

October 17, 2022

The Common Council of the City of La Porte met in regular session Monday, October 17, 2022, at 6:00 P.M. in Council Chambers.

Pledge

Councilman Vincent led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Councilman Vincent, Councilman Galloway, Councilwoman Cutler, Councilwoman Feikes

Absent: Councilman Franke, Councilwoman West, Councilwoman Konieczny

Minutes

Mayor Dermody stated each member received an advance copy of the minutes from the previous meeting and asked if there were any corrections or additions. Councilwoman Feikes moved to approve the minutes as presented; motion seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried.

Petitions and Comments of Citizens

Brian Kajer, 406 Niesen St., La Porte thanked the City for the demolition of the house on Monroe Street. He stated he has noticed the reflectors in the street near the railroad tracks. He is concerned with winter approaching there will be little roadway or snow plowed onto the railroad tracks. Mayor Dermody stated the reflectors are a federal requirement for a quiet zone. Mr. Kajer also expressed his concerns with the City's trash service. Mayor Dermody noted the contract is ending and the City will begin the bidding process soon. Charity Halvasa, 403 Willowbend Drive, La Porte spoke to the Council about the downtown Spooktacular. She stated fifty businesses participated and there were over three thousand people downtown for the event.

Standing Committee Reports

Park Board: Councilwoman Feikes reported Park Board will be meeting Wednesday, October 19, 4:00 P.M at the Park Office.

Traffic Commission: Councilwoman Feikes reported Traffic Commission will meet on Tuesday, November 1, at 5:00 P.M. at the Police Station

Mayor's Veterans Committee: Councilman Galloway reported the Mayor's Veterans Committee will host the 35th Annual Veterans Day Celebration on

November 11, 2022, at 10:00 A.M at the La Porte Civic Auditorium. Donuts will be served at 9:00 A.M and a lunch will follow the ceremony at the VFW from 12 P.M until 2 P.M. The next meeting will be March 13, 2023.

Fire Merit Commission: Councilwoman West reported the next Fire Merit Commission meeting will be held on October 5, 2022, at 6:30 P.M. at the 18th Street Fire Station.

Business Improvement District: Councilwoman Cutler reported the Business Improvement District met on Tuesday October 11, 2022, at 5:00 P.M. in Council Chambers. It was reported that flowers in the downtown planters have been removed and the water shut off for the season. The Business Improvement District will hold off on dirt refill to the planters until spring so that irrigation repairs can be made. The long-term planning sub-committee of the Business Improvement District board met with the Hitchcock Design Group last month and Craig Phillips will be giving a presentation for the board regarding long term planning at the next board meeting. The next meeting of the Business Improvement District will be Monday, November 14, 2022, at 5:00 P.M. at City Hall.

Urban Enterprise Association: Councilwoman Cutler reported the Urban Enterprise Association meeting was canceled due to lack of business. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday November 16, 2022, at 3:00 P.M. at the LEAP offices.

Alcohol Beverage Review Commission: Councilwoman Cutler reported the Alcohol Beverage Review Commission will meet on Thursday, October 20, 2022, at 2:00 P.M. to review an application from Bare Bones LLC.

Recognition of Firefighters: Mayor Dermody stated, as many know, there was a large fire in the City of La Porte the morning of October 5, 2022. One of the biggest fires in the history of our community. Mayor Dermody expressed his gratitude to the professional and volunteer firefighters, along with others that risked their lives to keep our community safe. Mayor Dermody invited City of La Porte Fire Chief Andy Snyder to the podium. Chief Snyder stated the morning of October 5, 2022, at 12:25 A.M. his crews were dispatched to a large structure fire in an abandoned building on Brighton Street. They arrived on the scene to heavy smoke and fire. Chief Snyder noted they were aware what was in that building which limited their resources. Very soon after arriving Chief Snyder knew they would not be able to fight this fire with the on-duty crews and all shifts were paged out along with reinforcements from our area volunteer fire departments. Center, Kankakee, and Coolspring Townships responded to the fire while Scipio Township manned and responded to all other calls the City of La Porte

Departments were dispatched to. Chief Snyder stated that all crews worked together flawlessly and had the volunteers not responded we would not have had the results that we did. The City of La Porte water tower was at risk and without the aid of the other departments the tower would have been a casualty of the fire. Chief Snyder reported 5.7 million gallons of water was used and 66.5 hours were spent on scene. Chief Snyder thanked all the volunteers who helped and expressed his upmost gratitude to them. They were all invited to tonight's meeting for much deserved recognition. Coolspring Chief Mick Pawlik addressed Mayor Dermody and the City Council. He stated Chief Snyder along with Assistant Chief Kelly Burke ran an exceptionally smooth operation. Without the leadership of Chief Snyder things would not have gone as smoothly as they did. He is highly organized, and the City of La Porte is lucky to have him. Chief Snyder introduced his crew, and all other departments were brought forward and introduced.

