

May 4, 2020

The Common Council of the City of LaPorte met in regular session on Monday, May 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. by virtual attendance. (the meeting was live on Facebook and YouTube)

Pledge

Councilman Vincent led the Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Vincent, Feikes, West, Galloway, Cutler and Franke

Absent: Brown

Minutes

As each Council member received an advance copy of the minutes from the previous meeting, Mayor Dermody asked for a motion to approve the same. Councilman Galloway moved to approve the minutes as presented; motion seconded by Councilman Vincent. The Mayor asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. As there were none, the minutes were approved as submitted.

Second and Final Reading of an Ordinance of the City of La Porte, Indiana, Authorizing the Issuance of the City of La Porte, Indiana, Taxable Economic Development Revenue Bonds (F & C Development, Inc. Project), and the Lending of the Proceeds Thereof to Greater La Porte Economic Development Corporation, and Authorizing and Approving Other Actions in Respect Thereto

Councilwoman West moved to read an Ordinance for the second and final time by title only; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilwoman West read on Ordinance of the City of La Porte, Indiana, Authorizing the Issuance of the City of La Porte, Indiana, Taxable Economic Development Revenue Bonds (F & C Development, Inc. Project), and the Lending of the Proceeds Thereof to Greater La Porte Economic Development Corporation, and Authorizing and Approving Other Actions in Respect Thereto by title only.

Bert Cook, Executive Director of L.E.A.P., gave a brief overview of this Ordinance.

The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments. As there were none, he asked for a motion to adopt.

Motion/Vote – Adopt Ordinance 6-2020

Councilwoman Feikes moved to adopt the Ordinance as presented; motion seconded by Councilwoman West and unanimously carried.

ORDINANCE 6-2020

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE, INDIANA, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE, INDIANA, TAXABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVENUE BONDS (F & C DEVELOPMENT, INC. PROJECT), AND THE LENDING OF THE PROCEEDS THEREOF TO THE GREATER LA PORTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, AND AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING OTHER ACTIONS IN RESPECT THERETO

Introduction of a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of La Porte, Indiana, Approving an Amendment of the Declaratory Resolution and Redevelopment Plan for the Central Business Redevelopment Area

Councilwoman Cutler moved to read a Resolution for the first time; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Cutler read a Resolution Approving an Amendment of the Declaratory Resolution and Redevelopment Plan for the Central Business Redevelopment Area in its entirety.

Bert Cook explained the Resolution regarding the RDC and Flagherty and Collins.

The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments, as there were none, he asked for a motion to adopt.

Motion/Vote – Adopt Resolution R-5-2020

Councilman Franke moved to approve the Resolution as presented; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION R-5-2020

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE, INDIANA, APPROVING AN AMENDMENT OF THE DECLARATORY RESOLUTION AND REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE CENTRAL BUSINESS REDEVELOPMENT AREA

Introduction of a Resolution Waiving Water and Sewer Billing Late Fees During Disaster Emergency

Councilman Galloway moved to read a Resolution for the first time; motion seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried. Councilman Galloway read a Resolution Waiving Water and Sewer Billing Late Fees During Disaster Emergency in its entirety.

Clerk-Treasurer Parthun advised the City of LaPorte has collected \$3,900.00 so far this year in utility late fees. She reported those numbers have been higher in previous years.

Nick Otis, Attorney for the City, reported the State Board Accounts is advising municipalities to have something in place to address the waiving of late fees during COVID-19 Pandemic. He noted once the City allowed to start charging later fees per the Governor, we will formally remove this Resolution.

Mayor Dermody gave a shout out to the Clerk-Treasurer's office, the Utilities Office and the residents for their hard work and cooperation during this time.

Motion/Vote – Adopt Resolution R-6-2020

Councilwoman Cutler moved to adopt the Resolution as presented; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION R-6-2020
RESOLUTION WAIVING WATER AND SEWER BILLING LATE FEES
DURING DISASTER EMERGENCY**

Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Ordinance 18-2019 of the City of La Porte, Indiana to Establish Salary for New Positions in the Engineering Department

Councilwoman Feikes moved to read an Ordinance for the first time; motion seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Feikes read an Ordinance Amending Ordinance 18-2019 of the City of La Porte, Indiana to Establish Salary for a New Positions in the Engineering Department in its entirety.

The amendment removes and inserts two job titles along with their salary in the Engineering Department. Councilwoman Cutler noted this does not change the budget, it restructures the Engineering Department.

The Mayor asked if there were any other questions or comments. As there were none, he stated the second and final reading of the Ordinance will take place at the next regular Council meeting.

Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Section 6-10- Dangerous Animals for the City of La Porte, Indiana

Councilman Franke moved to read an Ordinance for the first time; motion seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried. Councilman Franke read an Ordinance Amending Section 6-10- Dangerous Animals for the City of La Porte, Indiana in its entirety.

The City Attorney gave an overview of the Ordinance.

Councilman Galloway questioned how it is determined if an animal is dangerous. Discussion was held regarding wild animals versus domestic.

The Mayor asked if there were any other questions or comments. As there were none, he stated the second and final reading of the Ordinance will take place at the next regular Council meeting.

Petitions/Comments

Dusty Schoof made a comment that he appreciates the live stream of the meetings and that he could assist in helping people train their animals if they are unruly.

Mayor Dermody stated the City of La Porte is still moving forward slowly and isn't in a hurry to open City Hall and will follow the guidelines of the Governor. They are looking at a possible opening of City Hall on June 1st.

Councilwoman West stated she has received a handful of concerns about the number of people going into Wal-Mart. Mayor Dermody advised Jeff Batchelor, Director of Code Compliance, is working with them on this.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Councilwoman Feikes moved to adjourn; motion seconded by Councilwoman West and unanimously carried.

Approved: _____
Thomas P. Dermody, Mayor

Attest: _____
Courtney Parthun, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: May 18, 2020