

**UTILITY BOARD/COMMON COUNCIL**

**Tuesday, November 26, 2024**

**5:30 P.M.**

The Common Council and Utility Board of the City of Huntingburg met in joint session on Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at the hour of 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Huntingburg City Hall at 508 E. Fourth Street, Huntingburg, Indiana. Members Wehr, McPherron, Bounds and Bolte were physically present. Member Kissling was present virtually. This meeting was opened to the public, and made available to members of the public and the media streamed through the City of Huntingburg's YouTube channel accessed via the City of Huntingburg's website. Also present were Mayor Elkins, City Attorney Schneider and Clerk-Treasurer Dippel.

Mayor Elkins called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Bounds, seconded by McPherron to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2024 regular meeting. Upon call of roll for the acceptance of the motion, the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of approving the motion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Wehr seconded by Bolte to approve the claims as presented. Upon call of roll for the acceptance of the motion, the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of approving the motion, the motion carried.

Police Chief Kramer requested a change to the 2025 Salary Ordinance. He requested the position of Sergeant be added at the same range as Detective Sergeant. Attorney Schneider noted that a position will need to be added to the organization ordinance for the police department along with the salary ordinance change. Schneider will prepare the proposed ordinances for consideration at the December 17, 2024 Council meeting.

The 2025 City Calendar and list of holiday observation dates were presented for approval.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Wehr and carried to approve the 2025 Calendar and list of observation dates of holidays as presented. Upon call of roll for the acceptance of the motion, the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of approving the motion, the motion carried.

Transit Director Blessinger presented the bids for the sale of the 2008 Transit Van. The high bid for the purchase of the van was \$2,850.00. Blessinger recommended the sale to the high bidder (Jeffrey Wright) in the amount of \$2,850.00.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Bolte and carried to accept the high bid of \$2,850.00 (from Jeffrey Wright). Upon call of roll for the acceptance of the motion, the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of approving the motion, the motion carried.

Energy Superintendent Reutepohler presented the monthly Gas Utility report. He noted the completion of a welding audit; all looked good.

Reutepohler presented the monthly Electric Utility report. He informed the Board the light conversion in League Stadium is complete. He presented quotes for a 225 KVA padmount transformer for the new airport terminal. The low quote was \$15,871.15 from Brownstown Electric Supply. He indicated there is a 34 week lead time for this transformer.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Bounds and carried to accept the quote of Brownstown Electric Supply in the amount of \$15,871.15 for the 225 KVA padmount transformer. Upon call of roll for the acceptance of the motion, the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of approving the motion, the motion carried.

Reutepohler informed the Board of an inspection report on the 2008 small bucket truck noting it is worn out. A new truck is approximately \$180,000.00 to \$200,000.00 with a lead time of 2 years. He requested permission to seek bids for a new small bucket truck.

A motion was made by Wehr, seconded by McPherron and carried to approve seeking bids and move forward with a replacement vehicle. Upon call of roll for the acceptance of the motion, the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of approving the motion, the motion carried.

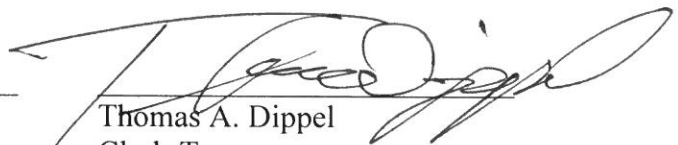
Water Superintendent Austin presented his monthly report. He informed the Board that 1000 feet of old water main has been decommissioned near 1<sup>st</sup> Street and Jackson Street intersection. He noted that Commonwealth Engineers is still working on the filter issue at the plant.

The Mayor reported about last meetings request for changes to the burning ordinance by Mr. John Songer. He noted that open burning is controlled by state statute. The City ordinance is not more restrictive than state statute. Attorney Schneider explained the situation and noted that an exception could be obtained if the property owner appeals to the Indiana Air Pollution Control Board for a special permit for burning of clean wood on a case by case basis. The Mayor will contact Mr. Songer with this information.

Janet Schnell addressed the Council praising City employees for communicating issues near her house. She also noted that she is a daily walker in the City and has many concerns with tripping hazards on the sidewalks. She also noted seeing problems with hoarding and buildings falling down. She will be working to make our City look better. She is concerned with how the City looks to prospective residents. She indicated that a homeowner trying to better their house has to go through more restrictions than someone who has a (hoarding, maintenance) problem living next to them.

There being no further business before the Council, a motion was made by Wehr, seconded by Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 o'clock P.M. Upon call of roll for the acceptance of the motion, the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of approving the motion, the motion carried.

  
M. Neil Elkins  
Mayor

  
Thomas A. Dippel  
Clerk-Treasurer