on the west side. We will take the existing sidewalks

and bike paths on the roadway, and turn it into a pedestrian/bike path as we have throughout the City. We will ensure that the crossing intersection at US 52 is safe. Mr. Oates discussed the various east-to-west trails that are currently along the potential new trail. These projects will be the next edition in making West Lafayette a wonderful place to live, which self-propels us for economic development.

Councilor Dietrich asked if Mr. Oates was at liberty to discuss who may share Happy Hollow School with us, to which Mr. Oates responded that it would be the West Lafayette School Corporation. The current administrative office building is not energy efficient. They would like to cut that cost, and we do not need the entire building.

Councilor Sanders suggested that consideration be given to two things regarding parking at Morton. One is to give consideration to a structure rather than a parking lot, which could leave more open space. The other is to think about charging stations for electric cars.

Mr. Oates stated that we are currently in the process of getting the ball rolling for these projects. We will open proposals for the aforementioned three positions at the next RDC meeting. Our goal is to issue contracts by September. The City is looking for a groundbreaking in early 2019.

President Bunder stated that these projects are really exciting. We are in an extremely unique financial situation thanks to the RDC and growth in downtown West Lafayette.

Councilor Dietrich asked what else the Council would be involved in for the process, to which Corporation Counsel Burns responded that bonding issues later down the road.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 18-18 To Amend Certain Portions Of The Unified Zoning Ordinance Of Tippecanoe County, Indiana, Designating The Time When The Same Shall Take Effect. (Pure Development, Inc.) (OR to NB) (Submitted by Area Plan Commission)

Councilor DeBoer read Ordinance No. 18-18 by title only.

Councilor DeBoer moved for passage of Ordinance No. 18-18 on first and only reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Leverenz.

Dan Teder (Reiling Teder & Schrier, LLC), representing the petitioner, noted that the petitioner's representative was present to answer questions. A favorable staff report from Area Plan Commission (APC) was received, with a unanimous yes vote. Mr. Teder noted that the Council voted 4-2 at the July meeting, but Corporation Counsel Eric confirmed that there needs to be five votes in either direction to move forward. Site plans and elevations were provided to the Council for the 1.6 acre tract that is on the southwest corner of Yeager Road and Kalberer Road. He stressed that not every rezone requires a planned development, which is the case for this particular matter. We have two choices for this tract. The first one is to leave it as a OR zone, which would allow a building on the site, multiple tenants, limited to the retail aspect of it, and would not allow a hair salon. If the zone changes from an OR zone to NB we would have one building, one or more tenants, more retail usage available, and include the hair salon. Additionally Purdue University is in full-support for this rezone. Purdue Research Foundation (PRF) would put a covenant on their purchase agreement stating that no gas station would occur on the site. PRF currently has covenants, conditions, and declarations for the entire Research Park. Within those covenants and conditions, it states that a gas station is not allowed. Due to the information already being included with the land, the restriction will no longer be necessary to include in this purchase agreement. A design plan review and construction plan review that are required when

building in the Purdue Research Park. This will include the location, landscape, lighting, utility, architectural plans, color, erosion, drainage, and signage. In Mr. Teder's opinion the planned development process that normally takes place is what we will be doing for this project with PRF. There is a great design in the park and has been very successful. We will only add to that success by adding this building with more amenities for people who work and live here.

Councilor Dietrich expressed his appreciation for the additional information that was provided. He explained that his concern with the initial proposal was that it was blank piece of paper requesting a modification to a zoning. We need to protect our zoning as much as possible. Councilor Dietrich asked for the distance between the entryways and the corner, to which Mr. Teder responded he did not have that information. They would need to go through a process to retrieve that information, as well as meet all of the standards of the ordinance. Mr. Teder confirmed for Councilor Dietrich that both entry ways will be egress and ingress.

There was no further discussion.

Clerk Booker called the roll call vote:

<u>Councilperson</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Bunder	Aye
DeBoer	Aye
Dietrich	Aye
Jones	Aye
Keen	Absent
Leverenz	Aye
Sanders	Aye
Thomas	Aye
Wang	Aye

Clerk Booker stated that the vote was 8 AYES and 0 NAYS.

President Bunder announced that Ordinance No. 18-18 passed on first and only reading.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 20-18 An Ordinance Providing For Temporary Loans (Submitted by Controller)

Councilor Dietrich read Ordinance No. 20-18 by title only.

