

The Common council of the City of Knox met in regular session at the Knox City Hall on Tuesday August 27, 2013 at 7:00 PM CST with the following members present: Mayor, Rick Chambers; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, Greg Matt, Don Kring, Jeff Berg, Linda Berndt and City Attorney, Dave Matsey, Councilmember, Ron Parker was absent.

RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Don Kring made a motion seconded by Linda Berndt to add the following items to the agenda: Ordinance #1138 Establishing a Rental Property Registration and Inspection Fund as item 5-A; Resolution #894 Authorizing Submittal of CDBG Application for Housing Grant as item 5-B; and Approval of Purchase of Steve Dodge Property as item 5-C. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous regular meeting were mailed to the councilmembers prior to the meeting for their review. Don Kring made a motion to strike "tree cutting" and insert "when possible" in the minutes under Council Items. Motion was seconded by Linda Berndt. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (1) nay, that being Greg Matt.

Don Kring made a motion, seconded by Linda Berndt to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

Minutes of the Special Meeting held on August 20th were mailed to the Councilmembers prior to the meeting for their review. Linda Berndt made a motion seconded by Greg Matt to approve the Special Meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: BRIAN SPAULDING REPRESENTING CONGRESSWOMAN JACKI WALORSKI'S OFFICE

Brian Spaulding, a representative from Congresswoman Jacki Walorski's office introduced himself to the Council. He said that he had come to listen to the proceedings and inform the Council that a representative from Walorski's office is available the last Monday of each month in the Commissioners Meeting room at the Courthouse from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

RE: CITIZENS COMMENTS

Samantha Mattes came before the Council to inquire about the awarding of the bid for pest control for the City. Mayor Chambers said he has not awarded the contract yet because he is still going over the proposals. He said a decision will be made by the end of the year.

RE: PUBLIC HEARING - 2014 BUDGET

Mayor Chambers opened the public hearing for the 2014 budget. Clerk-Treasurer Houston explained that the budget was advertised with about a 3% increase and the state will only allow about 2.6%, so further cuts will have to take place after the state gets done receiving it. He explained that the Council could cut or keep the budget the same at this point, but not increase it.

No public comments were offered, and after explaining specifics of the budget the Mayor closed the hearing.

RE: ORDINANCE #1138 ESTABLISHING A RENTAL PROPERTY REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION FUND

Clerk-Treasurer Houston explained that the Indiana Code has recently been changed and now requires a dedicated fund to have all monies received deposited into. The fund can only be used for the administration of the plan commission and is a non-reverting fund. Don Kring made a motion, seconded by Greg Matt to approve Ordinance #1138 by title only on first reading. Motion passed with Four (4) aye and No (0) nays.

RE: RESOLUTION #894 - AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF CDBG APPLICATION FOR HOUSING GRANT

Linda Berndt made a motion, seconded by Greg Matt to approve Resolution #894. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: PURCHASE OF TWO PARKVIEW PROPERTIES FROM STEVE DODGE

Mayor Chambers said a committee from the Council met with Mr. Dodge and worked out a deal for the City to purchase two properties from Mr. Dodge for \$5,000.00. A title search has been completed and taxes will be pro-rated up until the time of sale. The property will then have a to be recorded at the courthouse.

Greg Matt made a motion seconded by Jeff Berg to purchase the two properties out of riverboat revenue. Motion passed with Four (4) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Houston reported that the audit was complete and an exit conference was held with the Clerk-Treasurer, Mayor and President of the Council. Results will be posted on the Knox web site.

The patrol car grant will have to be spent on a 2014 auto instead of 2013 because no more 2013's ARE AVAILABLE. The City will have to spend an additional \$300.00 for the newer model.

RE: CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney Matsey reported that he is working with Charlie Weaver of the Starke County

Economic Development Foundation on the dedication process for Hamilton Drive.

Toll Brothers is now in negotiations with the IRS. He is still waiting to hear what will be agreed to.

City Attorney Matsey said he has contacted JTAC and is coordinating with them to enter the ordinance violation codes and amounts into the odyssey system.

Attorney Matsey has received two descriptions of the property easements for the water line extension. At this point he is not sure what the differences are. He wants to make sure that the easements line up with where they want the line to end up.

RE: MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor is presently working on the Re-hab Housing Grant and Demolition Grant for 2 and 4 N Main.

The Harvesting our Future Event was held recently with activities in the park, a nice car show and a parade. He sent thank you notes to the three ladies that spear headed the event: Laura Thompson Hall, Barb Roberts and Coleen Jones.

ABATE Organization will hold the Halloween Event again this year at the Community Center. They will do the costume judging and the Mayor will give \$100.00 out of the Mayors promotional budget for prizes.

the Mayor was advised by Mayor Kaufman of Goshen that the street sweeping contract with the state will raise from \$300.00 a mile to \$360.00 a mile. It hasn't been raised in many years. No official word has been received from the state yet.

RE: COUNCIL ITEMS

Don Kring noted that there was a lot of brush behind the telephone company and asked if it was City property. He would like the property cleaned up, if the City owns it.

Greg Matt said he has received complaints since school has started that residents are parking on the sidewalk and blocking children walking to school. He noted that he thought anyone that notices a truck, RV or other vehicle blocking a sidewalk they should notify the Mayor's office due to the safety issue involved.

RE: VOUCHERS AND ALLOWANCES.

The following properly filed vouchers (see Voucher Docket Book, Voucher #17127 - #17182 inclusive) 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