

The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session Tuesday, December 22, 2020 in the Knox City Hall at 7:00 PM CST with the following members present: Mayor Dennis Estok; Clerk-Treasurer Cyndi Kidder; Council Members, Jeff Berg, Sherry Cowen, Don Kring, Bill Gustafson, Ron Parker and City, Attorney Autumn Ferch.

There was no amendment to the agenda.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 11/24/2020

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

RE: PUBLIC HEARING #2 – COVID 19 BUSINESS GRANT 2020

Mayor Dennis Estok opened the Public Hearing #2 for the COVID 19 Business 2020 Grant. KIRPC Grant Administrator Shawn Cain gave the Council an explanation of the grant, 27 businesses in our City were awarded monetary help for loss business. A total grant of \$250,000.00 with no grant match. The public hearing was closed by the Mayor.

RE: RESOLUTION #2020-RE33 – SUPPORT MAIN STREET UNITED INC. PROJECT

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-RE33

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KNOX, INDIANA SUPPORTING A PUBLIC-PRIVATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MAIN STREET UNITED, INC. PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City of Knox supports the revitalization and economic re-development of its historic commercial core; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to maintain an economically vital and vibrant town center for its residents, visitors and tourists; and

WHEREAS, the City sees an economically healthy downtown as one of its critical assets; and

WHEREAS, the City realizes that a sustainable town center economy contributes to the community's economic health; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to maintain a livable, walkable town center with opportunities to shop, work, live and discover recreational, cultural and heritage opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to pursue a partnership with a Main Street United, Inc. a non-profit economic re-development organization to invest in enhancing the quality of life for the community's citizens via the implementation of economic development strategies under the OCRA Indiana Main Street Program; and

WHEREAS, the City's partnership with the Knox Main Street United, Inc. may leverage technical assistance and other resources through the OCRA Indiana Main Street Program to support the economic re-development and revitalization of the City of Knox, Main Street district, then

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KNOX:

1. The City agrees to work with the Knox Main Street United, Inc program dedicating resources and financial support to create a successful downtown economic development program through strategies established by the Indiana Main Street Program, managed by Indiana Office of Rural Affairs (OCRA),
2. The City commits to work collaboratively with Knox Main Street United, Inc. and the Indiana Main Street Program, managed by Indiana Office of Rural Affairs (OCRA) to meet the standards and principles of revitalizing and re-developing the core commercial district of the community, contracting with the local Main Street United, Inc. organization to coordinate and administer activities for the City as set forth in the program manual by Indiana Main Street Program, managed by Indiana Office of Rural Affairs (OCRA)
3. The City commits to provide philosophical, financial, planning and coordination assistance for the Knox Main Street United, Inc. organization to support operations and projects under the specifications of the Indiana Main Street Program, managed by Indiana Office of Rural Affairs (OCRA),

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KNOX, STARKE COUNTY, INDIANA, THIS 22<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2020.

COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KNOX:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Berg, Council President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Don Kring, Council Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sherry Cowen, Council Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Gustafson, Council Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Parker, Council Member

Approved by the Mayor this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of December 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Estok, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cyndi Kidder, Clerk-Treasurer

Don Kring made a motion to approve Resolution #2020-RE33 – Support of the Main Street United, Inc. Project. Motion was seconded by Bill Gustafson, Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: RESOLUTION #2020-RE34 – TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN THE FUND

RESOLUTION #2020-RE34  
Transfer of Appropriations  
Within the Funds  
December 22, 2020

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 Appropriations:

GENERAL FUND:

Clerk-Treasurer	64.18 from 101001332-Postage, Travel 64.18 to 101001221-Office Records
Mayor's Office	813.00 from 101002333-Web Expense 813.00 to 101002111-Mayor
City Judge's Office	448.15 from 101004444-Equipment 448.15 to 101004332-Postage
Police Department	2,406.86 from 101005114-Corporal 588.45 to 101005124-Special Clothing 818.41 to 101006222-Gas, Oil, Tires 1,000.00 to 101005338-Training, Ammo
Fire Department	5,440.00 from 101006337-Annual Pump Test 5,834.04 from 101006339-Fire Calls 1,957.89 to 101006223-Repair Parts 9,316.15 to 101006444-Personal Protective Equipment

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Estok, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cyndi Kidder, Clerk-Treasurer

Sherry Cowen made a motion to approve Resolution #2020-RE34 and seconded by Ron Parker. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: FUNDING FOR PARKWAY DRIVE – PARKING LOTS

The Mayor asked the Council for funding to complete the Parking Lots on Parkway Drive. The Community Crossing Grant and Grant Match will pay for the cost of the road itself. Approximate funding will be \$60,000.00 divided between Cedit, Tiff and River Boat Funds. Ron Parker made a motion to approve the funding for the parking lots. Motion was seconded by Sherry Cowen and passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: STELLAR MATCHING GRANT FUNDING – WYTHOGAN PARK

The Mayor asked the Council for funding for the match for the Stellar Grant for the Wythogan Park Project . The City's match should be around \$20,000.00. Bill Gustafson made a motion to approve the funding for the Grant Match. Jeff Berg seconded the motion. Motion passed by Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

The Clerk-Treasurer reminded the Council to sign the vouchers and Merry Christmas.

RE: MAYOR'S REPORT

1. Round 3 COVID grant, we as a City will be applying. All business can apply whether they received money during Round 1. A new application will be used, and state and local mandates will have to be enforced.
2. Christmas tree pickup will be curbside or in the alley, starts Thursday after Christmas with brush pickup.
3. Public Vet was back in town, 78 cates were fixed, Pet Friendly Services helped fund it and the Humane Society got involved also.
4. Need letters of support from the public for the Main Street Community.
5. COVID testing at the Community Center, appointment not needed, walk-in available. They will run it through your insurance, no insurance it is free. Tuesday 9-6, Wednesday 9-6, Thursday 9-1 and Saturday 9-6
6. John Julian is retiring. He worked with Umbaugh and now Baker Tilly. He enjoyed working with Knox.
7. All winter events are cancelled. Even the Christmas Decorating Contest. The Mayor complimented all citizens who have decorated this year. The homes look wonderful.

RE: COUNCIL ITEMS

Ron Parker spoke about mask wearing in the City. Help yourself and others wear a mask. It will not hurt your business.

RE: CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Jacque Ryan asked who John Julian worked for? The Mayor said Umbaugh which is now Baker Tilly.

RE: VOUCHERS AND ALLOWANCES

The meeting for December 8<sup>th</sup> was cancelled. The following properly filed vouchers for both meetings (See Voucher Docket, December 8 meeting Voucher #29962 - #30031 and December 22 meeting Voucher #30032 - #30095) 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cyndi Kidder, Clerk-Treasurer