Councilor DeBoer moved for passage of Ordinance No. 20-18 on first reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Leverenz.

City Controller Gray stated that this temporary loan is from the Motor Vehicle Highway Fund to the General Fund, in an amount of \$2 million for the second half of the year.

The Council discussed that there will be a suspension for a second reading this evening.

Mr. Gray confirmed for President Bunder that this request is done annually twice per year.

There was no further discussion.

Clerk Booker called the roll call vote:

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, August 6, 2018, CONTINUED

Councilperson	Vote
Bunder	Aye
DeBoer	Aye
Dietrich	Aye
Jones	Aye
Keen	Absent
Leverenz	Aye
Sanders	Aye
Thomas	Aye
Wang	Aye

Clerk Booker stated that the vote was 8 AYES and 0 NAYS.

Councilor DeBoer motioned to suspend the rules for Ordinance No. 20-18 to have a second reading. The motion was seconded by Councilor Leverenz, and the motion passed by voice vote.

There was no further discussion.

Clerk Booker called the roll call vote:

Councilperson	Vote
Bunder	Aye
DeBoer	Aye
Dietrich	Aye
Jones	Aye
Keen	Absent
Leverenz	Aye
Sanders	Aye
Thomas	Aye
Wang	Aye

Clerk Booker stated that the vote was 8 AYES and 0 NAYS.

President Bunder announced that Ordinance No. 20-18 passed on second and final reading.

Ordinance No. 21-18 An Ordinance Setting The 2018 City Budget And Setting The 2018 Tax Levy On Property And Tax Rate (Submitted by Controller) PUBLIC HEARING

Councilor DeBoer read Ordinance No. 21-18 by title only.

Councilor DeBoer moved for passage of Ordinance No. 21-18 on first reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Leverenz.

City Controller Gray requested a public hearing for Ordinance No. 21-18, as advertised. The budget for this year includes a 2.5% cost of living increase for employee salaries. There is a 10% increase to cover insurance costs for general liability, workers comp, medical, dental, and vision. Since the budget came out, there has been additional information on medical insurance that is still in flux. We are continuing to work on getting further details, but the increase is looking to be closer to 15%-20% increase rather than a 10% increase. The department heads did a great job on keeping the non-personnel portion of the budget flat. He explained that he Engineering Department is currently two departments, which include the Building Commission Department.

We are looking into splitting the Department into two this year, but as far as the budget is concerned they will continue to be together in the Engineering portion. The Department is looking at adding an additional inspector, so there is a \$73,000.00 increase to cover the salary and benefits. There is an additional \$14,000.00 for outside services that may be necessary as the Department is split in two. Moving on, Controller Gray stated that the Facilities Department will be decreasing \$55,000.00 for utilities. The Police Department has no head count increase, but we are moving the salary for an employee in the Neighborhood Resource Team (NRT) that is currently being paid from the EDIT funds. The Police Department budget will increase by \$25,000.00 for the possibility of gasoline price increases. The Fire Department budget will increase by \$34,000.00 to cover training and associated travel. The Finance Department will be adding a Deputy Controller position, which was approved earlier this year, in an increased amount of \$30,000.00. Consulting fees that were initially put in for the Munis implementation for the Finance Department will be decreased by \$36,000.00. The General Fund shows a total of \$16,409,657.00 and includes a circuit breaker amount of \$1,617.367 for a net amount on the expense side of \$14,792,290.00. The Parks Department has decreased by an estimated \$18,000.00 for the consulting of the master plan that has been completed. The Cumulative Capital Development Fund shows that IT fees continue to increase, so the budget reflects an increase of \$60,000.00. The fund also has an increase of \$37,000.00 for trail and park improvements. Police Pension has increased the death benefit to two payouts each year, rather than the previously budgeted payout of one. Also, the Fire Pension Fund increased the death benefit to a \$12,000.00 payout. We moved \$80,000.00 from the Local Roads and Streets (LRS) fund, which was for construction, to the Motor Vehicle Highway (MVH) fund. Mr. Gray noted that the Motor Vehicle Highway (MVH) fund has \$1,140,000.00 for the Cherry Lane extension, which the RDC will be paying \$600,000.00 of the amount. The Economic Development fund basically stayed the same. The maintenance for the parking garage has an increased expense of \$186,000.00, but we have taken \$195,000.00 out of the budget for a one-time project fee that is no longer needed. Rental Housing Inspection will not be adding any additional employees, but an inspector was paid from the WWTU that will now be paid from the RHI fund. The grand total for the budget is \$25,700,453.00. There is a scrivener's error in the document that reads \$25,700,543.00, instead of \$25,700,453.00. The funds to be raised is estimated in the amount of \$12,529,026.00. The calculated tax rate is at \$1.2082, which is estimated on an assessed value of \$1,044,000,000.00 in the City. However, that amount is low compared to the City currently being at \$1,174,000,000.00, which is done by working with the tax rates. The tax rate will go down because our certified assessed value is higher than the current amount.

