

UTILITY BOARD/COMMON COUNCIL

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

5:30 P.M.

The Common Council and Utility Board of the City of Huntingburg met in joint session on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 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, Kissling, Bounds and Bolte were physically present. Member McPherron 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 Kissling, seconded by Bounds to approve the minutes of the December 17, 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 Kissling seconded by Wehr 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.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Bolte to elect Council Member Tim Wehr as Council President Pro Tempore for the year 2025. 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.

The Mayor presented Clerk-Treasurer Dippel with a pin and Certificate of Appreciation thanking him for 25 years of service to the City.

The Mayor presented a Mayor Proclamation to Cindy Broeker and Erin Kidwell, of Mentors for Youth, proclaiming January 1 through January 31, 2025 as Mentors for Youth Month in Huntingburg.

Rossina Sandoval, Executive Director of ALASI, updated the Council on ALASI activities with commentary and a presentation.

Attorney Schneider presented the annual ordinance authorizing the Huntingburg Board of Public Works and Safety to enter into an agreement between the City and Patoka Township for the City to provide fire protection for 2025 to Patoka Township in the amount of \$26,000.00.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Wehr to introduce Ordinance No. 2025-01 entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
AND SAFETY TO ENTER INTO A FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACT WITH
THE PATOKA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE**

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 Kissling, seconded by Bolte with unanimous consent to suspend the rules and consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 2025-01 at the same meeting it was introduced. 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 adopt Ordinance No. 2025-01. 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.

Upon call of roll for the adoption or rejection of Ordinance No. 2025-01 the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2025-01 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 5:49 P.M.

Attorney Schneider presented the annual ordinance approving the agreement between the City and Patoka Township for recreational services for 2025. The agreement is in the amount of \$12,000.00.

A motion was made by Wehr, seconded by Bolte to introduce Ordinance No. 2025-02 entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COMMON COUNCIL TO
ENTER INTO A RECREATIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH THE
PATOKA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE**

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 Kissling, seconded by Bounds with unanimous consent to suspend the rules and consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 2025-02 at the same meeting it was introduced. 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 Kissling, seconded by Bolte to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-02. 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.

Upon call of roll for the adoption or rejection of Ordinance No. 2025-02 the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2025-02 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 5:50 P.M.

Clerk-Treasurer Dippel presented a proposed ordinance for the City Gas Utility to borrow up to \$1,000,000.00 from the Electric Cash Reserve Fund for cash flow purposes. It was noted that the Council needs to set the interest rate charged for this loan. The length of the loan would be up to 5 years. There was discussion. Attorney Schneider noted that this ordinance would allow the Gas Utility to borrow funds in future years as needed for cash flow purposes.

A motion made by Kissling, seconded by Wehr to set the annual interest rate at 1% for the loan from the Electric Cash Reserve Fund to the Gas Utility. 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 introduce Ordinance No. 2025-03 entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A LOAN FROM THE ELECTRIC
CASH RESERVE FUND TO THE MUNICIPAL GAS UTILITY**

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 Kissling, seconded by Bounds with unanimous consent to suspend the rules and consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 2025-03 at the same meeting it was introduced. 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 adopt Ordinance No. 2025-03. 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.

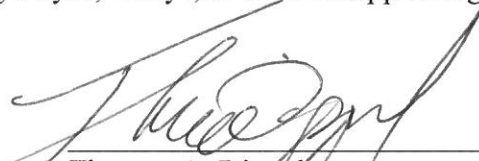
Upon call of roll for the adoption or rejection of Ordinance No. 2025-03 the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2025-03 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 5:53 P.M.

Janet Schnell addressed the Council concerning the proposed "Hoarding Ordinance". Attorney Schneider will work with Planning Director Lake to address this issue possibly by revamping all property maintenance issues as nuisances. Discussion followed.

There being no further business before the Council, a motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Wehr to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 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