

**Common Council
Regular Meeting**

Tuesday, November 14, 2017, 6:30 p.m.
City Hall, 31 S. Madison Street, Evansville, WI

MINUTES

1. **Call to order.** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bill Hurtley at 6:32 p.m.
2. **Roll Call.** Members present: Mayor Bill Hurtley, Alderpersons Jim Brooks, Larry Dobbs, Diane Duggan, Gene Lewis, James Montgomery, Joy Morrison, and Erika Stuart. Alderperson Rick Cole was absent. Others present: City Administrator/Finance Director Ian Rigg, City Clerk-Treasurer Judy Walton, City Attorney Mark Kopp, Community Development Director Jason Sergeant, Library Director Megan Kloeckner, Kelly Gildner of The Review, Housing Authority Executive Director Toni Coats, and Sandy and John Decker.
3. **Approval of Agenda.** Brooks made a motion, seconded by Duggan to include a note that in Item 8A there will be a public hearing as noticed in the Evansville Review. Motion approved 7-0.
4. **Approval of Minutes.** Brooks made a motion, seconded by Duggan to waive the reading of the minutes of October 17, 2017, change Item 8F(2) ~~medium~~ to median and approve them as corrected. Motion approved 7-0.
5. **Civility reminder.** Recognition of the commitment to civility and decorum at Council meetings.
6. **Citizen appearances**

- A. Toni Coats, Executive Director of the Housing Authority of the City of Evansville introduced herself. She explained that there are 3 programs that the Housing Authority administers. The CDBG-RLF program began in the City of Evansville in 1983. In recent years there has been a lack of interest in the program, there is a large amount of work involved in administering the program and it is difficult to keep up with the rules and regulations. The Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Evansville have voted to discontinue administering the program but because the program started with the city she will need Council approval. She feels that this program should get into a regional office to administer it.

Sergeant stated the Department of Administration commented that we could stop the program or find a different administrator. There is approximately \$100,000 of funds left. He spoke with MSA Professional Services, who is the regional grant administrator for this program, and they stated through them an applicant could potentially get funds through the city, regionally, and the county.

Coats stated they receive about \$56 per month to run the program. There are currently 3 landlord loans and 2 homeowner loans. If the program ended, the accumulated funds would stay in the regional program, we would not lose it. She is concerned that when the time comes for her to retire that the program will be too much for her replacement to handle.

Hurtley instructed staff to present this to the Finance and Labor Relations Committee for review.

7. **Reports of Committees**

- A. **Library Board Report.** Kloeckner reported 416 people attended programs in October, 64 people attended the bat program at the library, and Storefront Stores is this Friday from 5-7 (pharmacy & Cedar Hollow). They are on track for a mid-January “go-live” date for the ILS Migration Update and staff trainings will take place in December. FEH will have a

pre-bid meeting on Thursday with recommendations to the Library Board at the December meeting and contractor recommendations will be passed on to City Council for the January meeting.

B. Youth Center Advisory Board Report. No report.

C. Plan Commission Report

1. Stuart made a motion, seconded by Brooks to approve the final Certified Survey Map to divide parcel 6-27-585.001, 405 Water Street, into two parcels finding that the application is in the public interest and meets the objectives contained within Section 110-102(g) of city ordinances. Motion approved 7-0.

D. Finance and Labor Relations Committee Report

1. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Dobbs to accept the City bills as presented in the amount of \$1,216,027.87. Motion approved 7-0 on a roll call vote.
2. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Montgomery to approve Resolution 2017-32, a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,750,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes and the Issuance and Sale of a \$1,750,000 Note Anticipation Note in Anticipation Thereof. Rigg stated this is a loan before the final loan for costs that include the library addition, road construction, ash tree removal, and the acquisition of a plow truck. Motion approved 7-0 on a roll call vote.
3. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Montgomery to approve Resolution 2017-33, A Resolution in support of a Community Development Investment Grant for a downtown catalyst project at Main and Maple Street. Sergeant stated this is showing support for the project at the former Night Owl location. Motion approved 7-0.
4. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Montgomery to recommend to the Redevelopment Authority approval of an Amendment to the 2007 Development Agreement for Historic Renovation of Eager Building. Brooks stated we would be passing on the savings we are receiving due to the refinancing. Motion approved 7-0.
5. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Dobbs to approve the Second Amendment to the 2007 Development Agreement for Development of 31 Room Hotel. Rigg stated this is the same concept as the prior agenda item. Motion approved 7-0.
6. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Montgomery to approve the travel, lodging and attendance of one staff member at the APPA Academy in the amount of \$4,200 approximate. Rigg explained the city would be sending Finance and Utility Accountant Julie Roberts to this academy for utility accounting, billing, and inventory which will help decrease the amount of work done by our auditor's. Motion approved 7-0 on a roll call vote.