President Bunder asked for Mr. Gray to highlight the Cherry Lane project because that, combined with the Newman Road Project, will make our highway system better. Mr. Gray responded that the Engineering Department would be available to discuss more details. The project came about while working on our Community Crossing Projects. It appears that the funds will be available, so we wanted to get that into the budget as well. These funds were not initially discussed at our budget meetings.

Councilor Thomas asked why our health insurance broker was not as willing to be generous compared to last year, to which Mr. Gray responded that there were a number of claims that have increased. The City is still with the Medical Trust, who have proven to be very beneficial over the last several years. Last year we were on a 0% increase, but the number of claims is one of the factors that is involved with the computation.

In efforts to understand, Councilor Sanders asked for clarification in regards to the City anticipating higher healthcare costs, but not budgeting for those costs. Controller Gray responded that the 10% in the budget had already been set up and discussed. If the additional 8% needs to be added, the City will get the final numbers before the next Council meeting.

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, August 6, 2018, CONTINUED

Councilor DeBoer moved to open a public hearing on Ordinance No. 21-18. The motion was seconded by Councilor Dietrich and the motion passed by voice vote.

There were no comments.

Councilor DeBoer moved to close a public hearing on Ordinance No. 21-18. The motion was seconded by Councilor Dietrich and the motion passed by voice vote.

There was no further discussion.

Clerk Booker called the roll call vote:

Councilperson	Vote
Bunder	Aye
DeBoer	Aye
Dietrich	Aye
Jones	Aye
Keen	Absent
Leverenz	Aye
Sanders	Aye
Thomas	Aye
Wang	Aye

Clerk Booker stated that the vote was 8 AYES and 0 NAYS.

President Bunder announced that Ordinance No. 21-18 passed on first reading.

Resolution No. 12-18 A Resolution Of The Common Council Of The City Of West Lafayette, Indiana, Urging The Indiana State Legislature, Our Governor And All United States Senate And Congressional Representatives Of The Peoples Of Indiana To Join With Our Community And Pass Legislation To Keep Guns Out Of The Hands Of Violent Criminals, Domestic Abusers, And Severely Mentally Ill Persons By Closing The Loopholes In The Federal Background Check System And Strengthening State Domestic Violence Laws (Submitted by Mayor John Dennis)

Councilor DeBoer read Resolution No. 12-18 by title only.

Councilor DeBoer moved for passage of Resolution No. 12-18 on first and only reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Dietrich.

Mayor Dennis acknowledged and welcomed Moms Demand Action to the meeting. The purpose of the resolution is fairly overt. We live in a society that in some cases has lost its focus. He stated that there are individuals in attendance this evening who have experienced that first hand. This resolution is in no means a challenge to the Second Amendment, but a challenge to citizens to express themselves with the understanding that common sense needs to apply to our existing gun laws. It is disturbing that under current law in Indiana a convicted domestic abuser has the ability to get a gun. It is alarming that someone who has been documented as being seriously mentally ill is able to get a gun, as well as the illegal guns in community. As an example, he brought up the carnage that happened this past weekend in Chicago. There were over 40 people shot, and the Chicago Chief of Police noted that it was predominantly because of illegal guns. Equally alarming, is how we have advanced with our technology to be able to print a handgun. These guns are undetectable, single shot, disposable, and citizens have the ability to make them at home with the necessary equipment. This is a time that we are not only looking to do the

politically right thing, but also the morally right thing. This legislation will not change the constitution, but it does send a message that the citizens of West Lafayette are concerned. Mayor Dennis stated that, in conjunction with this resolution, there are several speakers in attendance this evening. There is a student from West Lafayette High School, Emergency Room Dr. Jodi Ghosh, Pastor Joseph Seager, and a statement by Sarah Rogers that will be read by Kathy Parker. Mayor Dennis stated that he will be ceding the Mayor's report this evening, and Beth Tran will be presenting a five minute version of the Be Smart Program for gun storage.

