

CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE
COMMON COUNCIL
PRE-COUNCIL MINUTES
DECEMBER 29, 2011

The Common Council of the City of West Lafayette, Indiana, met in the Lower Level Conference Room at City Hall on December 29, 2011, at the hour of 4:30 p.m.

Mayor Dennis called the meeting to order and presided.

Present: Bunder, Burch, Thomas, and VanBogaert.

Absent: Dietrich, Hunt, and Keen.

Also present were City Attorney Burns, Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes, Street Commissioner Downey, Fire Chief Drew, Human Resources Director Foster, WWTU Director Henderson, Deputy Police Chief Leroux, Parks Superintendent Payne, Director of Development Poole, and Assistant City Engineer Susong.

Mayor Dennis reviewed the agenda. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes asked if someone from Wessler Engineering would attend the Council meeting, to explain the CSO long term control plan, as Councilor Hunt had requested. Wastewater Utility Director Henderson said that Mr. Gary Ruston would attend the Council meeting. That presentation will be after the legal report. In response to Mayor Dennis' inquiry about the financial report, Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said that there was an advance draw, but no settlement from the County Auditor's Office.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 27-11 (Second Amended) An Ordinance Repealing And Replacing Chapter 116 (Storm Drainage And Sediment Control) Of The West Lafayette City Code (Sponsored by Mayor John Dennis)

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 27-11 (Second Amended) by title and asked for comments or questions.

There was no discussion about Ordinance No. 27-11 (Second Amended).

Ordinance No. 28-11 An Ordinance Amending The Perimeter Parkway Fund (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer)

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 28-11 by title and asked for comments or questions.

There was no discussion about Ordinance No. 28-11.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 01-12 An Ordinance To Approve Blanket Bond Coverage For 2012 (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer)

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 01-12 by title and asked for comments or questions.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said that this ordinance is similar to those for blanket bond coverage in past years, except that this year, the amount of insurance has been raised to \$500,000, so that allows a full \$300,000 for the Clerk-Treasurer's coverage. In addition, the City does have a public officials policy.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes respectfully asked that the Council pass this ordinance on both readings, because the bond ordinance must be filed within 10 days of the beginning of the year.

There was no further discussion on Ordinance No. 01-12.

Ordinance No. 02-12 An Ordinance Providing For Temporary Loans From A Fund Having Sufficient Balance To A Depleted Fund (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer)

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 02-12 by title.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes presented an amended version of Ordinance No. 02-12, which deals with all the circumstances that occurred in December. She respectfully asked that the Council pass this on both readings, because there were unanticipated temporary loans for which she needs authority at the beginning of January. The ordinance itself is self-explanatory, in that it asks the Council to approve the temporary loans that she needs by December 30, in order to pay back all loans to the Wastewater Utility. There will need to be one temporary loan not paid back in full, between the Parks Nonreverting Operating Fund and the Parks & Rec Fund. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes asked that the Council use the statutory prescription to declare an emergency, and allow her to keep the loan open until the end of January. The loan cannot be paid until the settlement is received, which she hopes will occur by the end of January. Section 3 requests the loans to be used for the first half of 2012; that is identical of what was requested previously.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said that she is attempting to keep loans only between agency funds or on the City side, so that there are not any artifacts that cause concern between the City and the Wastewater Utility on the cash flow statement for the Utility.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes respectfully requested two readings on Ordinance No. 02-12, so that she can make payroll. She requested to amend Ordinance No. 02-12 by substitution with the document she presented.

Councilor Burch moved that Ordinance No. 02-12 be replaced by Ordinance No. 02-12 (Amended). Councilor Thomas seconded the motion.

There was no discussion.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Councilor Thomas observed that Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes did not seem confident of receiving the property tax settlement by the end of January. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said that she considered asking the Council to extend the loan to March, which is the statutory deadline, but chose instead to be more optimistic.

Ordinance No. 03-12 An Ordinance To Amend Ordinance No. 19-11, 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 2012 (Submitted by Mayor John Dennis)

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 03-12 by title and explained that this is to get some of the hardworking staff fairly compensated. Diane Foster would be elevated to the status of a department head, with a commensurate salary increase. Betina Cochran would be recognized as an assistant, not a secretary. A new position, an information technology manager, would be hired for \$60,000 to \$68,000 and would have the status of a department head. Mayor Dennis said that the City would save a considerable amount by having IT issues resolved in-house and increasing coordination and consistency of IT hardware and software purchases, as well as providing staff training.

There was no further discussion.

Ordinance No. 04-12 An Ordinance To Amend Ordinance No. 20-11, To Fix The 2012 Wastewater Treatment Utility Salary Schedule As Submitted By The Board Of Public Works And Safety For Approval By The Common Council (Presented by the Board of Public Works and Safety)

Mayor Dennis read Ordinance No. 04-12 by title and asked for comments or questions.

There was no further discussion.

Resolution No. 01-12 A Resolution To Approve Updates To Certain Policies Contained In The Personnel Manual For West Lafayette City Employees (Submitted by Human Resources Director)

Mayor Dennis read Resolution No. 01-12 by title. He said that these are housekeeping updates, and asked if there were comments or questions for Human Resources Director Foster.

There was no further discussion.

Resolution No. 02-12 A Resolution Appropriating Insurance Recovery Received For Damage To City Property (Prepared by the Clerk-Treasurer)

Mayor Dennis read Resolution No. 02-12 by title and asked for comments or questions.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes explained that this is insurance money received when night vision equipment was lost. The equipment will be replaced with this money.

There was no further discussion.

COMMUNICATIONS

► Councilor Burch asked for clarification about the letter from IDEM that the Council received from Wastewater Utility Director Henderson. Wastewater Utility Director Henderson said that this is a sneak preview of coming attractions, that the Utility has a construction permit for a capacity expansion. This will boost the treatment averaging 9.1 million gallons per day to 10.5 million gallons per day by adding a tank. Councilor Burch asked if the letter was the okay for that project. Wastewater Utility Director Henderson answered that it was the notice of approval.

He added that, typically, when capacity is added, the cost is about \$5 per gallon. The estimated cost of the additional tank is approximately \$2 per gallon for the additional 1.5 million gallons.

ADJOURNMENT

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