

The Common Council of the City of LaPorte

February 16, 2010

Convene

The Common Council of the City of LaPorte met in regular session in the Council Chambers on February 16, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. Attendance: Councilman Logwood, Present: Councilwoman Renner, Present: Councilwoman Hammons, Present: Councilman Heichel, Present: Councilman Schmitt, Present: Councilman Luscomb, Present: Councilman Pressler, Present.

Pledge

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Heichel.

Minutes

As each Council member received an advance copy of the minutes from the previous meeting, Mayor Chrobak stated they would dispense with the reading of same and asked if there were any corrections or additions.

Approval of Minutes

Councilman Pressler moved to approve the minutes as presented; motion seconded by Councilman Logwood and unanimously carried.

Petitions & Comments

Sierra Sue Jesch, 1672 Stone Lake Drive, stated last week Stan Maddox reported the Mayor had indicated the City had not done a downtown parking study in the last five to ten years. She stated that is incorrect. In 2005 the LaPorte Action Committee along with Hyatt Palma did a study on the parking situation in downtown LaPorte with a report given to the City in 2006 outlining suggestions and recommendations. Ms. Jesch stated the City does not need to do another study. She stated when considering parking, the City needs to take into consideration those who live in the downtown area not just businesses.

State of the City Address

Mayor Chrobak presented the State of the City Address.

Standing Committee Reports

Fire Department: Councilman Heichel reported the Fire Merit Commission met on February 3, 2010, at which time a spirited discussion was held on whether to use the new or old merit list.

Park & Recreation: Councilman Pressler reported the final game of the season for the PNC Panthers will be held at the Civic Auditorium tomorrow evening. He stated the circus will be held at the Civic on February 22nd at 6:00 p.m. and on February 23rd at 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. Councilman Pressler reported earlier this evening residents and neighbors of Koomler Park met with members of the Park Foundation and

Park and Recreation Department to discuss possible ideas for improvements to the park. Councilman Pressler informed the Council the 2010 Winterfest was a great success again this year. Also, Rick Frye, Beechwood Golf Pro, resigned and took a new position at the Mishawaka Golf Course.

Sewer/Water Committee: Councilwoman Renner reported the Sewer Committee met prior to tonight's Council meeting to discuss the pending Ordinance on the Council's agenda. She reported they are adding an age exemption of 62. The City Attorney will draft a corrected Ordinance to be placed on the next Council agenda.

School Liaison: Councilman Pressler reported the School Board's special meeting on February 2nd; they approved the preliminary design for the heating/cooling system upgrades at Handley School as well as an upgrade to the office area for a total of approximately \$1,970,000.00. Councilman Pressler advised the School Board is meeting tonight.

Tree Commission: Councilman Schmitt reported the Tree Commission will meet this Thursday, February 18, 2010, at 5:00 p.m. at the Park Office.

Joint Ordinance Steering Committee: Councilman Heichel reported the Joint Ordinance Steering Committee will meet on February 18, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. at the County Complex.

Appointments - Urban Enterprise Zone

Mayor Chroback stated the Council has two appointments to fill on the Urban Enterprise Zone, one residential and one business. Councilman Pressler informed the Council he has spoken to Nancy Wedow who is very interested in serving on the committee.

Motion/Vote - Appointment to Urban Enterprise Zone

Councilman Pressler moved to nominate Nancy Wedow as the Council's residential appointment to the Urban Enterprise Zone; motion seconded by Councilman Schmitt and unanimously carried.

Mayor Chroback reminded the Council they still have a business appointment to fill.

Second & Final Reading of an Ordinance Amending Section 94-167 of the Municipal Code, Decreased Speed Limits (Kingsbury)

Councilman Pressler moved to read an Ordinance for the second and final time by title only; motion seconded by Councilman Heichel and unanimously carried. Councilman Pressler read an Ordinance Amending Section 94-167 of the Municipal Code, Decreased Speed Limits by title only.

Mayor Chroback stated this Ordinance came from the Traffic Commission and pertains to St. John School and extending the speed limit restrictions southward on Kingsbury Avenue a distance of 900 feet.

Motion/Vote - Adopt Ordinance No. 6-2010

Councilman Heichel made a motion to adopt the Ordinance as presented; Councilman Logwood seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Councilman Logwood (Yes), Councilwoman Renner (Yes), Councilwoman Hammons (Yes), Councilman Heichel (Yes), Councilman Schmitt (Yes), Councilman Luscomb (Yes), Councilman Pressler (Yes).

ORDINANCE NO. 6-2010
ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 94-167 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE,
DECREASED SPEED LIMITS
(Kingsbury Avenue)

Second & Final Reading of an Ordinance Amending Section 94-234 of the Municipal Code, 15-Minute Parking Limit (Monroe Street)

Councilman Schmitt moved to read an Ordinance for the second and final time by title only; motion seconded by Councilman Heichel and unanimously carried. Councilman Schmitt read an Ordinance Amending Section 94-234 of the Municipal Code, 15-Minutes Parking Limit by tile only.

Mayor Chroback stated the Traffic Commission forwarded this Ordinance to the Council and pertains to the first parking spot on the east side of Monroe Street north of its intersection with Jefferson Avenue.

Motion/Vote - Adopt Ordinance 7-2010

Councilman Heichel made a motion to adopt the Ordinance as presented; Councilman Logwood seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Councilman Logwood (Yes), Councilwoman Renner (Yes), Councilwoman Hammons (Yes), Councilman Heichel (Yes), Councilman Schmitt (Yes), Councilman Luscomb (Yes), Councilman Pressler (Yes).

ORDINANCE NO. 7-2010
ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 94-234 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE,
15-MINUTE PARKING LIMIT
(Monroe Street)

Other Business

Councilman Logwood announced the Park Department is having baseball/softball sign-ups this evening and Thursday, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Civic Auditorium. He stated if you are unable to sign-up at that time, you can do so at the Park Office prior to March 1st. After that time a late fee will go into effect.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Councilman Logwood moved to adjourn; motion seconded by Councilman Heichel and unanimously carried.

Signatures

APPROVED: _____
Kathleen A. Chroback, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Teresa L. Ludlow, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: March 1, 2010

