

CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE  
COMMON COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 3, 2014

The Common Council of the City of West Lafayette, Indiana, met in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Morton Community Center on November 3, 2014, at the hour of 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Dennis called the meeting to order and presided.

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

Present: Bunder, Burch, DeBoer, Dietrich, Hunt, and Thomas.

Absent: Keen

Also present were City Attorney Burns, Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes, Public Works Director Buck, Facilities Director Clark, Police Chief Dombkowski, Human Resources Director Foster, Fire Chief Heath, WWTU Director Henderson, Street Commissioner Payne, and Director of Development Poole.

#### MINUTES

Councilor Burch moved for acceptance of the minutes of the October 2, 2014, Pre-Council Meeting; the October 6, 2014, Common Council Meeting; and the October 13, 2014, Special Common Council Meeting. Councilor Thomas seconded the motion, and the motion passed by voice vote.

#### COMMITTEE STANDING REPORTS

##### STREET, SANITATION, AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT UTILITY

Councilor Bunder presented this report, which will be on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office.

##### PUBLIC SAFETY AND ORDINANCE

There was no report.

##### PURDUE RELATIONS

Councilor DeBoer reported on events at Purdue University.

##### PARKS AND RECREATION

Councilor Hunt presented this report, which will be on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office.

Mayor Dennis announced that we have found a new Parks Superintendent. Her name is Janet Fawley and she joins us from being the Parks Administrator in Logansport, where she served for 14 years. He stated that she brings a wealth of experience in parks, recreation, and trails, and she has a degree from Michigan State.

##### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Councilor Thomas presented this report, which will be on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office.

##### PERSONNEL

Councilor Burch presented this report, which will be on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

There was no report.

REPORT OF APC REPRESENTATIVE

There was no report.

SPECIAL REPORTS: None

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

a. Police Officer of the Quarter Award

Police Chief Dombkowski explained that the Police Officer of the Quarter Award is reserved for when somebody has a special quarter. We had one this time with Detective Fred Townsend. Chief Dombkowski described some of Detective Townsend's recent accomplishments and duties in the Department, and he noted that Detective Townsend was nominated by Lieutenant Troy Harris. Chief Dombkowski presented the award and plaque to Detective Townsend.

Mayor Dennis stated that he knows the effort that it takes to bring a situation from an active crime scene to an arrest to prosecution, and he respects what Detective Townsend does and the tenaciousness of which he does it, and the time he invests.

Detective Townsend stated that he is honored for this nomination, and he expressed his appreciation to Lieutenant Harris, his family, and his work family. He stated that his is a job that not one person can do alone; there are many hands involved in every case, and he appreciates the support he gets in everything that he does.

b. 2015 Council Schedule

Mayor Dennis stated that a draft 2015 Council schedule was distributed at the Pre-Council meeting. There were some issues that the Council felt needed some contemplation.

Councilor Hunt stated that it is difficult to have a quorum for the Pre-Council meeting before the January Council meeting and there was some thought about changing that to be held before the Council meeting on the same day. She stated that there is also an issue every four years when the Council meeting falls before the election in November. Since every Council seat and other elected officers will be up for re-election, Councilor Hunt stated that she believes it would be a good idea to consider holding the Council meeting on November 9 instead of November 2.

Councilor Hunt moved to make the following changes to the draft 2015 Council schedule: hold a Pre-Council meeting on January 5, 2015, at 5:00 p.m., preceding the Council meeting at 6:30 p.m., and move the November 2 Council meeting to November 9.

Councilor Dietrich asked to also fill in a date for the Pre-Council meeting for the January 4, 2016, Pre-Council meeting.

Councilor Hunt added the date for Pre-Council on January 4, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. to her motion.

Councilor Burch seconded the motion.

Councilor Thomas stated that this makes sense as it is tough to schedule near the holidays.

There was no further discussion.

The motion passed by voice vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT

There was no report.

