

October 16, 2023

The Common Council of the City of La Porte met in regular session Monday, October 16, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. in Council Chambers.

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Galloway led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Present: Galloway, Cutler, West, Konieczny, Franke, Feikes

Absent: Vincent

Approval of 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 was seconded by Councilman Franke and unanimously approved.

Mayor Dermody requested a moment of silence for the family of Julien Hernandez. Mayor Dermody stated our thoughts and prayers are with all of those affected by this tragedy.

Petitions and Comments of Citizens

Kimberly Ann Krestan - 506 W. 11th Street – Ms. Krestan has been having ongoing issues with neighbors regarding dog barking and retaliation. Ms. Krestan is asking Code Enforcement for assistance in remedying this matter.

Rick Ogle - 1902 Indiana Avenue – Mr. Ogle would like to know the plans for the City and INDOT to talk to residents about the reconstruction of Indiana Avenue.

Sierra Sue Jesch - Jefferson Avenue – Ms. Jesch is concerned about the volume of public meetings when viewing it on the internet.

Standing Committee Reports

Police Merit Commission: Councilman Galloway reported the Police Merit Commission met October 10, 2023. Councilman Galloway reported there are currently three openings.

Mayor's Veterans Committee: Councilman Galloway reported the Mayor's Veterans Committee met Monday, October 9, 2023 to finalize the 36th

Annual Veteran's Day Ceremony which will be held at the Civic Auditorium on November 10, 2023 at 10:30 AM.

Park Board: Councilwoman Feikes reported the Park Board will meet on Wednesday October 18, 2023, at 5:00 P.M. at the Park Office.

Sustainability Commission: Councilman Franke reported the Sustainability Commission will meet Monday, October 23, 2023, at 4:00 P.M. at City Hall in Council Chambers.

Redevelopment Commission: Councilman Franke reported the Redevelopment Commission will meet Wednesday, October 25, 2023, at 5:15 P.M. at City Hall in Council Chambers.

Airport Authority: Councilwoman Konieczny reported the Airport Authority will meet Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 5:15 P.M. at the Airport.

Historic Preservation Commission: Councilman Konieczny reported the next Historic Preservation Commission meeting is scheduled for October 17, 2023, at 5:30 PM in Council Chambers.

City of La Porte Police Department PACT Team

Mayor Dermody invited Police Chief Brettin to introduce the PACT Team. Officer Jose Gonzalez was introduced as the Unit Commander for the PACT program, and he outlined what the Proactive Crime Team will do to enhance quality of life for City of La Porte residents by combating street level crimes. Officer Gonzalez announced there is a Crime Tip Hotline available for residents to anonymously/confidentially call or text (219)380-7868.

Mayor Dermody asked Officer Gonzalez to introduce the PACT Team: Sargeant Favia, Specialist Allen, Specialist Stewart, Officer Pienta, Officer Pflughaupt, and Officer Simpson were introduced, and Council members thanked them for their work.

Second and Final Reading of an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Civil City Budget

Councilwoman Feikes made a motion to read an Ordinance for the second and final time by title only; motion was seconded by Councilman Franke and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Feikes read an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Civil City Budgets by title only.

Motion/Vote Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Civil City Budget: Councilman Franke made a motion to adopt an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Civil City Budget; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried.

**ORDINANCE 26-2023
ORDINANCE FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES FOR 2024
CITY OF LA PORTE CIVIL CITY BUDGET**

Second and Final Reading of an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Redevelopment Commission Budget
Councilwoman Cutler made a motion to read an Ordinance for the second and final time by title only; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Konieczny and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Cutler read an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Redevelopment Commission Budget by title only.

Motion/Vote Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Redevelopment Commission Budget: Councilwoman Konieczny made a motion to adopt an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Redevelopment Commission Budget; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried.

**ORDINANCE 27-2023
ORDINANCE FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES FOR 2024
CITY OF LA PORTE REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION BUDGET**

Second and Final Reading of an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Airport Authority Budget
Councilwoman Konieczny made a motion to read an Ordinance for the second and final time by title only; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Konieczny read an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Airport Authority Budget by title only.

Motion/Vote Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Airport Budget: Councilman Franke made a motion to adopt an Ordinance for

Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Airport Budget; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried.