Nate Nelmon (2808 Ashland Street), stated that he is a student at West Lafayette Junior Senior High School. We should not be forced to live in a constant state of fear as the threat of shootings grows more prevalent. Especially since there is an abundance of clear solutions available. We must make it harder for criminals and the mentally ill to obtain weapons of massacre. Most school shootings have been carried out with firearms that were procured legally. Implanting stronger background checks is an absolute necessity to keep ourselves safe. Strengthening red flag laws in automatic background checks on all guns purchases is an immensely positive step forward. This resolution promotes common sense gun legislation. Mr. Nelmon stated that he was fortunate to have a leading role in the organization of the student walk-out last semester. Hundreds of students came together on April 20, 2018, which was the anniversary of Columbine to have their voices heard. Even a non-binding resolution shows a commitment to protecting students. While there are many additional steps, which are crucial to achieving effective policy solutions, the powerful impact of showing local support for change has a ripple effect. The risk of having a mass shooting feels more like inevitability the longer we wait. There has already been a shooting incident at Purdue University. Tragedy also struck Noblesville, Indiana, two months ago when middle school teacher and student were both shot. Expanded background checks are the single greatest factor in savings lives. Teachers cannot be asked to wrestle armed gunmen to the ground. Students should not have to undergo lockdown drills for their entire academic careers. Automatic background checks are not an unreasonable precaution when it comes to instruments used specifically to massacre. Mr. Nelmon expressed his appreciation to be able to share his views and comments. He urged each Council member to vote for the gun safety resolution.

Dr. Jody Ghosh (no address provided), introduced herself as she noted that she has been practicing emergency medicine for 29 years. Patients with gunshot wounds never become routine. She has trained in Philadelphia and worked in Chicago for 12 years. Doctors and medical staff have been trained to jump into action and make every effort to save life and limb. She presented a depiction to the audience of what a modern resuscitation looks like. Using fancy tools, breathing tubes, IVs, and expensive medications, they try their best to save these patients. Many times their best is not enough though. The emotional trauma is hard on both the families and medical staff. Prevention is the key factor. Every major medical group in the United States has recommended background checks on all gun sales as a critical remedy to this epidemic of gun violence by keeping guns out of the hands of violent felons, abusers, and those who are adjudicated by a Court to be a threat to themselves and others. This includes the American Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Emergency Physicians, American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American College of Physicians, American College of Surgeons, American Psychiatric Association, and the American Medical Association. It is amazing that this many doctors can agree on anything, but this is an important issue. Universal background checks on all gun sales and keeping guns out of the hands of domestic abusers will aid prevention of these types of injuries that are much too costly in terms of human lives and resources. It takes a massive amount of resources to save one life. Dr. Ghosh stated that she is also a mom of three kids and worries about them. Her daughter is 25 and lives in Los Angeles. Two weeks ago she called her daughter frantically to ensure that she was not shopping at her regular Trader Joes where the gunman was holding

hostages. Dr. Ghosh expressed her appreciation to be able to share her views and comments. She urged each Council member to vote for this common sense gun safety laws.

