

OCTOBER 7, 2019

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Angola, Indiana was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chambers, 210 North Public Square, with Mayor Richard M. Hickman presiding. Councilmembers Gary L. Crum, David A. Olson, Kathleen G. Armstrong, David B. Martin, and Joseph M. Hysong answered roll call. No Councilmember was absent. Clerk-Treasurer Debra A. Twitchell recorded the minutes.

Present were Chief of Police Stu Hamblen, City Attorney Kim Shoup, Economic Development and Planning Director Vivian Likes, AP Clerk Ryan Herbert, Water Superintendent Tom Selman, Wastewater Superintendent Craig Williams, and Park Superintendent Matt Hanna.

Also present were Ashlee Hoos of *The Herald Republican*, Colin Meadowcroft of WLKI, Michael Cunningham, Robert Morehouse, Calvin Rizzo, Alex Duran, LaFranz Hemphill, Logan Gonya, Mike McClelland, Paul Beckwith, John Gonya, Randy Coffey, Pete Washburne, Deb Parcell, Peg Dilbone, Steve Church, Jodie Church, Allen N. Wheat, Jace Crozier, Todd Zeiger, Jerry McDermid, Lynne Liechty, Ken Shelton, Lou Ann Homan, James A. Crowl, Gary Fair, Lee P. Sauer, Jack Daniel, Rodney Robinson, Ron Smith, Randy Coffey, Bill Fee, and Mark Hansbarger.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Councilmember Olson moved to approve the September 16 and 23, 2019 minutes. Councilmember Crum seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Steuben County Commissioners presented a letter and diagram of the proposed Steuben County Court House Renovation Project. Mayor Hickman announced Steuben County officials would speak first, followed by public comments, and then questions from City Council. Commissioner Ron Smith addressed Council by stating Steuben County would like to partner with the City to improve the county court system and to address accessibility. Commissioner Lynne Liechty introduced other Steuben County officials in the audience including Judge Allen Wheat, Judge Bill Fee, Magistrate Randy Coffey, Sheriff R. J. Robinson, Steuben County Councilor Ken Shelton, and Jack Daniel with MartinRileyArchitects-Engineers. The Steuben County court house renovation task force was unanimous in proposing the closure of Gale Street in order to renovate and add on to the existing court house to the south into Gale Street. Judge Fee said that Steuben County wants court activity to continue on Public Square while being respectful of history and everyone's point of view. Steuben County officials understand that the decision regarding the proposed plan is entirely the decision of the City of Angola. Commissioner Jim Crowl stated the plan to close Gale Street is the best option and if that is not approved, Steuben County will go to Plan B. Judge Wheat and Magistrate Coffey followed with like comments. Commissioner Smith then said the task force has had numerous meetings and

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would like the City's thoughts or acceptance of the Gale Street closure and if not accepted, Steuben County would look for another place. Mayor Hickman invited Todd Zeiger with Indiana Landmarks to comment on the plan. Indiana Landmarks supports the conversation to add to the court house with a respectful addition to the building in lieu of abandonment. Zeiger recommended not to close Gale Street and to use the park to the east of the court house. A small addition to the back and addition to the east in the park would allow secure entrance for the sheriff and three ADA access points. A proposed plot plan was distributed. The addition would not require the closure of Gale Street, offer lots of architectural options that includes green space while bridging needs. Mayor Hickman then invited public comments. Pete Washburne, 412 Hilltop Drive, would like to leave Gale Street as it is. Gary Fair, Steuben County Building Maintenance, stated an addition with mechanicals on the east side of the court house is not practical. Paul Beckwith, 622 Pine Run, opposes the addition because the court house is on the National Registry for Historic Places and fears the addition would jeopardize that designation. Wastewater Superintendent Williams noted from a plan review perspective that a development plan should have been offered for proper vetting. Commissioner Liechty stated Steuben County officials are here tonight regarding the possibility of closing Gale Street. If the City is unwilling to close Gale Street, then Steuben County will proceed with development plans for a different location. More public and Steuben County comments followed. Mayor Hickman then invited questions from City Council. Councilmember Armstrong inquired the amount of space needed. Daniel stated based on the needs summary, a total of 60,000 square feet was needed. The existing court house has 24,000 square feet. The proposed addition would be 25,000 to 30,000 square feet. Needs and budget must balance. Councilmember Crum sees the need, but once Gale Street is vacated and if Steuben County changes the plan, the street is closed. Judge Fee proposed a conditional approval to vacate Gale Street. Councilmember Hysong commented struggling with why Steuben County cannot use the park for the addition instead of Gale Street. Zeiger stated a well-executed addition will not endanger the National Historic listing for the court house or the street grid pattern which is also a part of Angola's historic district. Councilmember Hysong stated taking away the grid pattern with the closure of Gale Street is the biggest concern. Councilmember Olson asked is there is anything sacrosanct about the park to the east of the court house. Commissioner Liechty indicated constituents would like to keep the park. Councilmember Martin said he has not talked to any constituents that favor closing Gale Street and say why not use the park. More discussion followed. Councilmember Martin inquired if a vote should be taken. Mayor Hickman inquired with City Attorney Shoup the procedure. Shoup stated that statute requires submittal of a petition to vacate the street with a public hearing before City Council could vote on the matter. Councilmember Olson offered that everyone agrees that something has to be done to renovate the court house. There is fear of cutting off Cameron Hospital to the east and other concerns. Councilmember Olson then said he does not think the City should vacate Gale Street and encouraged Steuben County officials to use the green space to the east. Councilmember Martin does not favor closing Gale Street and was swayed by constituents. There are other ways to move forward and the City is willing to work with Steuben County. Councilmember Hysong agrees with Councilmembers Olson and Martin and also recommended utilizing the green space to the east. Councilmember