LEGAL REPORT

City Attorney Burns stated that this report is on file. In response to a question from Councilor Burch, City Attorney Burns explained that "attend to" in the report is shorthand to keep the report shorter. He provided examples, including that "Attend to Class 2 city issues" involved getting the Class 2 ordinance and resolution put together for conveyance to the Governor.

Councilor Burch stated that it is good to clarify that every now and again.

Councilor Dietrich asked if we are close to a resolution on the golf cart issue.

City Attorney Burns responded that he believes so, and he believes that we have an obligation under the ADA to allow, with reasonable regulation, any kind of mobility devices for ADA-qualifying disabilities.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 11-14 (Amended) An Ordinance Concerning The Construction Of Additions And Improvements To The Sewage Works Of The City Of West Lafayette, Indiana, The Issuance Of Revenue Bonds To Provide The Cost Thereof, The Collection, Segregation And Distribution Of The Revenues Of Said Sewage Works, The Safeguarding Of The Interests Of The Owners Of Said Revenue Bonds, Other Matters Connected Therewith, Including The Issuance Of Notes In Anticipation Of Bonds, And Repealing Ordinances Inconsistent Herewith (Sponsored by Mayor John R. Dennis)

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 11-14 (Amended) by title only.

Councilor Burch moved for passage of Ordinance No. 11-14 (Amended) on second and final reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Thomas.

WWTU Director Henderson stated that Jim Treat would share financial information for the Utility and about the refunding efforts.

Jim Treat (O.W. Krohn & Associates) provided an Amortization Schedule handout to the Council and stated that he would provide an overview of the Utility's outstanding debt. He explained that this bond ordinance is the one that one that Director Henderson and the consulting engineers have been working on to find a way to get the lift station projects done. When this project began earlier in the year we did not receive the kind of bids that we wanted, so we took a step back to find out what it would really cost. Since we do not have the final bids yet, we are taking a cautious approach and amended the ordinance to allow for as much as \$2,750,000 in bonds, though we are hoping for lower. A guaranteed savings contract approach is being used as a better way to engineer and reduce the cost on these projects. He stated that the good news in this delay from a financing standpoint is that if we can close before year-end, SRF still has money available to West Lafayette for this project and the interest rates have come down from 2.6% to 2.1%. So, we are not looking at a dramatic change in the dollar amount. He stated that even if we did the maximum amount of the bond, the coverage ratio would be approximately 160%. Part of that coverage ratio is due to the refunding of the 2004 bonds that in process, approved by the Council in October. Mr. Treat stated that we had some very good news on that deal. He explained that the 2004 bonds have almost \$12.5 million outstanding to be paid over the next 12 years, and the hope was to take the interest rate down from 3.64% to

approximately 2.75%, which would have saved approximately \$450,000. He stated that we had a number of bids on that bond issue and Centier bank stepped up and gave an extremely favorable rate to the City of 2.2%. Mr. Treat stated that he does not know that he has ever seen a deal turn out so much better than anticipated. At the 2.2% rate we are looking at almost \$1 million reduction in payments over the next 12 years. He briefly reviewed the Amortization Schedules on all WWTU debt.

There was no further discussion.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes called the roll call vote:

	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Bunder	✓			
Burch	✓			
DeBoer	✓			
Dietrich	✓			
Hunt	✓			
Keen			✓	
Thomas	✓			

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes stated that the vote was 6 AYES and 0 NAYS.

Mayor Dennis announced that Ordinance No. 11-14 (Amended) passed on second and final reading.

There was no further discussion.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Resolution No. 19-14** A Resolution To Amend The 2013 And 2014 CDBG Appropriations (Submitted by the Department of Development)

Mayor Dennis read Resolution No. 19-14 by title only.

Councilor Burch moved for passage of Resolution No. 19-14 on first and only reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Thomas.

