

Common Council Regular Meeting

Tuesday, April 14, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

Due to State and Federal mandated social distancing in response to COVID-19, this meeting was held virtually to ensure the safety of members and the public. Attendance was through a virtual meeting at meet.google.com/npa-cono-rtj and also available by phone at [+1 731-249-0529](tel:+17312490529), PIN: 869 549 929#

MINUTES

1. **Call to order.** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bill Hurlley at 6:04 p.m.
2. **Roll Call.** Members present: Mayor Bill Hurlley, Alderpersons Jim Brooks, Rick Cole, Dianne Duggan, Ben Ladick, Joy Morrison, Jon Senn, and Erika Stuart. Others present: City Administrator/Finance Director Ian Rigg, Community Development Director Jason Sergeant and City Attorney Mark Kopp.
3. **Approval of Agenda.** Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to approve the agenda as presented. Motion approved 7-0.
4. **Approval of Minutes.** Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to waive the reading of the minutes of March 10, 2020 and approve as presented. Motion approved 7-0.
5. **Civility reminder.** Recognition of the commitment to civility and decorum at Council meetings.
6. **Reports of Committees**
 - A. **Library Board Report.** Rigg read a prepared report from Library Director Megan Kloeckner as follows:
 - Vogel Brothers are working on a roof repair to the addition this week.
 - We have been partnering with BASE and the police department to hold live story times on Tuesday mornings with a police officer.
 - The Arrowhead libraries have a virtual meeting tomorrow. The new business on the agenda will center on COVID-19 responses and Arrowhead Library System's Strategic Planning process.
 - Megan and Alison are working on the summer reading program schedule.
 - B. **Youth Center Advisory Board Report.** No report.
 - C. **Plan Commission Report**
 - 1) Stuart made a motion, seconded by Cole to approve Resolution 2020-07, A Resolution for A Public Input Process and Recommendation for Amendment of the City of Evansville, WI Smart Growth Comprehensive Plan.

Sergeant explained there is an upcoming application that Plan Commission will formally review and state law requires a public input plan adopted by Council. The resolution does not approve the application it just verifies Plan Commissions plan to have public input occur. Although we had a public participation plan in place it is Sergeant's understanding that each application needs to have an approved plan.

Motion approved 7-0.

- 2) Stuart made a motion, seconded by Cole to Approve “Map 9.2. Existing Zoning Map (Revision 2)”.

Sergeant explained the state has identified 4 historic districts in the city and we had 3 identified so this will bring us in line with the state. The 4th district is basically the area looped around the park.

Motion approved 7-0.

D. Finance and Labor Relations Committee Report

- 1) Cole made a motion, seconded by Duggan to accept the City bills as presented in the amount of \$2,344,653.53. Motion approved 7-0 on a roll call vote.

E. Public Safety Committee Report. Duggan reported they did not meet but Chief Reese did give a report that included that Officer Rittenhouse is their COVID-19 resource and information officer and he’s been working with EMS Chief Kessenich so they have coordinated efforts and the public is really supporting them.

F. Municipal Services Report. Brooks reported they did not meet. The Customer’s First Coalition meeting scheduled for April 29th has been cancelled.

Rigg added that the insurance company has agreed to pay approximately \$250,000 (roughly 90%) for a new or rebuilt transformer. The engineers are working on final specs for a bid.

G. Economic Development Committee. Ladick reported they had a pretty quick meeting. They discussed streamlining the revolving loan fund process, an item later on the agenda.

Sergeant reported he is trying to get weekly emails out to businesses and is working with the Chamber on an “Evansville Together” website (a sub-website of the Chamber’s) and they are trying to host virtual meetings to help give businesses any resources they can.

H. Parks and Recreation Board Report. No report.

I. Historic Preservation Commission. No report.

J. Fire District Report. Brooks reported they talked about the meeting between the Fire Department and EMS that was scheduled for March and that has been moved out to an unknown date in the future.

K. Police Commission Report. Hurtley reported they plan to meet tomorrow night virtually.

L. Energy Independence Team Report. No report.

M. Board of Appeals Report. No report.

7. **Unfinished Business.** None.

8. **Communications and Recommendations of the Administrator.** Rigg reported he is working hard to ensure staff can work from home when possible; he needed to purchase some technology and supplies to assist people; staff worked very hard on the election; he will be clarifying with staff on leave hours he added due to COVID 19 and how on call hours work; and he will be talking with Public Safety Committee members regarding a Cruise Night parade requested by Creekside Place.

- A. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to approve Resolution 2020-11 Municipal Judge Salary.

Rigg explained this is an annual resolution to approve the Judge's salary prior to his term starting May 1st. The increase is in line with the budget and COLA as were all other employees.

Motion approved 7-0 on a roll call vote.

9. Communications and Recommendations of the Mayor

- A. Hurlley reported Alderperson Larry Dobbs has resigned and he thanked him for his time on Council. An advertisement for this vacancy will be posted and published in the paper.
- B. Brooks read aloud the Mayoral Proclamation Recognizing Arbor Day 2020.
- C. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to approve Resolution 2020-09 in Support of International Migratory Bird Day 2020. Motion approved 7-0.
- D. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Duggan to approve Resolution 2020-10 Stand Against Racism Day 2020. Motion approved 7-0.

10. New Business

- A. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Duggan to approve Resolution 2020-08 declaring a State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 crisis. Rigg explained this will enable him and Chief Reese to make changes in purchases, staff schedules, and closures.

Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole to amend the motion adding in consultation with the Mayor after Chief of Police in Item 3.

Amendment approved 7-0. Main motion, as amended, approved 7-0 on a roll call vote.

- B. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Ladick to adopt staff memorandum of April 9, 2020 to City Council from Jason Sergeant temporarily altering the City of Evansville Revolving Loan Fund approval process to assist local businesses during the 2020 economic crisis caused by COVID-19.

Sergeant explained that the Governor's stay-at-home order has had a noticeable impact on the local businesses. He outlined 3 temporary measures he would like Council to approve that would benefit our businesses most affected by the current economic impacts of COVID-19.

Motion approved 7-0 on a roll call vote.

- C. Brooks made a motion, seconded by Cole that the Council suspend its current rule and/or past practice of voting on proposed ordinances only after a first and second reading so that proposed ordinance 2020-08, which is identified as agenda item 11A can be voted on after the first reading.

Motion approved 6-1 on a roll call vote with Senn opposing.

11. Introduction of New Ordinances

- A. Brooks presented the first reading and made a motion, seconded by Cole to approve Ordinance 2020-08, Amending Chapter 82 – Offense Against Government Administration.

Kopp explained this would allow the city to issue citations and handle citations if there's any violations of the health orders or the orders of the governor. Because we do not have the specific state statutes that prohibit that behavior adopted if Evansville does not do this a citation could be issued but then it would go to the district attorney's office and the district attorney's office have already opined that they would not prosecute them. So, this would give the city the ability to write the tickets if there's any such violations and handle them in municipal court.

Chief Reese added that he would like to handle this locally and the first step would be to warn individuals before issuing a citation.

Motion approved 6-1 on a roll call vote with Senn opposing.

12. Meeting Reminders

A. Reorganizational meeting April 21, 2020 6:00 p.m.

13. Adjournment. Cole made a motion, seconded by Stuart to adjourn at 7:09 p.m.

Judy Walton, City Clerk/Treasurer

The minutes are not official until approved by the Common Council at the next regular meeting.