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Armstrong indicated because of her relationship with Steuben County and if voting, would recuse herself. Councilmember Crum declared being on the fence but has serious concerns with closing Gale Street. Commissioner Smith said Steuben County will not feel offended if the City says "no". Judge Fee concurred that Steuben County respects the City's viewpoints and will go forward. Discussion followed. Economic Development and Planning Director Likes asked to be invited to the County's task force meetings to address development plan criteria of the City's Historic Preservation Commission, Plan Commission, and Board of Zoning Appeals and also asked that the Steuben County task force stay in contact with Todd Zeiger at Indiana Landmarks.

At 8:13 p.m., the meeting was adjourned until 8:20 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

At 8:20 p.m., Mayor Hickman declared open the public hearing for the proposed 2020 Budget. There being no public comment, the hearing was considered closed at 8:20 p.m. Ordinance No. 1619-2019, ORDINANCE FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES, was read by title and presented to Council on first reading. Councilmember Martin moved to approve. Councilmember Crum seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance No. 1620-2019, APPROPRIATION REDUCTION ORDINANCE FOR THE LOCAL ROAD AND BRIDGE MATCHING GRANT FUND, LIT – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND, AND CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND, was read by title and presented to Council on first reading. Councilmember Martin moved to approve. Councilmember Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance No. 1621-2019, ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF ANGOLA, INDIANA PARK NONREVERTING CAPITAL FUND, was read by title and presented to Council on first reading. Councilmember Martin moved to approve. Councilmember Crum seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance No. 1622-2019, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANGOLA MUNICIPAL CODE, TITLE 10 VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, CHAPTER 10.15 TRAFFIC, STOP INTERSECTIONS, was read by title and presented to Council on first reading. For the purposes of discussion, Councilmember Martin moved to approve. Councilmember Olson seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Councilmember Martin then moved to amend the ordinance and make the intersection a three way stop. Councilmember Crum seconded the amending motion. On call of the vote to amend, the motion carried 5-0. On call of the vote to approve Ordinance No. 1622-2019 as amended on first reading, the motion carried 5-0.

Upon motion by Councilmember Olson, seconded by Councilmember Martin, and carried 5-0, change order no. 1 for A P I Construction Corp. change in contract decrease of \$2,101.95 for Community Crossings Project #1901 was approved.

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Upon motion by Councilmember Martin, seconded by Councilmember Olson, and carried 5-0, change order no. 1 for A P I Construction Corp. change in contract decrease of \$1,478.63 for Community Crossings Project #1905 was approved.

CLERK-TREASURER AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Economic Development and Planning Director Likes reported this week is Downtown Development Week in Indiana. Caleo Cafe is holding lunch events.

Wastewater Superintendent Williams noted a contractor's inspection on the Mechanic/Oak Street sanitary sewer lining project found pipe defects on Mechanic Street which need fixed. Point repairs will be made in front of NEI Glass, Inc. and Midwest Essentials LLC (formerly Nedele's). Following the repairs, the lining will take place. Hopefully, that's the end of sanitary concerns for those two streets.

Wastewater Superintendent Williams then updated Council on the petition to the Indiana Environmental Rules Board to require the Indiana Department of Environmental Management to update water quality standards to align with the intents and purposes of the 2012 EPA Recreational Water Quality Criteria. Between Angola and various Indiana cities, the minimum number of signatures have been collected. The petition will be presented to the Board on November 13. Ironically, two weeks ago, two IDEM inspectors, one from South Bend and one from Indianapolis, showed up for a full day inspection at the plant. Unfortunately, Williams was home with four children and unable to be here, however, there was no problem with staff handling the inquiries and producing the documents requested by the inspectors. Staff did a fantastic job under pressure. As a point of reference, Angola met the IDEM established criteria 20 years ago. Regardless, the final inspection report indicates that the inspectors desired to rate the inspection as unsatisfactory. The point of this information is that the petition invites the Board to direct the IDEM Commissioner to adopt the EPA criteria to avoid the subjective interpretation of the rules by inspectors. Discussion followed.

