

CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE
COMMON COUNCIL
PRE-COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 4, 2016

The Common Council of the City of West Lafayette, Indiana, met in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Morton Community Center on January 4, 2016, at the hour of 5:00 p.m.

President Bunder called the meeting to order and presided.

COUNCIL MEMBER OATHS OF OFFICE

Mayor Dennis administered the Oaths of Office to the Council members in attendance, noting that David Sanders is absent. Mayor Dennis expressed his appreciation to former West Lafayette Mayor Sonya Margerum for being here for this historic moment in the City as we transition to a Class 2 City.

Present: Peter Bunder, Nick DeBoer, Steve Dietrich, Azeem Jha, Gerry Keen, Larry Leverenz, Gerald Thomas, and Norris Wang.

Absent: David Sanders

Also present were Mayor John Dennis, Corporation Counsel Eric Burns, Clerk Sana Booker, IT Director Brad Alexander, Public Works Director David Buck, Police Lieutenant Arthur Choate, Facilities Director Tom Clark, Parks Superintendent Jan Fawley, Human Resources Director Diane Foster, City Controller Peter Gray, Fire Chief Tim Heath, WWTU Director David Henderson, and Director of Development Chandler Poole.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Council President Bunder stated that we should hold the elections at Pre-Council for a Council President and the election of a Vice President.

a. Council President Nomination and Election

President Bunder opened the floor for nominations for Council President.

Councilor Thomas motioned to nominate Councilor Bunder as Council President. Councilor Dietrich seconded the motion, and the motion passed by voice vote.

b. Council Vice-President Nomination and Election

Councilor DeBoer motioned to nominate Councilor Dietrich as Council Vice-President. Councilor Thomas seconded the motion, and the motion passed by voice vote.

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

President Bunder stated that new for this year, the reports of the City Departments will be on file in the Clerk's Office. This brings up the matter of how we want to proceed with the committees that have previously existing on the Council.

Corporation Counsel Burns stated that the committees were appointed by the Mayor because he was the presiding officer, but under Class 2 City status it would be done by the Council itself.

President Bunder stated that if any of the Council members have an interest in any one of the several committees that are listed on the agenda, that they send him their first and second priority

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and try to match them up. He noted that it would seem that Councilor Jha would be best at Purdue Relations. The only other committee that meets regularly is Budget and Finance, and that has been chaired by Councilor Dietrich.

REPORT OF APC REPRESENTATIVE

President Bunder stated that we now have two representatives for the Area Plan Commission (APC). He asked if it would be appropriate for Councilor Keen to deliver the report, since he is about to become President of the APC, and Councilor Keen agreed.

FINANCIAL REPORT

President Bunder asked if we will have City Controller Gray come to the microphone each time.

Mayor Dennis responded that it will be up to the leisure of the Council. If they would like a monthly report that can be done. A lot of the items that he would report comes before the Council anyway, but specific questions can be addressed.

Councilor DeBoer asked if he would file a report similar to the other reports.

Mayor Dennis responded that there can be, but there should be specific parameters as to what the Council would like in the report, such as numbers or more narrative.

Controller Gray stated that there are all sorts of different reports that we can prepare. There will be communication with the Council throughout the month, and we do not want to replicate that too many times. He stated that he can work with however this develops.

President Bunder stated that the Council can let Controller Gray know about any questions at the Pre-Council meetings.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 47-15 (Second Amended) An Ordinance Of The City Of West Lafayette, Indiana, Authorizing The Issuance Of The City Of West Lafayette, Indiana, Taxable Economic Development Revenue Bonds, Series 2016 (State Street Redevelopment Project), And Crediting The Proceeds Thereof To West Lafayette Community Development Corporation, And Authorizing And Approving Other Actions In Respect Thereto (Sponsored by Mayor Dennis)

President Bunder read Ordinance No. 47-15 (Second Amended) by title only. He asked how much information the new members want or need on this ordinance.

