The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session at the Knox City Hall at 7:00 PM CST on Tuesday November 25, 2014 with the following members present: Mayor, Rick Chambers; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, Don Kring, Greg Matt, Ron Parker, Jeff Berg, Linda Berndt and City Attorney, Dave Matsey.

RE: AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

Don Kring made a motion, seconded by Jeff Berg to add Ordinance #1149 Re-bonding of Water Bonds to the agenda. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting were mailed to the Councilmembers prior to the meeting for their review. Jeff Berg made a motion, seconded by Greg Matt to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: JIM ARNOLD - LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Senator Jim Arnold came before the council to give an update on what has been happening in Indianapolis. Several study Committees met during the summer. Among legislative proposals that the City can expect to see this coming year are proposals dealing with Riverboat Revenue, Transportation, Ethics, SBOA, Education, and Environmental Affairs.

RE: CONSTRUCTION OF SHELL BUILDING AT INDUSTRIAL PARK - CHARLIE WEAVER

Starke County Economic Development Foundation Executive Director, Charlie Weaver appeared before the board to request that the City contribute toward the construction of a shell building in the Knox Industrial Park on newly cleared land. He handed out aerial photos of the available land at the Park and explained the scope of the project. The building would be 50,000 square foot with 34 foot ceilings. Mr. Weaver will work with REMC to secure an interest free loan for part of the project. He asked that the City pledge up to $200,000.00 from fund 331 (Knox Economic Development) to pay for part of the project. Total cost of the project could be about One Million. Ron Parker made a motion seconded by Jeff Berg to pledge up to $200,000.00 from the Knox Economic Development Fund for the construction of a shell building at the Knox Industrial Park. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: ORDINANCE #1149 - RE-BONDING OF WATER BONDS

John Julien from Umbaugh and Associates presented Ordinance #1149 Re-bonding of Water Bonds to the Council.

He noted that the re-bonding will save the City about $10,000.00 a year for a total of $140,000.00.

Ron Parker made a motion, seconded by Jeff Berg to approve Ordinance #1149 on first reading by title only. Motion passed unanimously with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

Don Kring made a motion, seconded by Greg Matt to suspend the rules and hold a second vote on Ordinance #1149. Motion passed unanimously with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

Greg Matt made a motion, seconded by Ron Parker to approve Ordinance #1149 on second reading by title only. Motion passed unanimously with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

Greg Matt made a motion, seconded by Linda Berndt to suspend the rules and have a third reading on Ordinance #1149. Motion passed unanimously with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

Ron Parker made a motion, seconded by Don Kring, to approve Ordinance #1149 by title only for third and final reading. Motion passed unanimously with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: DUMPSTER ORDINANCE - DISCUSSION

Mayor Chambers handed out a rough draft of a dumpster ordinance that will be Ordinance #1150. He also passed out some ideas of items the Council may want to include. No official action was taken at this time.

RE: CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Jeff Houston gave an update on three grants that the office is currently working on.

The Area 5 Re-hab housing grant for privately owned homes has just made a claim for its first draw of $34,000.00. The total grant is for $195,500.00 with a local match of $19,500.00.

The Blight Elimination Grant is for $187,000.00 with a local match of $18,000.00. Both of these grants are through the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority.

The third grant is through the Office of Community and Rural Affairs and is the comprehensive Planning Grant in the amount of $39,600.00 with a $4,400.00 local match.

Clerk-treasurer Houston said he would like to have a meeting next year to set priorities on larger capital projects and set some long term goals.

RE: CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney Matsey said he has not heard from Debby McIntire on the dinners to be held at the Community Center. She is still working on the project. He has been working on the dumpster

ordinance and wants to meet with Mr. Bedrock on zoning issues.

RE: MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chambers reported that the 300 East road reconstruction project had been extended through Wednesday December 3.

The railroad has ground down the pavement beside the tracks on Highway 35, to make the crossing smoother.

The Mayor, Clerk-Treasurer and Grant Administrator Ann Manix met with Charlie Weaver about the Blight Elimination Grant. SCEDF has agreed to hold title to the properties. The City Attorney will come up with a memorandum of understanding concerning the issues involved between the City and the foundation.

Ann Manix is coming up with a contract between the City and her to manage the grant. The cost will come out of the grant.

Territorial Engineering was hired to do the permit application for the compost area (the former Knox Dump).

The Mayor is having the water department start to work on the paperwork for a grant.

Nine hydrants were moved at the Industrial Park and three hydrants were replaced this year. A stormwater line and water line were also replaced on lake Street.

Milo has finished up the work on Henry Drive to the Satisfaction of the water Superintendent. That project is now officially completed.

The Mayor is looking into a truck lease for MVH.

RE: VOUCHERS AND ALLOWANCES

The following properly filed vouchers (see Voucher Docket, Voucher #19373 - #19443) were presented and approved.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time the meeting upon motion was duly adjourned.

_____
Rick Chambers, Mayor

Attest: _____
Jeffery J. Houston, Clerk-Treasurer