Joseph Sager (3016 Decatur Street), stated that he has only resided in West Lafayette for two years, but has been around guns his whole life. He was raised to respect guns for the way and which they can provide a meal through responsible harvesting of forced denizens. Hunter safety classes were a rite of passage, which indicated he was ready to hold his own firearm in hopes of providing meat and participating in the sharing of stories around the campfire later in the evening. Now as a parent of children who are coming of an age to sit in the woods with him, he sees with new eyes the enormity of the task of passing along a similar respect for the undertaking in the corresponding responsibilities that follow. It is critical for him to emphasize safe handling, storage, and understanding of guns. He wishes that all people could aspire to such a simple hope for gun ownership and use. Mr. Sager stated that he was in high school when the Columbine shootings happened. At the time it seemed a horrible aberration that brought the much needed attention to mental health, but the school shootings have continued over time. There have been 200 school shootings now, and we can no longer remember all of the names of the mind numbing acts of violence committed by our children and against our children. Mr. Sager stated that he is person who has high trust in his community, but it pains his heart to think of the growing fear of violence his children will experience as they enter middle schools and high schools with metal detectors and security cards. He can understand people wishing to completely overhaul the laws around guns, and that time may come. For now we should consider closing the logical background loopholes of gun show and online sales, while raising the bar for domestic abusers, will move the conversation forward. This is the bare minimum of what our elected officials can do for the world. It will not eliminate all of the violence, but some. We will never be able to completely legislate people into right action, but with some common sense boundaries we might be able to talk. We need authentic conversations beyond choreograph political theaters. As a pastor, Mr. Sager believes the teaching of a common laborer from Nazareth still speaks to our context today, "Love your neighbor as yourself." We all have neighbors. The effort in checking in on one another, loving the other, carrying beyond the everyday transaction of the mundane interaction regardless of belief or political affiliation are what builds a community that we want to call home. A community that is worth sacrificing for, one that we wish for our children, and one that we wish responsible gun owners would submit to common sense background checks. He concluded by urging the Council to vote in favor of the common sense gun safety laws.

Kathy Parker, on behalf of Sarah Rogers, stated that she would like to exclude her address for safety concerns. Ms. Rogers is a survivor of domestic violence. Years ago she become an apprentice to a gunsmith, who was also an old friend of hers. After one year of working with him she rented a room in the basement of his house next to the work rooms. Some of their friends lived in rooms upstairs. Everyone was gun owners who had taken safety courses, went to the shooting range on a regular basis, and were members of the National Rifle Association. Over the next three years she was terrorized, raped, beaten, and threatened into silence on the lives of family and friends. Her own weapon, which some Indiana law makers argue can be used to protect domestic violence victims, was taken from her. In order to punctuate what her abuser could do to her if she stepped out of line, he would fire shots through her bedroom door while she was sleeping. After restraining orders and other terrible things that continued to happen over the next several years, he was involved in an altercation that ended with him being admitted to a mental health institution. His gun collection is currently being held by his brother, and waiting for him upon his release. It is unsure if or when he will get out at this time. Even though he would not be able to pass a background check to purchase new guns from federally licensed dealers, the loopholes in the law allow him to purchase guns online or through private transactions. Besides baring the order from a judge, there is currently nothing to stop him from obtaining his

arsenal. The resolution before the Council today calls for expanded background checks, and to close the loopholes that allow domestic abusers from acquiring weapons, which will help keep communities safer. She has moved and changed her name, which is the only reason why she is not constantly looking over her shoulder. She still enjoys firing weapons and trying to figure out how different designs functions. However, she also think about how little numerous gun owners understand about the power of these weapons, and how easy it is for one person to inflict damage on other humans with them. She has been on the other side of the weapons she enjoys firing. Yet she still fears them because one person decided to use them to get whatever he wanted as he controlled her life. She believes strongly in the right to own guns, but also feels gun owners should be responsible for the weapons they have and held accountable for how they are used. Laws requiring a mental health examination prior to purchase would have saved her three years of her life. Preventing ownership of weapons from someone else with mental illness and a history of domestic violence may save a life in the future. Background checks at the point of sale should be utilized across the board to prevent dangerous people from accessing firearms.

Councilor Dietrich asked if the Manchin-Toomey or the Thompson-King bills, regarding gun background checks, are actively in front of a legislative body, to which Mayor Dennis responded not that he is aware. Council Dietrich stated that as he looks through this resolution he looks at it from a different point of view compared to others. He asked that as they discuss the point of sale, is it the same as them selling and dealing drugs as an exchange, or does there have to be a monetary exchange. Mayor Dennis responded that it is intended for both. Councilor Dietrich noted that he can willingly support this if we are truly meaning looking at those two legislatives because those did exclude the family transition of weapons. This is a non-binding resolution, but at least it draws a line in the sand for West Lafayette.

Councilor DeBoer thanked Mayor Dennis for bringing the resolution to the Council. He stated that he wished the Council was able to do more than just this resolution. He reminded the Council that Section 65.30 of the City Code makes it illegal to shoot a gun in the City. He would like to see this stay in the books when the City Code is updated.

