

CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE
COMMON COUNCIL
PRE-COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 30, 2012

The Common Council of the City of West Lafayette, Indiana, met in Council Chambers at City Hall on August 30, 2012, at the hour of 4:30 p.m.

Mayor Dennis called the meeting to order and presided.

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

Absent: Keen

Also present were City Attorney Burns, Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes, Public Works Director Buck, Street Commissioner Downey, Human Resources Director Foster, Fire Chief Heath, WWTU Director Henderson, Deputy Police Chief Leroux, Parks Superintendent Payne, Information Technology Manager Newman and Director of Development Poole.

COMMITTEE STANDING REPORTS

Councilor Hunt raised a question about the Wastewater report showing 99.9% treatment of water, wondering if it was always that high or if it was due to lack of rain.

WWTU Director Henderson responded that it is a benefit of the lack of rain. He stated that the report shows that we had one rain in the month of the July that caused a combined sewer overflow.

Mayor Dennis noted that when it had been so dry, so deep, that when we did get that substantial rain it caused flooding in many basements, including at City Hall.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

West Lafayette Community Beautification Award

Ann Hunt said that she will be presenting the Beautification Award to the owner of a balcony in Blackbird Farms, an example of a small garden in a small space.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 20-12 An Ordinance Requesting An Additional Appropriation For The General Fund And Economic Development Income Tax Fund (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer)

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 20-12 by title only.

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 21-12 An Ordinance Setting The 2013 City Budget And Setting The 2013 Tax Levy On Property And Tax Rate (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer) Public Hearing Only

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 21-12 by title only.

There was no discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 22-12 An Ordinance To Fix The Salaries Of Appointed Officers, Employees, And Members Of The Police And Fire Departments Of The City Of West Lafayette, Indiana, For The Year 2013 (Submitted by Mayor John Dennis)

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 22-12 by title only.

There was no discussion.

Ordinance No. 23-12 An Ordinance To Fix The 2013 Wastewater Treatment Utility Salary Schedule 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 the Board of Public Works and Safety)

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 23-12 by title only.

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 24-12 An Ordinance To Set The Salaries Of The Elected Officials, City Of West Lafayette, Indiana, For The Year 2013 (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer)

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 24-12 by title only.

Councilor Hunt commented that the salaries for the Council should be looked at. She stated that there has not been a raise for members for at least 9 years, and noted that Lafayette Council members receive a salary of approximately \$15,000.

Mayor Dennis agreed that the topic should be visited and he is very supportive of having that discussion.

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 25-12 An Ordinance Requesting An Additional Appropriation For The General Fund (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer)

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 25-12 by title only.

There was no discussion.

Ordinance No. 26-12 An Ordinance concerning the construction of additions and improvements to the sewage works of the City of West Lafayette, the issuance of revenue bonds in one or more series to provide the cost thereof, the collection, segregation and distribution of the revenues of said 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 Dennis)

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 26-12 by title, and explained that this is the WWTU State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program Bond ordinance.

WWTU Director Henderson explained that what the department would like to do with the SRF loan is to build a lift station and force main in what is known as Phase III of the Purdue Research Park. With the addition of the ARPL plant, there is a need for sewer service in that area. The lift station will be built with the initial size of pumping and force main to service the Phase III and IV of the Purdue Research Park. The regional aspect of the lift station is that it will be able to bring some flow off of the combination sewer system and into the western interceptor. He stated that this is a project with many benefits, but the initial one is that it allows the development in our economic engine in the Research Park.

Councilor Hunt asked if the combination sewer cleaner truck and street sweeper, which the City is looking to buy with an SRF loan, will cover the whole City..

WWTU Director Henderson responded that yes they will. He explained that the SRF program has a checklist of green components which allow for a reduced interest rate on the loan, and these vehicles help the City get points on that checklist, while also being pieces of equipment that are need of replacing right now.

In response to an inquiry from Councilor Dietrich, Jim Treat (O.W. Krohn & Associates) stated that the interest rate on current loans is between 2.9% to 6%, but the rate on the SRF loan, without the green credit, is 2% on a 20-year loan. The green credit, which the City should be able to receive based on preliminary calculations, will bring it down 50 basis points, which means a rate of 1.5%. He stated that timing is perfect to do a financing. The funds that we do have we are spending on other projects, with a lot of infrastructure projects that the WWTU is helping the City to do. The ordinance authorizes up to \$4.4 million and a 20-year deal. The annual payment for the City would be approximately \$250,000 to \$300,000. Current debt payments are around \$3.1 million. There will be no rate increase to do this project and to do the additional financing. The WWTU has adequate cash flow to cover that.

Mayor Dennis stated that he has never heard of an interest rate as amazingly low as 1.5%.

Councilor VanBogaert pointed out the comparison to the 20-year bond index where general delegations for municipalities are on average well over 3%

Councilor Hunt asked about the blank amounts on the ordinance exhibits.

Mr. Treat explained that we have to get to the point in the process where the actual loan amount is known and set the structure up with the amortizations when the actual rate is known. Then the payments will be input. Mr. Treat also explained that this is a draw loan, so during construction no interest is paid except for money that has actually been borrowed.

There was no further discussion.

COMMUNICATIONS

► Mayor Dennis announced that there is a Naturalization Ceremony scheduled for August 31 at 2:00 p.m. inside the Morton Community Center. He commented that it is an incredible event that people should try to attend. The ceremony is a part of Global Fest, which is scheduled for September 1. However, there may be a weather issue from the adverse impact of Hurricane

Isaac. There will be a decision made early August 31 as to if Global Fest will need to be cancelled. He stated that it is important to be safe and not put attendees and vendors at risk, with wind speed being a particular concern for the tents.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business at this time, Councilor Burch moved for adjournment. Mayor Dennis adjourned the meeting, the time being 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith C. Rhodes, Clerk-Treasurer
Secretary of the Common Council