Second and final reading of an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of The City of La Porte, Indiana, For the Year 2023

Councilwoman Cutler moved to read an Ordinance for the second and final time by title only with two amendments; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Cutler read an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of The City of La Porte, Indiana, for the Year 2023 by title only. Councilwoman Cutler read aloud the two amendments.

Motion/Vote: Councilwoman Feikes made a motion to approve an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of The City of La Porte, Indiana, For the Year 2023 as presented; motion seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-2022

AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES OF APPOINTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE, INDIANA, FOR THE YEAR 2023

Second and final reading of an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Elected Officials of The City of La Porte from The General Fund, For the Year 2023

Councilwoman Feikes moved to read an Ordinance for the second time by title only; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler an unanimously

carried. Councilwoman Feikes read an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Elected Officials of The City of La Porte from The General Fund, for the Year 2023 by title only.

Motion/Vote: Councilwoman Cutler made a motion to approve an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Elected Officials of The City of La Porte from the General Fund, for the Year 2023; motion was seconded by Councilman Vincent and unanimously carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 26-2022
AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES FO ELECTED OFFICALS OF THE CITY
OF LA PORTE GENERAL FUND, FOR THE YEAR 2023

Public Hearing and Introduction of a Resolution for an Additional Appropriation for CEDIT, Park Non-Reverting, Transit, and Civic Non-Reverting

Councilwoman Cutler moved to read a Resolution for the first and only time in its entirety; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Cutler read a Resolution for an Additional Appropriation for CEDIT, Park Non-Reverting, Transit, and Civic Non-Reverting in its entirety.

Mayor Dermody opened the Public Hearing. Clerk-Treasurer Courtney Parthun noted the proof of publication was published in the Herald Dispatch on October 5, 2022. There being no public comment the public hearing was closed.

Motion/Vote: Councilwoman Feikes made a motion to approve a Resolution for an Additional Appropriation for CEDIT, Park Non-Reverting, Transit, and Civic Non-Reverting as presented; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION NO. R-25-2022
A RESOLUTION FOR AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR CEDIT,
PARK NON-REVERTING, TRANSIT, AND CIVIC NON-REVERTING

Introduction of an Ordinance Establishing Stop Signs (Both Northbound and Southbound) on Whispering Boulevard at its Intersection with Allison Lane and at its Intersection with Ohio Street

Councilman Vincent moved to read an Ordinance for the first time in its entirety; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilman Vincent read an Ordinance Establishing Stop Signs (Both Northbound and Southbound) on Whispering Boulevard at its intersection with Allison Lane and at its intersection with Ohio Street in its entirety. Second and final reading will take place at the November 7, 2022, meeting.

Introduction of an Ordinance Establishing a Stop Sign on Lake Shore Drive at the Intersection of Greenleaf and Illinois Avenue

Councilwoman Feikes moved to read an Ordinance for the first time in its entirety; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried.

Councilwoman Feikes read an Ordinance Establishing a Stop Sign on Lake Shore Drive at the Intersection of Greenleaf and Illinois Avenue in its entirety. Second and final reading will take place at the November 7, 2022, meeting.

Introduction of a Resolution of the Common Council of La Porte, Indiana Approving Application for a Municipal Riverfront Alcohol Permit Filed by Blue Room, LLC

Councilman Vincent moved to read a Resolution for the first and only time in its entirety; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilman Vincent read a Resolution of the Common Council of La Porte, Indiana Approving Application for a Municipal Riverfront Alcohol Permit Filed by Blue Room, LLC in its entirety.

Motion/Vote: Councilwoman Feikes moved to adopt a Resolution of the Common Council of La Porte, Indiana Approving Application for a Municipal Riverfront Alcohol Permit Filed by Blue Room, LLC; motion was seconded by Councilman Vincent. Councilwoman Cutler abstained and the resolution was adopted with majority of quorum 3-0 vote.

RESOLUTION NO. R-26-2022
RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF LA PORTE, INDIANA
APPROVING APPLICATION FOR A MUNICIPAL RIVERFRONT ALCOHOL
PERMIT FILED BY BLUE ROOM, LLC

Introduction of a Resolution to Transfer Funds Within The 2022 Budgets
Councilman Galloway moved to read a Resolution for the first time in its entirety; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilman Galloway read a Resolution to Transfer Funds Within The 2022 Budgets in its entirety.

Motion/Vote: Councilwoman Feikes made a motion to adopt a Resolution to Transfer Funds Within the 2022 Budgets; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION NO. R-27-2022
A RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS WITHIN THE 2022 BUDGETS

Other Business

Councilman Galloway shared clean-up at Patton Cemetery will be held November 5th from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

Adjourn

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

Approved: _____
Thomas P. Dermody, Mayor

Attest: _____
Courtney Parthun, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: November 7, 2022