

The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session Tuesday October 22, 2019 in the Knox City Hall at 7:00 PM CST with the following members present: Mayor, Dennis Estok; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, Ron Parker, Don Kring, Bertha Blue, Jeff Berg, William Gustafson and City Attorney, Autumn Ferch. There were no amendments to the agenda.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

RE: ORDINANCE 2019-OR5, RESERVE POLICE OFFICER

Included in the Councilmembers meeting packets was Ordinance 2019-OR5. Police Chief, Harold Smith explained that for the City to have a Police Reserve Officer program, it must be established by ordinance. He noted that Reserve Officers must complete mandatory training and receive no pay. They will be used mainly for City events; school game nights and other times additional help is needed. Bill Gustafson made a motion, seconded by Don Kring to approve Ordinance 2019-OR5 on first reading. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

Bertha Blue made a motion seconded by Ron Parker to suspend the rules and have a second and final vote on the ordinance. Motion passed unanimously with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

Bertha Blue made a motion, seconded by Don Kring to approve Ordinance 2019-OR5 on seconded and final reading. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: ORDINANCE 2019-OR6, 2020 SALARY ORDINANCE

Included in the Councilmembers meeting packets was Ordinance 2019-OR6, the 2020 Salary Ordinance. The Ordinance calls for the Park Board to be paid closer to the amount of the other boards. No pay increase for the other boards or the Clerk-Treasurer's position. The Mayor's pay would be brought up to the Clerk-Treasurer's pay with an 8% raise, regular employees get a 2% raise and Superintendents get a 1% raise. Councilmembers get a 3% raise. Jeff Berg made a motion, seconded by Ron Parker to approve Ordinance 2019-OR6 on first reading. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

Bertha Blue made a motion to suspend the rules and hold a second and final vote on the ordinance. Motion passed unanimously with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

Jeff Berg made a motion, seconded by Bill Gustafson to approve Ordinance 2019-OR6, 2020 Salary Ordinance on second and final vote. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: ORDINANCE 2019-OR7, WASTEWATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT 2019

John Julien representing financial advisor Baker Tilly presented Ordinance 2019-OR7. It is the bond ordinance for the 2019 Wastewater Improvement Project. He told the Council that the improvement project calls for a \$700,000.00 OCRA Grant and the old 2009 bonds to be paid off.

The old bonds run 4.25 % to 5.5% interest rates. The total bond would be about 2.8 million. The project came in about \$100,000.00 over what was estimated and included in the amount is \$150,000.00 contingency money. There will be no increase in sewer charges or rates. The new interest rate will be about 3.5% rate. There will be a significant savings due to paying off the old bonds early. The bond ordinance is the agreement between the City and whoever buys the bonds that lays out our promises to them and their commitment to the City to buy the bonds.

Jeff Berg, made a motion, seconded by Don Kring to approve Ordinance 2019-OR7 on first reading. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

Bertha Blue made a motion, seconded by Ron Parker to suspend the rules and have a second and final vote on the ordinance. Motion passed unanimously with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

Ron Parker made a motion, seconded by Jeff Berg to approve Ordinance 2019-OR7 Wastewater Improvement Project 2019 on second and final reading. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Houston said he has applied for a grant for \$4,400.00 with a \$3,600.00 local contribution for the Fire Department for safety equipment. It is through the Indiana Public Employees Plan and if granted will be used for thermal imaging cameras during fire rescue events. The local match would come from the Fire Department budget.

RE: MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Dennis Estok reported that the water in the park has been turned off. Within the next week or two the main entranceway into the park will be closed. The City will start cutting the hill back and replace the sidewalk. Community Crossing Grant money will be then used to asphalt Bridge Street running through the park.

The Scill Center is going to rake leaves for 15 properties of senior citizens or the physically handicapped. Last day to sign up is November 12.

Applications have been sent out for entries in the Peppermint Parade which will be held on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Applications are due by November 27<sup>th</sup>.

RE: VOUCHERS AND ALLOWANCES

The following properly filed vouchers (see Voucher Docket, Voucher #28017 - #28082 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