

REGULAR MEETING COMMON COUNCIL – February 14, 2023

The Common Council of the City of Huntington met on the 14th day of February 2023, at 7:00 p.m., in accordance with all applicable requirements and notice.

INVOCATION: Pastor Jim Hippensteel, New Hope United Brethren in Christ Church, gave the invocation.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Strick called the regular meeting of the Common Council to order.

ROLL CALL: Common Council Members present: Joe Blomeke, PJ Felton, Dave Funk, Todd Johnson, Seth Marshall, and Paul Pike. Absent: Charles Chapman.

PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Strick opened the public hearing for an additional appropriation for General Fund, Police DARE appropriation. With no one wishing to speak, Mayor Strick closed the public hearing.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Council Member Johnson moved to approve Council's January 31, 2023, meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Council Member Felton. Motion passed 6-0. Minutes signed.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS: Council Member Marshall reported on the 2022 annual accomplishments for Huntington County United Economic Development (HCUED). No other Council reports were given.

Mayor Strick presented the 2023 State of the City Address to Council and the public. He summarized and highlighted City accomplishments.

PETITIONS OR COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS: Andrew Foster, President of Inspire Ministries which recently purchased Huntington House on William Street and Head Start on Engle Street, requested that the City consider a pledge to help with his matching grant application. The funds are needed to remodel the Head Start building that will work along with the William Street house to accommodate more beds and add a rehabilitation facility to help the homeless in need. Jennifer Gomez has managed the Huntington House for 2 ½ years and has had to turn away several for lack of space.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

First reading of Ordinance 4-C-23: “An Additional Appropriation Ordinance” (General Police). Council Member Pike moved to approve Ordinance 4-C-23 on first reading, seconded by Council Member Felton. Motion passed 6-0. Council Member Marshall made a motion to suspend the rules for Ordinance 4-C-23 to be considered on second reading, seconded by Council Member Johnson Motion passed 6-0. Council Member Felton made a motion **to adopt on second and final**

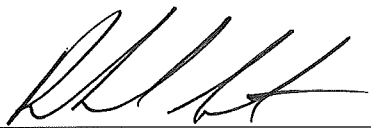
reading Ordinance 4-C-23, seconded by Council Member Pike. Motion passed 6-0. Ordinance signed.

City Attorney Hartburg summarized Council’s earlier executive session concerning pending opioid litigation. Settlements have been reached with five additional opioid manufacturers and distributors, specifically: Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart totaling about \$20 Billion Dollars. Council should decide if it will join the settlements and participate in receipt of settlement funds. **Council Member Johnson moved that the City follow its attorneys’ recommendation that settlements with Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart be joined and that the Mayor be authorized to execute and process such materials as are necessary for the City to fully join those settlements, seconded by Council Member Marshall. Motion passed 6-0.**


MISCELLANEOUS: Clerk-Treasurer McElhaney presented the January Financial Reports for Council’s review and questions. No questions were asked.

ADJOURNMENT: Council Member Blomeke moved to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Marshall. Motion passed 6-0.

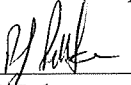
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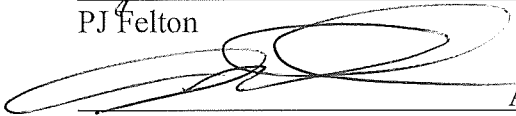
Richard Strick As Mayor



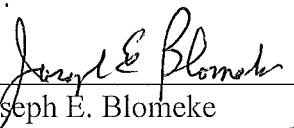
Charles Chapman As Council President




PJ Felton As Member



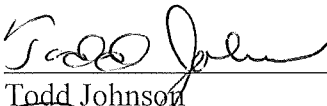
Seth Marshall As Member



Joseph E. Blomeke As Member



Dave Funk As Member

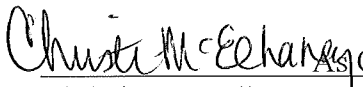


Todd Johnson As Member



Paul Pike As Member

Attest:



Christi A. McElhaney As Clerk-Treasurer