Council Leverenz emphasized that he is aware that it is illegal for a convicted felon to own a gun, but asked if there are any other designated groups of people who are not allowed to one. Mayor Dennis responded that there are certain conditions for people on parole and they do not necessarily have to be a felon. Councilor Leverenz noted that almost anyone, regardless of condition, can legally own a gun. Mayor Dennis agreed with Councilor Leverenz, but added that a judge could make an opinion on the circumstances. Councilor Leverenz added that these circumstances are another reason why we need to vote affirmative for this resolution, which will allow us to be able to consider the other groups. Mayor Dennis concluded that conversations begin with small steps like this resolution. West Lafayette has proven to be a progressive community, and this is a great step in the right direction.

Councilor Thomas expressed his appreciation to the representatives from Moms Demand Action, who are in attendance this evening. He shared how this topic is personal to him since his family was a victim of a random gun violence, which ended the life of his cousin.

Councilor Sanders stated that another concern is the confrontation of police officers with members of the community. Police officers would have more confidence if people with mental health issues were not armed. This would result in fewer shooting incidents, and incidents where police officers have shot civilians because of their general concern for safety. Councilor Sanders noted that while he supports this resolution, the problem is that we have a State legislator that believes in preempting the ability to legislate for local communities. This is a fundamental problem. In future discussions, we need to discuss the larger issue of preemption.

Councilor Wang discussed how he appreciated and honored the comments from everyone this evening. As a former prosecutor, Councilor Wang has prosecuted hundreds of cases involving gun violence. It is disturbing to see how easy it is to get access to gun. In the past, he made it a policy that an individual would surrender their firearm upon a conviction. As a judge he made a point to ensure that they have a record. The majority of private transactions actually occur within what is referred to as the gun show loophole. Our Constitution was written by our founding fathers, and the courts and legislatures want to change it. The Constitution is short of a repeal, and does not allow us to take guns away from everyone. The courts and legislatures have been given the ability to give conditions of owning a gun. Councilor Wang noted that he does believe in the Constitution, and would love to see our legislatures have more guts to do what is right.

Councilor Jones expressed his appreciation to the representatives from Moms Demand Action for their presence this evening. He stated that the Devil is always in the details on their implantation. The ongoing conversation after this resolution needs to be focused on those details and what is actually done to prevent these acts of violence. This resolution sites two bills that are dead in the water, which then leaves it open for the legislators to attempt to do something. His intention is to abstain from voting this evening. He would like to participate on this ongoing conversation to find out what we can do. He stated that the resolution is lacking details, but looks forward to ongoing conversation.

Steven Miller (821 W. Jefferson Blvd. Mishawaka, IN) stated that he would like to clarify a few points. Mr. Miller noted that he was involved in a South Bend resolution, which is similar to the one tonight. There are many things that could have been included in the resolution, but they wanted to focus on the most comprehensive type of measures that could be taken by our State or Federal legislatures. In response to possible vagueness, it is up to the legislatures to come up with the points to help guide with what is comfortable to them. The Manchin-Toomy bill has a clause to allow more casuals transfers between family members. Every state has the ability to be different, and if it comes to our State Legislation they will do something to close the loopholes in a way that suits the people of Indiana. Our goal is that these type of resolutions will begin conversations for our legislatures, and they feel prompted to become serious about the problem. He noted that he is a survivor of gun violence, but has lost two family members. Indiana does have a red flag law, and more people need to know about it.

Lyle Janey (2224 Longspur Dr.) expressed his appreciation towards the Council for the support and Mayor Dennis for his driving leadership for the resolution. As much as we all want to see change, we are not affecting change if we sit back and watch. We can only affect change by engaging. Mr. Janey urged all of the Council members to vote affirmative for the resolution.

Sadie Harper Scott (2964 State Rd. 26 W.) stated that she just traveled to Philadelphia to bury her 24 year old cousin, who was killed by gun violence. Ms. Scott is in full support of this resolution.

There was no further discussion.

Clerk Booker called the roll call vote:

Councilperson	Vote
Bunder	Aye
DeBoer	Aye
Dietrich	Aye
Jones	Abstain

Councilperson	Vote
Keen	Absent
Leverenz	Aye
Sanders	Aye
Thomas	Aye
Wang	Aye

Clerk Booker stated that the vote was 7 AYES, 1 ABSTENTION, and 0 NAYS.