Mayor Dennis stated that for Pre-Council purposes, the legislation can be introduced and then let the Councilors make the call on that. The oddity is that this is the first meeting of this body and some of them do not have the historical knowledge that others do. He stated that his hope is that because everything is online that they can research that, but the details on these items would require many thick binders to get a general understanding of the State Street project and other items involved with that. He stated that we will respond to whatever request is made of us in hopes of providing the necessary information for an informed decision. He stated that as a semblance of guidance, we did not start here; this is the end of the tail on this. He stated that as a matter of grace, if someone is not comfortable making a decision one way or the other they could always abstain. He stated that he is not saying that as a cop-out; he is saying it as an option. He stated that he wants to provide anything needed to make an informed decision.

Counsel Burns noted that bond counsel will be here, and it may be convenient for all of the members to hear a brief overview of the structure. Ordinance No. 47-15 is part of financial

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structure that underpins the State Street project, and Rich Starkey will be happy to provide an overview.

Councilor Dietrich stated that he is curious as to whether or not the three CSO events we had over the last two weeks would have been captured by our new 96-inch pipe, and WWTU Director Henderson responded yes.

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 48-15 An Ordinance Of The City Of West Lafayette, Indiana, Approving A Note Of The West Lafayette Redevelopment Commission And A Sublease Between The West Lafayette Community Development Corporation And The City Of West Lafayette Redevelopment Commission, And Addressing Matters Related Thereto (Sponsored by Mayor Dennis)

President Bunder read Ordinance No. 48-15 by title only. He asked for confirmation that Mr. Starkey can comment on this item as well, and Counsel Burns responded that he can.

There was no further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 01-16 An Ordinance To Approve Blanket Bond Coverage For 2016 (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer)

President Bunder read Ordinance No. 01-16 by title only. He noted that many of these ordinances are small bookkeeping items. He asked if any of them will need a second reading at this meeting.

Counsel Burns stated that they would, and he explained that to do two readings of an ordinance at the same meeting, it calls for a suspension of the rules. In order to have a suspension of the rules it is necessary for there to be two-thirds majority. He confirmed for Councilor DeBoer that all of the new ordinances, items a through e, will need two readings.

Councilor DeBoer asked if that means that the rules will need to be suspended five times, and Counsel Burns responded that it does.

Mayor Dennis asked if the Council can motion to suspend all or does it have to go per ordinance.

Counsel Burns responded that it could be done for all five as long as there is no objection. It can be suspended for all five by consent. Counsel Burns and Councilor DeBoer discussed the wording of the suspension.

Mayor Dennis noted that it was Controller Gray who caught that.

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 02-16 An Ordinance To Name Depositories For The City Of West Lafayette (Sponsored by Mayor Dennis)

President Bunder read Ordinance No. 02-16 by title only.

There was no discussion.

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Ordinance No. 03-16 An Ordinance To Extend The Time For Repayment Of Temporary Loans Outstanding From 2015 (Sponsored by Mayor Dennis)

President Bunder read Ordinance No. 03-16 by title only. He noted that this is a fairly regular management of our funds.

Councilor Dietrich asked if we are going to deal with the amended version.

Counsel Burns responded yes, there is an amendment to add on the SAFER Grant funds to the original, which only contained the Self Insurance Fund.

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 04-16 An Ordinance Providing For Temporary Loans (Sponsored by Mayor Dennis)

President Bunder read Ordinance No. 04-16 by title only.

There was no discussion.

Resolution No. 01-16 A Resolution To Establish Cash Change Funds For The City Clerk And The City Controller (Sponsored by Mayor Dennis)

President Bunder read Resolution No. 01-16 by title only.

Counsel Burns noted that this is a one-read item.

There was no further discussion.

REPORT BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Dennis stated that he will not have a report for Council, but he wants to note that there will be a sign-up sheet for people who want to address the Council during Citizens Comments.

COMMUNICATIONS

► Councilor Bunder stated that it may be that this section on Communications will include material from the people who are on the new committees, since the reports are on file with the Clerk. An example would be if the Personnel Committee wanted to honor a new hire, it could be here.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business at this time, Councilor Keen moved for adjournment. President Bunder adjourned the meeting, the time being 5:23 p.m.