

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING – 2nd
SEPTEMBER 15, 2008
TIME: 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Gary Herbert, Darrell Poling, Helen Gardner, Herb Hunter and Bill Wenning. Jamie Cain was absent due to being out of State for his work.

Pledge to Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken and all but one was present.

Motion by Bill Wenning and seconded by Darrell Poling to pass on 2nd reading Ordinance 2008-25 four-way stops. Ayes Herb Hunter, Darrell Poling, Bill Wenning and Helen Gardner. Nays none. So passed.

Helen Gardner stated that she had presented the name of Orlando Fontanez to be considered as a board member for the Tif Board at the last meeting. She has talked with him since the meeting and he is no longer interested. She would like to submit the name of Ken Dornich to be considered for the Tif Board position. He has been a former council member and Tif Board member. He is knowledgeable of the Tif and Lincoln Street project.

Bill Wenning stated that he would like to have Jean Johanningman considered for the Tif Board member position because she has been to the meetings.

A five minute recess was taken to see if Jean would be legally able to be on the BZA and Tif Boards at the same time. It was determined that she could not.

Jean offered to give up the BZA Board to be on the Tif Board.

Darrell Poling stated that he felt that all Council members should be present to vote on the appointment since it is a Council appointment.

The Mayor stated that this is a Council appointment and did not feel that he should break a tie vote if it came to that. He would abstain and send it to another meeting.

Motion by Darrell Poling and seconded by Helen Gardner to wait until there is a full Council to vote for a Council appointment to the Tif Board. Ayes Darrell Poling and Helen Gardner. Nays Herb Hunter and Bill Wenning. Mayor Gary Herbert abstained due to this being a Council appointment. Carries to another meeting.

The Mayor held the swearing in of Justin Wells as a probationary policeman.

Budget was discussed and concern expressed for the need to hire two more firemen because next year the legislation will do away with the Township Assessors then the money that could be used for a second fire station would go away.

An agreement between the City and Township would need to be signed for the Township to build a second fire station.

The possibility of police cars being shared was discussed. It was stated that a possibility of officers with 10 years or more being able to take a car home and those under 10 years sharing a car. It was noted that the HEA 1001 is going to have a major impact on all cities and towns. The City will feel more of the impact of HEA 1001 by 2010.

Mayor Herbert stated he would like for the fire chief to give up one of his budgeted 2008 men to be hired and give this man to the police department for 2008. Then the police department would hire two in 2008 besides the two replacements that were just recently hired and sworn in. The fire department would hire two men in 2009 and the police one in 2009.

The Clerk-Treasurer brought up that the whole problem is the fact that tax bills have not been sent out. The 2008 budget has not been approved and the city has only received a little over \$400,000 for their general fund. The way it looks, the city may not even receive monies by the end of 2008. She has talked with the DLGF and they have not received anything from the County to even figure the AV and levies. If the city does hire, they could have to lay-off personnel depending on how the HEA 1001 will affect the city. There is no way of knowing yet.

Motion by Bill Wenning and seconded by Darrell Poling to allow three new men for the fire and police departments. Two for each in 2008, one fireman hired the last half of 2009 and a fire marshal and one for the police in 2009 and one hired the last half of 2009. Ayes Herb Hunter, Darrell Poling, Bill Wenning and Helen Gardner. Nays none. So passed.

Residents of Sycamore Trace are requesting street lights. The problem is that this is a private development and the street put in was sub-standard and because they were not put in according to code, the city never accepted the streets. This development does not have trash pick-up as well. The city has an easement to be able to get back to the lift station.

The Wastewater Plant clears this street back to the lift station.

The residents of this private addition did not want the garbage and city trucks on this road.

On a private addition, the residents would need to write a letter with all signatures and present it to the Mayor asking for street lights.

When a developer puts in an addition they put in the street lights and pole and pass the cost on to the residents.

The residents will have to go through the proper channels of obtaining street lights by paying for the poles and lights since this is a private street and addition.

Mayor Herbert would like to set up a special meeting with the 8 -10 organizations that request money from the City. Meeting is to be October 20th at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall.

The Tax abatement committee will meet on Monday.

Mary Miers from the Animal Control Board came before the Council. She was asking for the amount of funding the City has included in their budget for the Animal Control for 2009.

The Clerk-Treasurer explained that the City pays half of the amount that the County approves for the 2009 budget for the Animal Control and includes extra in the amount for half of the insurance, Medicare, SS, FICA, and PERF.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER:

ATTEST:

_____ Clerk-Treasurer