President Bunder announced that Resolution No. 12-18 passed on first and only reading.

Resolution No. 13-18 A Resolution Approving The Second Supplement To The Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Between The City Of West Lafayette And Purdue University Concerning The U.S. 231 Annexation (Newman Road Overpass) (Submitted by Mayor John Dennis)

Councilor Dietrich read Resolution No. 13-18 by title only.

Councilor DeBoer moved for passage of Resolution No. 13-18 on first and only reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Dietrich

Mayor Dennis explained that this is for the underpass that feeds from Newman Road. The underpass is older than the combined ages of this collective body. The underpass is uniquely constructed on a curve, and it is extremely narrow. As a former resident of the area, Mayor Dennis stated that it was his pass-thru when traveling to work. There is not enough room for two vehicles to pass at one time. The ground underneath is constantly in rough shape because of the water that drips down from the overpass. The underpass presents to be a hazard and safety issue with the number of accidents over time.

Mayor Dennis confirmed for Councilor DeBoer that the City will be receiving money for this project.

Director of Development Carlson explained that this is an opportunity that the City has been looking into for the last two years. If the opportunity, which was presented at the end of 2016, had come through it would have been monumental. The Economic Development Corner had named it Project Eagle, and we were narrowed down to one of four out of 136 sites for Blue Origin. Unfortunately, the company decided to go to Huntsville, Alabama rather than coming here. However, we had the opportunity to spend time with their site selectors from Mississippi and Georgia. The site they were interested in was the Aerospace district on the southwest side of town. The only way to access it would be the underpass at Newman Road, which would pose a problem to be able to manufacture rocket engines. Mr. Mullis, who was from the site selection group, instructed us to not allow another site selector come back without a plan to replace the bridge. We have been working diligently on ways to be able to accomplish his recommendation. It has been determined that we have an opportunity to use State Funds to replace the bridge. This opportunity will allow light industrial use, which will bring additional jobs. We have put the same team together that worked on the State Street Project as we look further into replacing the bridge.

Councilor Sanders discussed how the bridge has been a problem for a long time. He commended the City on handling the issues.

There was no further discussion.

Clerk Booker called the roll call vote:

Councilperson	Vote
Bunder	Aye
DeBoer	Aye
Dietrich	Aye
Jones	Aye
Keen	Absent
Leverenz	Aye
Sanders	Aye
Thomas	Aye
Wang	Aye

Clerk Booker stated that the vote was 8 AYES and 0 NAYS.

President Bunder announced that Resolution No. 13-18 passed on first and only reading.

REPORT BY THE MAYOR

President Bunder announced that Mayor Dennis has ceded his time, to allow Beth Tran with an audio visual presentation.

Beth Tran stated that American kids are 11 times more likely to be killed by gun violence, than children in any other developed countries. An additional 300 children gain access to an unsecured firearm, discharging it, and killing or injuring themselves or others in the process. You can add 500 kids to that number for suicide with a gun. We are not immune in this community. Indiana is the seventh highest unintentional shooting for children in the Nation. Ms. Tran leads the Be Smart Program for the Moms Demand Action chapter in the Greater Lafayette area. She is also a professor and a mother to a teenage daughter. She got involved with Moms Demand Action because she was tired of the endless headlines about children shooting children. The Be Smart Program is an educational program from an outreach effort to bring together all adults concerned about kids, guns, and safety. The program's goal is to help reduce the incidents of unintentional shootings of children and children suicide from firearms. The Be Smart Program relies on a simple acronym that uses "SMART" to put forward best practices and encourage conversations. S stands for secure guns in homes and vehicles, M stands for model responsible gun owners, A stands for ask about the storage of firearms in other homes, R stands for recognizing the risks of teen suicide, and T stands for tell your peers, friends, and family about the Be Smart Program to begin the conversations about firearm safety as a community.

COMMUNICATIONS

► Councilor Dietrich reported that Jan Myers had a recent accident that resulted in her breaking her back. He extended well wishes for her.

► Councilor Sanders reported that the reason why he has a chain fence in front of him for the last two meetings is because the existence of Xenophobia imprisons all of us.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

► No comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business at this time, Councilor DeBoer moved for adjournment, and President Bunder adjourned the meeting the time being 8:27 p.m.