

REGULAR MEETING COMMON COUNCIL – September 26, 2023

The Common Council of the City of Huntington met on the 26th day of September 2023, at 7:00 p.m., in accordance with all applicable requirements and notice.

INVOCATION: Mayor Strick 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, Charles Chapman, PJ Felton, Dave Funk, Todd Johnson, Seth Marshall, and Paul Pike.

PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Strick opened the public hearing on 2024 City of Huntington, Indiana Budget. With no one from the public wishing to speak, Mayor Strick closed the public hearing.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Council Member Felton moved to approve Council's September 12, 2023, regular meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Council Member Johnson. Motion passed 6-0. Council Member Marshall abstained. Minutes signed.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS: No reports were given by Council Members.

PETITIONS OR COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: Introduction and swearing in of the remaining 2 members of the new Mayor's Youth Council, "That Viking Thing". After the oath was given, each student signed the oath to be a member of the council. The Mayor introduced Lilly Poling as the appointed "Viking Thing" member to serve as the Mayor's Youth Advisor on Council for the remainder of the school year.

Council Member Pike moved to approve on second and final reading **Ordinance 19-C-23: "An Ordinance to Establish the Pastor Building as a Single-Site Historic District within the City of Huntington, Indiana" (20 & 22 N Jefferson Street)**, seconded by Council Member Chapman. Motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council Member Marshall moved to approve on first reading **Ordinance 17-C-23: "An Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Elected Officials From and After December 30, 2023 Through the Pay Period Ending December 28, 2024,"** seconded by Council Member Chapman. After some discussion, **Council Member Chapman made a motion to increase the 7% salaries to 8% for all elected and all other employees, excluding public safety employees,** seconded by Council Member Felton. Council Members discussed in detail their support for and opposition to the proposed amendment. **Motion on amendment passed 5-2.** Ayes: Blomeke, Chapman, Felton, Funk, and Marshall. Nays: Johnson and Pike. During continued discussion of amended Ordinance

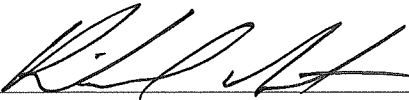
17-C-23, Council Member Johnson made a motion to amend Ordinance 17-C-23 further to not provide an increase in Council Member salaries from the current 2023 salary level, seconded by Council Member Pike. After some discussion, the proposed amendment passed 5-2. Ayes: Chapman, Funk, Johnson, Marshall, and Pike. Nays: Blomeke and Felton. After further discussion by Council Members, the amended Ordinance 17-C-23 “An Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Elected Officials From and After December 30, 2023 Through the Pay Period Ending December 28, 2024,” was passed on first reading, 5-2. Ayes: Blomeke, Chapman, Felton, Funk and Marshall. Nays: Johnson and Pike.

Council Member Marshall moved to approve on first reading Ordinance 18-C-23: “An Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers for the City of Huntington, Indiana, From and After December 31, 2023 Through the Pay Period Ending December 28, 2024; and Hourly Employees of the City of Huntington, Indiana, From and After December 24, 2023, Through the Pay Period Ending December 21, 2024,” seconded by Council Member Pike. This ordinance is reflective of the amended 8% increase voted on in the previous Ordinance 17-C-23. Motion passed 5-2. Ayes: Blomeke, Chapman, Felton, Funk, and Marshall. Nays: Johnson and Pike.

Council Member Felton moved to approve on first reading Ordinance 20-C-23: “An Ordinance to Establish the 2024 Budget Appropriations,” seconded by Council Member Marshall. Motion passed 6-1. Ayes: Blomeke, Chapman, Felton, Funk, Marshall, and Pike. Nays: Johnson.


ADJOURNMENT: Council Member Pike moved to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Chapman. Motion passed 7-0.

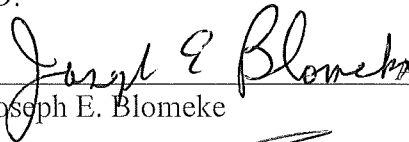
APPROVED:



Richard Strick As Mayor



Charles Chapman As Council President

Absent As Member
PJ Felton


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 Clerk-Treasurer