Chief of Police Hamblen announced the retirement of Sergeant Mike Lesiak on October 5 after 32 years of service. Lesiak is now working for Parkview Health.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE VOUCHERS

Councilmember Hysong moved to approve the Allowance of Accounts Payable Vouchers 42578 through 42869 totaling \$1,343,252.06. Councilmember Crum seconded the motion. The motion carried 5=0.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Mark Hansbarger with Hansbarger Realty addressed Council regarding temporary rental and Airbnb zoning and safety concerns and how to stop the proliferation. Discussion

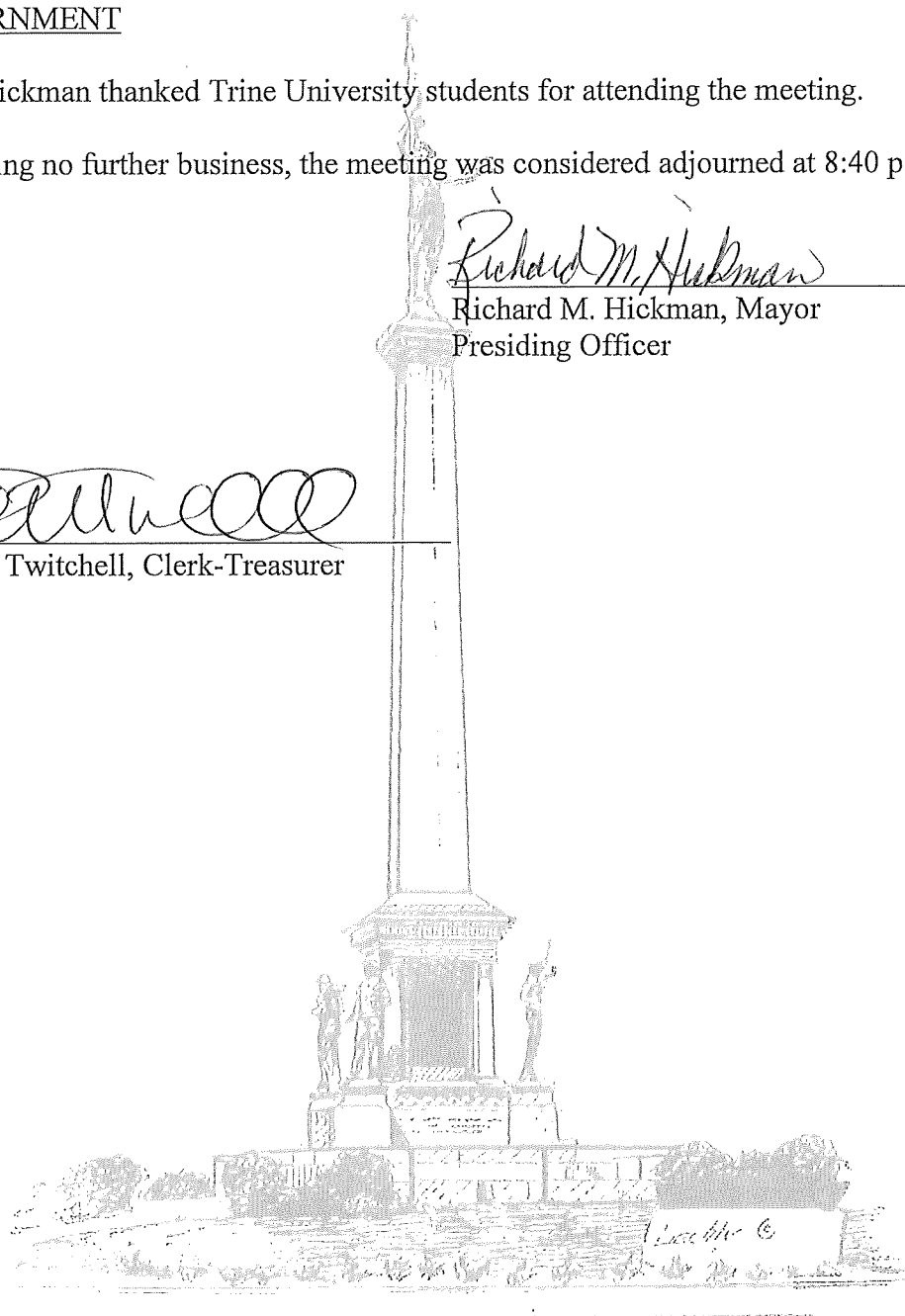
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followed. Indiana law prohibits the governance of such housing. Mayor Hickman suggested Hansbarger contact Senator Sue Glick and Representative Dennis Zent.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Hickman thanked Trine University students for attending the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was considered adjourned at 8:40 p.m.



Richard M. Hickman
 Richard M. Hickman, Mayor
 Presiding Officer

Attest:

Debra A. Twitchell
 Debra A. Twitchell, Clerk-Treasurer