ORDINANCE 28-2023
ORDINANCE FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES FOR 2024
CITY OF LA PORTE AIRPORT AUTHORITY BUDGET

Second and Final Reading of an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of The City of La Porte, Indiana, For the Year 2024

Councilman Galloway made a motion to read an Ordinance for the second and final time by title only with three amendments; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilman Galloway read an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of The City of La Porte, Indiana, For the Year 2024 by title only with three amendments.

Councilman Galloway noted the three amendments are the following: Police Department Probationary Officer \$57,250; Utilities – Water Meter and Back Flow Operator – Level 1 \$20.20 per hour; Water Meter and Back Flow Operator – Level 2 \$21.71 per hour.

Motion/Vote Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of The City of La Porte, Indiana, for the Year 2024: Councilman Franke made a motion to adopt an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of the City of La Porte, Indiana, for the Year 2024 including the amendments; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried.

ORDINANCE 29-2023
ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES OF APPOINTED OFFICERS AND
EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE, INDIANA, FOR THE YEAR 2024

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 2024

Councilwoman West made a motion to read an Ordinance for the second and final time by title only; motion seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried. Councilwoman West read an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Elected Officials of The City of La Porte from the General Fund for the Year 2024 by title only.

Motion/Vote Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Elected Officials from The General Fund, For the Year 2024: Councilwoman Feikes made a motion to adopt an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Elected Officials of the City of La Porte from the General Fund for the Year 2024; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Konieczny and unanimously carried.

**ORIDNANCE NO. 30-2023
ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES OF ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF LA
PORTE FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR 2024**

Introduction of an Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of La Porte, Indiana, and Enacted August 21, 2017, which is a Part of Chapter 82 of the Municipal Code of the City of La Porte by Amending the 2017 Revised City of La Porte Joint Zoning Ordinance

Councilman Franke made a motion to read an Ordinance for the first time in its entirety; motion seconded by Councilman Galloway and unanimously carried. Councilman Franke read an Ordinance of the City of La Porte, Indiana, and Enacted August 21, 2017, which is a Part of Chapter 82 of the Municipal Code of the City of La Porte by Amending the 2017 Revised City of La Porte Joint Zoning Ordinance in its entirety.

Bert Cook, Executive Director of the La Porte Economic Advancement Partnership, stated this is a proactive measure as this is the type of development that has become more popular and as such, it is warranted to amend the Ordinance now in order to be ready for this type of development in the future. Mr. Cook noted this will clean up our Ordinance and gives us a chance to better reflect what is going on the Economic Development world and how our zoning ordinance interacts with that.

Mayor Dermody stated this Ordinance will move to the November 8, 2023 Council Meeting for consideration.

Introduction of a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of La Porte Adopting the Trails, Greenways and Blueways Master Plan by an Amendment to the Countywide Land Development Plan

Councilwoman Cutler made a motion to read a Resolution for the first time in its entirety; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Cutler read a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of La Porte Adopting the Trails, Greenways and Blueways Master Plan by an Amendment to the Countywide Land Development Plan in its entirety.

David Heinold, Assistant City Planner, discussed the Trails, Greenways, and Blueways Master Plan.

Motion/Vote Resolution of the Common Council of the City of La Porte Adopting the Trails, Greenways and Blueways Master Plan by an Amendment to the Countywide Land Development Plan: Councilman Franke made a motion to adopt a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of La Porte Adopting the Trails, Greenways and Blueways Master Plan by an Amendment to the Countywide Land Development Plan; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION NO. R-26-2023

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE ADOPTING THE TRAILS, GREENWAYS AND BLUEWAYS MASTER PLAN BY AN AMENDMENT TO THE COUNTYWIDE LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Introduction of a Resolution to Transfer Funds within the 2023 Budget

Councilwoman West made a motion to read a Resolution for the first and only time in its entirety; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilwoman West read a Resolution to Transfer Funds within the 2023 Budget in its entirety.

Motion/Vote Resolution to Transfer Funds within the 2023 Budget: Councilman Feikes made a motion to adopt an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Elected Officials of the City of La Porte from the General Fund for the Year 2024; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Konieczny and unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION NO. R-27-2023

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS WITHIN THE 2023 BUDGET

Other Business:

Mayor Dermody reminded the public that November 7, 2023 is Municipal Election Day and new this year are the Voting Centers where city residents can vote. Early Voting is available at State Street Church. Mayor Dermody congratulated Julie West on the Bolt for the Heart race. Mayor Dermody asked for respect and thoughts and prayers for everyone affected by the tragedy of Julien Hernandez.

Adjourn

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 8, 2023