

July 1, 2024

The Common Council of the City of La Porte met in regular session Monday, July 1, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Buchanan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

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

Absent: None

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 seconded by Councilman Franke and unanimously carried.

Petitions and Comments of Citizens

None

Standing Committee Reports

Traffic Commission:

Councilwoman Feikes reported the Traffic Commission is meeting tomorrow, July 2nd at 5:00 p.m. at the Police Station.

Park & Recreation

Councilwoman Feikes reported the next Park Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at the Park Office.

Police Merit Commission:

Councilman Galloway reported the Police Merit Commission will meet on July 10, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. at the Police Department.

Historic Preservation Commission:

Councilman Buchanan reported the Historic Preservation Commission met on June 18th. Discussion was held regarding a plaque program for historically designated properties occurred. Middle School teacher, Mr.

Seiko presented his class's idea for a historical marker for Fred Mennen, founder of Jiffy Pop Popcorn. The HPC voted favorably to recommend to the City Council the historical marker be placed at Plaza 618. Mr. Seiko was informed the placement of the marker would need HPC approval prior to installation.

Plan Commission:

Councilman Buchanan reported the next Plan Commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Airport Authority:

Councilwoman Konieczny reported the next Airport Authority meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 10th at 5:15 p.m. at the Airport.

Introduction of a Resolution Approving Use of a Tax Abatement on Real Property Taxes Created by the Construction of a New Senior Living Facility

Councilman Franke moved to introduce a Resolution; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilman Franke read a Resolution Approving Use of a Tax Abatement on Real Property Taxes Created by the Construction of a New Senior Living Facility in its entirety.

Bert Cook, Executive Director of the La Porte Economic Advancement Partnership, reported Ed Arnold and John English who are the principals of this project are present here tonight. He stated this is 48,000 square foot senior living center at a cost of \$16,000,000. Mr. Cook reported about sixty beds will be for assisted living and another 30 beds for memory care and will employ about 50 people. He stated this project has been a long process and the water infrastructure as it currently stands was not sufficient for this type of project. Mr. Cook stated, as you all are aware, public infrastructure work will need to be completed for this project. He reported the County is willing to help with some of those improvements.

Motion/Vote – Approve Resolution R-17-2024

Councilwoman Konieczny moved to approve the Resolution as presented; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes. Councilman Franke noted there is a typographical error in the fifth whereas, it should state construct, not construction. Bert Cook also noted the address should be 4155 N. SR39.

Motion/Vote – Amend Resolution R-17-2024

Councilwoman Konieczny moved to amend the Resolution as stated; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried.

R-17-2024

RESOLUTION APPROVING USE OF A TAX ABATMENT ON REAL
PROPERTY TAXES CREATED BY A NEW SENIOR LIVING FACILITY

Public Hearing and Introduction of a Resolution for an Additional Appropriation for Community Development Block Grant

Councilman Galloway moved to introduce a Resolution; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilman Galloway read a Resolution for an Additional Appropriation for Community Development Block Grant in its entirety.

Mary Ann Richards, CDBG Program Manager, informed the Council these funds were in the entitlement for 2023 and were not used. The additional appropriation is to appropriate those same funds for 2024.

As this Resolution requires a public hearing, Mayor Dermody opened the public hearing and asked if there was anyone present who wished to address the Council regarding this matter. Courtney Parthun, Clerk-Treasurer, presented proof of publication in the Herald Dispatch on June 20, 2024. As no one came forward, the Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

Motion/Vote – Adopt Resolution R-18-2024

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

RESOLUTION R-18-2024

RESOLUTION FOR AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Other Business

Mayor Dermody reminded everyone of the Fireworks at Fox Park on July 3rd and the 4th of July Parade on the 4th beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Fire Chief, Andy Snyder, reminded the public on firework safety including the correct way to dispose of used fireworks.

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: July 15, 2024