

The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session Tuesday May 24, 2018 in the Knox City Hall at 7:00 PM CST with the following members present: Mayor, Dennis Estok; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, Jeff Berg, Don Kring, Ron Parker and City Attorney, Leslie Baker. Councilmembers, Tim Manns, and Bertha Blue were absent.

RE: AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

Don Kring made a motion to add Resolution #965, Findings of Fact and Statements of Benefits for Tax Abatement for J.W. Hicks to the agenda. Jeff Berg seconded the motion. Motion passed with Three (3) 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 approval. Jeff Berg made a motion seconded by Ron Parker to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and NO (0) nays.

RE: RESOLUTION #963 – TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Clerk-Treasurer Houston presented Resolution #963-Transfer of Funds to the Council:

RESOLUTION #963
Transfer Funds

WHEREAS; the Clerk-Treasurer has advised the Common Council a Transfer of Funds is now required in the General Fund.

BE IT RESOLVED; by the Common Council of the City of Knox that the Clerk-Treasurer is hereby allowed and directed to make the following Transfer of Funds:

GENERAL FUND:

Police Department	5,000.00 from 101005444-Squad Car 5,000.00 to 101005124-Special Clothing
Board of Public Works	40.00 from 101007407-Building Addition 40.00 to 101007340-IACT Dues

Dennis Estok, Mayor

Attest: _____
Jeffery J. Houston, Clerk-Treasurer

Don Kring made a motion, seconded by Ron Parker to approve Resolution #963-Transfer of Funds. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: ORDINANCE #1168 – ANNEXATION OF J.W. HICKS PROPERTY

Jeff Berg made a motion, seconded by Ron Parker to approve Ordinance #1168 by title only. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

Ron Parker made a motion to suspend the rules and take a second and final vote on Ordinance #1168. Jeff Berg seconded the motion. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

Don Kring made a motion, seconded by Ron Parker to approve Ordinance #1168 by title only on second and final reading. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: PETITION FOR DECLARATION OF ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA – J.W. HICKS

A petition for declaration of an economic revitalization area for J.W. Hicks was presented to the Council for their review.

RE: RESOLUTION #964 – DESIGNATION AS ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA – J.W. HICKS

Resolution #964: Designation As Economic Revitalization Area – J.W. Hicks was presented to the Council. Jeff Berg made a motion, seconded by Don Kring to approve Resolution #964. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: RESOLUTION #965 – FINDINGS OF FACT AND STATEMENTS OF BENEFITS FOR TAX ABATEMENT FOR J.W. HICKS

Ron Parker made a motion, seconded by Jeff Berg to approve Resolution #965. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston stated that this coming year the City would save \$13,552.00 and probably even more because there would be a built in inflation rate. The premium for workers compensation dropped \$4,687.00 and the property liability and umbrella policy will be \$8,895.00 less.

RE: MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Estok said grass clippings should not be placed in the streets. He will do a press release about this. The spring cleaning went well with a total of four dumpsters used. The City may do another clean up in the fall. The new web site is up.

The Mayor encouraged people to check it out. At this point local artist Joey Eskridge presented his concept for the mural at Serenity Park.

RE: COUNCIL ITEMS

Jeff Berg declared that Tim Manns has missed three meetings. Manns is the Councilman for District 4. Jeff Berg asked City Attorney Baker for guidance for removal of Manns from the Council.

Attorney Baker said the Council by resolution must direct her to prepare a bill on impeachment. The Councilman would be notified of the charges and have an opportunity to answer those charges. In anticipation of a request she prepared a resolution directing her to prepare the bill.

RE: AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

Don Kring made a motion to add Resolution #966 – Preparation of Bill of Impeachment to the agenda. Ron Parker seconded the motion. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: RESOLUTION #966 – PREPARATION OF BILL OF IMPEACHMENT

Jeff Berg made a motion seconded by Don Kring to approve Resolution #966. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: COUNCIL ITEMS

Ron Parker stated that he would like to see the purchase of the message board providing we have the money available. The Mayor explained what funds are available. It would take 6 to 8 weeks for delivery after ordering it. Jeff Berg made a motion to purchase a 5 X 9 foot sign. Ron Parker seconded the motion. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

Ron Parker asked about the design print on the street corner of Main and Lake. The Mayor said we should know about the cost within three weeks.

Don Kring asked about how far along the City is with the new IT Vendor. The Clerk-Treasurer said new server and off site storage and cloud back up is up and running as well as insurance that is being purchased for cyber security.

RE: CITIZENS COMMENTS

Larry Wickert from Starke County Economic Development said the Agriculture Department will have more money available through rural development for water and waste water projects next year. The Mayor said our rates are not high enough to qualify.

RE: VOUCHERS AND ALLOWANCES

The following properly filed vouchers (see Voucher Docket, Voucher #25593 - #25665 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.

Dennis Estok, Mayor

Attest: _____
Jeffery J. Houston, Clerk-Treasurer