

January 2, 2024

The Common Council of the City of La Porte met in regular session Monday, January 2, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. in Council Chambers.

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Franke led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Present: Franke, Huffman, Feikes, Galloway, West, Buchanan, Konieczny

Absent: None

Motion/Vote – Amend Agenda

Councilwoman Feikes moved to amend the agenda by adding Appointment of President Pro-Tem as item number seven and move Business Improvement District Council Appointments to tabled items; motion seconded by Councilman Galloway and unanimously carried.

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 Konieczny moved to approve the minutes as presented, motion was seconded by Councilwoman West and unanimously carried.

Petitions and Comments of Citizens

None

Announcement of Council Liaisons

Mayor Dermody announced his Council Liaison appointments to various Boards and Commissions.

Standing Committee Reports

Traffic Commission: Councilwoman Feikes reported the Traffic Commission will be meeting on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at the Police Department.

Park & Recreation: Councilwoman Feikes reported the Park Board will meet on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at the Park Office.

Councilwoman Feikes congratulated Pam Carroll on her retirement, effective last week. Pam has been with the Park Department for 41 years starting as a concession worker for the parks, then joining the office staff in 1982. There were over 40 applicants for Pam's position as Recreation

Director. Sam Back has been chosen as her replacement. He has big shoes to fill, but he is up for the challenge. Please join me in wishing Pam all the best in her next exciting chapter.

Appointment of President Pro-Tem

Councilwoman Feikes moved to nominate Tim Franke as the 2024 President Pro-Tem; motion seconded by Councilman Galloway and unanimously carried.

Review Ethics Ordinance 16-2004

Attorney Nick Otis reported this Ordinance mirrors State Statute. The Ordinance requires the Council to review the Ordinance every four years and make changes if needed. Mr. Otis stated he does not recommend any changes.

Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 29-2023, to Amend Salaries in the Police Department

Councilwoman Konieczny moved to introduce an Ordinance; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Konieczny read an Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 29-2023, to Amend Salaries in the Police Department in its entirety.

Chief Paul Brettin addressed the Council regarding these changes and answered questions.

Second and final reading will be held on January 16, 2024, at the Council meeting.

Introduction of a Resolution Approving Financing of Combination Single Engine Sewer Cleaner with Positive Displacement Vacuum System Mounted on a Heavy-Duty Truck Chassis for Wastewater Department through U.S. Bancorp Government Leasing and Financing, Inc.

Councilwoman Feikes moved to introduce a Resolution; motion seconded by Councilwoman Konieczny and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Feikes read a Resolution Approving Financing of Combination Single Engine Sewer Cleaner with Positive Displacement Vacuum System Mounted on a Heavy-Duty Truck Chassis for Wastewater Department through U.S. Bancorp Government Leasing and Financing, Inc. in its entirety.

Jerry Jackson, Wastewater Director, addressed the Council with regard to the need for this VAC Truck financing and answered questions from the Council.

Motion/Vote – Adopt Resolution R-1-2024

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

**RESOLUTION R-1-2024
RESOLUTION APPROVING FINANCING OF COMBINATION SINGLE
ENGINE SEWER CLEANER WITH POSITIVE DISPLACEMENT VACUUM
SYSTEM MOUNTED ON A HEAVY-DUTY TRUCK CHASSIS FOR
WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT THROUGH U.S. BANKCORP
GOVERNMENT LEASING AND FINANCING, INC.**

Other Business:

Mayor Dermody announced La Porte High School Basketball will be playing tomorrow evening at the Historic Civic Auditorium. They will be hosting Lowell High School with JV tip-off at 5:30 p.m. Mayor Dermody reported the countdown has begun for the La Porte Invitational with games on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Several of the games will be on ESPN.

Mayor Dermody reported the Council has tabled an appointment to the Diversity & Inclusion Commission. He asked the Council to consider abolishing this Commission as they hardly ever meet, and it isn't helping our community and replace it with an Affordable Housing Committee.

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: January 16, 2024