E. Public Safety Committee Report

1. Duggan made a motion, seconded by Brooks to approve the Rock County Interagency Agreement and Safe Schools Memorandum of Understanding. Duggan explained this is a result of the Columbine incident. Agencies will share information of students with a criminal history when they move from one district to another. Rigg added that they will not be sharing files but rather historic behavior. Motion approved 7-0 on a roll call vote.

F. Municipal Services Report. Brooks reported they discussed terrace trees and what is and what is not accepted; the budget; and they had a joint meeting with the Finance and Labor Relations Committee regarding the Municipal Services Director's job description.

G. Economic Development Committee Report. Lewis reported they reviewed the 2018 goals; discussed better communications; and discussed gold shovel certification.

H. Redevelopment Authority Report. No report.

I. Parks and Recreation Board Report. Rigg reported they had a very short meeting. They discussed the budget and the fireplace restoration project.

J. Historic Preservation Commission Report. Lewis reported they approved applications for 42 W Church Street for a porch, 33 N 2nd for a car port, 22 Montgomery Ct for an exterior vent, and 128 S First for replacement windows. They discussed the cabin at the park and decided to plan to restore it back to the 1936 look.

K. Fire District Report. No report.

L. Police Commission Report. No report.

M. Energy Independence Team Report. Brooks reported they met on November 1st and handed out the 25 x 25 plan to review. They are looking for a volunteer to help shepherd the Bird City application.

N. Board of Appeals Report. No report.

8. Unfinished Business

A. Brooks presented the second reading and made a motion, seconded by Montgomery to approve Ordinance 2017-14, an Ordinance Adopting the 2018 Operating and Capital Budgets and Setting Tax Levies.

Hurtley opened the public hearing at 7:42 p.m. There were no public comments. Hurtley closed the public hearing at 7:43 p.m.

Rigg stated we started out approximately \$230,000 over our allowed limited but that was reduced by eliminating proposed positions. This budget results in a lowered tax rate of about 5 cents but we can expect the rate to go up in the future due to debt. Brooks asked for and received confirmation that a penny increase in the tax rate is equivalent to an increase of \$3,000 in the budget.

Brooks made a motion, seconded by Dobbs, to amend the motion to increase the budgeted amount for the AWARE Agency (account 10-54600-720) from \$8,500 to \$10,000. Amendment approved 7-0 on a roll call vote. Main motion, as amended, approved 7-0 on a roll call vote.

9. Communications and Recommendations of the Administrator

A. Brooks made a motion, seconded Dobbs to approve Resolution 2017-34, A Resolution to Urge the President of the United States and the United States Congress to Continue the Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program, and to Otherwise Provide with Respect Thereto.

Brooks explained that the Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program has been a useful tool for businesses and homeowners in Evansville. Evansville has been a high volume user of the program in Wisconsin. He is concerned because a current project in Evansville has applications for this tax credit in process which amounts to about 40% of the budget for the renovation. Sergeant added that Union Bank & Trust also used it for their expansion project.

Brooks requested, if the resolution passes, that a copy be sent to every member of the Wisconsin Delegation (House and Senate) and the Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee. Sandy Decker requested a copy be sent to her for distribution by the Wisconsin Historical Society. Motion approved 7-0.

10. Communications and Recommendations of the Mayor

- A.** Brooks made a motion, seconded by Duggan to appoint Abby Barnes to fulfill the remaining term (year 2018) of Leah Hurtley on the Tourism Commission. Motion approved 7-0 on a roll call vote.
- B.** Brooks made a motion, seconded by Stuart to appoint Nicole Hutchins to fulfill the remaining term of Paul Miller (year 2021) on the Evansville Housing Authority. Motion approved 7-0 on a roll call vote.
- C.** Brooks made a motion, seconded by Stuart to appoint Joy Morrison for the remaining term of Ben Ladick as Chair of the Park Board. Motion approved 6-0 on a roll call vote with Morrison abstaining.
- D.** Brooks made a motion, seconded by Stuart to appoint Joy Morrison for the remaining term of Ben Ladick to the Redevelopment Authority. Motion approved 6-0 on a roll call vote with Morrison abstaining.
- E.** Hurtley presented his Mayoral proclamation recognizing National Homeless Awareness Week
- F.** Hurtley presented his Mayoral proclamation in recognition of Evansville Veteran's Participation in the Badger Honor Flight Program. Brooks read the proclamation aloud.

11. New Business. None

12. Introduction of New Ordinances. None

13. Meeting Reminders

- A.** Recognition lunch: Wednesday, December 6, 2017 11:30 a.m., Creekside Place.
- B.** Regularly scheduled meeting: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 6:30 p.m., City Hall

14. Closed Session. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Stuart to convene in closed session pursuant to section 19.85 (1) (e) of the Wisconsin statutes to discuss specific obligations that are due the city, which might entail discussion regarding obtaining public property or payment, where discussion in open session would negatively impact the city's competitive or bargaining position. Upon completion, Common Council will not reconvene in open session. Motion approved 7-0 on a roll call vote at 7:59 p.m.

There was no action taken in closed session and the meeting ended at 8:09 p.m.

Judy Walton, City Clerk-Treasurer