Director of Development Poole explained that two of the CDBG social service groups have cancelled long-standing programs which we have been funding for many years. One was the Care-A-Van program at Jenks Rest, which was in the 2013-2014 funding cycle. The other program, in the 2014-2015 cycle, is the Riggs Community Health Center referral program. Director Poole explained that the Department would like to do a substantial amendment to the programs and take the money from those cancelled programs and transfer them to Street & Public Improvements for 2013 and 2014. That money will then be used for the YWCA domestic violence shelter. He explained that though the name of the account sounds weird, that is the category for improvements to the facility as instructed by our HUD representative.

Councilor Bunder asked if the money is for something concrete or in support of the program.

Director Poole responded that it is for the facility.

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Councilor Bunder asked if the reason is known why the two cancelled programs did not want to serve us anymore.

Director Poole responded that Riggs completely shut down their referral program and the Care-A-Van did not have a lot of recipients in West Lafayette.

There was no further discussion.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes called the roll call vote:

	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Bunder	✓			
Burch	✓			
DeBoer	✓			
Dietrich	✓			
Hunt	✓			
Keen			✓	
Thomas	✓			

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes stated that the vote was 6 AYES and 0 NAYS.

Mayor Dennis announced that Resolution No. 19-14 passed on first and only reading.

Resolution No. 20-14 A Resolution Requesting The Transfer Of Funds (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer)

Mayor Dennis read Resolution No. 20-14 by title only.

Councilor Burch moved for passage of Resolution No. 20-14 on first and only reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Thomas.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes explained that this is a series of transfers for end of the year budget adjustments, based on obligations expected through the end of the year.

There was no further discussion.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes called the roll call vote:

	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Bunder	✓			
Burch	✓			
DeBoer	✓			
Dietrich	✓			
Hunt	✓			
Keen			✓	
Thomas	✓			

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes stated that the vote was 6 AYES and 0 NAYS.

Mayor Dennis announced that Resolution No. 20-14 passed on first and only reading.

Resolution No. 21-14 A Resolution Appropriating Insurance Recovery Received For Damage To City Property (Police) (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer)

Mayor Dennis read Resolution No. 21-14 by title only.

Councilor Burch moved for passage of Resolution No. 21-14 on first and only reading, and that the vote be by roll call. The motion was seconded by Councilor Thomas.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes stated that this is to appropriate insurance recovery received for repair of a police car.

There was no further discussion.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes called the roll call vote:

	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Bunder	✓			
Burch	✓			
DeBoer	✓			
Dietrich	✓			
Hunt	✓			
Keen			✓	
Thomas	✓			

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes stated that the vote was 6 AYES and 0 NAYS.

Mayor Dennis announced that Resolution No. 21-14 passed on first and only reading.

COMMUNICATIONS

- ▶ Councilor DeBoer requested an update on the hotel that was to go up on Tapawingo Drive.

Director Poole stated that there is some work being done in the Engineering Department, with drawings going back and forth between that office and the project's engineers. It is moving forward, there is just not a lot of visible stuff going on at this point in time.

- ▶ Councilor Hunt reminded everyone that voting is tomorrow and that property taxes are due on November 10.

- ▶ Councilor Burch requested that citizens, especially bicyclists and those walking dogs, have reflective lights and wear reflective clothing to be more visible in the dark.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

- ▶ Chris Kulesza (190 Burke Court, Apt. 312), President of the Purdue Graduate Student Government (PGSG), reported that the PGSG is dealing with health care, explaining that they will be negotiating to stay on student-based insurance instead of an employer-based insurance that the University says they need to change to due to the Affordable Care Act. He has received conflicting information on how other universities are handling the issue.

- ▶ Jan Myers (1909 Indian Trail Drive) shared some candy and personal reflections with the Council because November is her birth month.

► Zachary Baiel (124 Connolly Street) discussed several topics, including expressing congratulations on getting the final census results and becoming a Class 2 City. He thanked Councilor Burch for bringing up reflective items, and noted that it is part of the City's and the State's code that bicyclists are mandated to have lights, reflectors, and bells. He expressed his appreciation for the great leaf pick-up and removal that happens in the neighborhoods.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business at this time, Councilor Burch moved for adjournment, and Mayor Dennis adjourned the meeting the time being 7:30 p.m.