

REGULAR MEETING COMMON COUNCIL – May 14, 2024

The Common Council of the City of Huntington met on the 14th day of May 2024, at 7:00 p.m., for its regular meeting in accordance with all applicable requirements and notice.

INVOCATION: Associate Pastor Rob Jones, Central Christian Church, gave the invocation.

CALL TO ORDER: In Mayor Strick’s absence, Council President, Charles Chapman called the regular meeting of the Common Council to order.

ROLL CALL: Common Council Members present: Dwight Brautigam, Charles Chapman, PJ Felton, Dave Funk, Todd Johnson, Paul Pike, and Andrew Rensberger.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Council Member Johnson moved to approve Council’s April 30, 2024, regular meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Council Member Felton. Motion passed 7-0. Minutes signed.

Council Member Felton moved to approve Council’s May 14, 2024, executive session minutes as presented, seconded by Council Member Rensberger. Motion passed 7-0. Minutes signed.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS: Council Member Pike commented that the Riverfront District Subcommittee is almost ready to report to Council. Council Member Johnson commented that the DORA Subcommittee is working on a map for the area. No other reports were given.

Lilly Poling and Ella Newton presented for **“That Viking Thing” project wrap up**. The group held a “Teen Town Hall” meeting to get ideas. One project was collecting and **organizing hygiene products to be distributed by the high school nurses office**. If this project continues to be successful, it will be expanded to middle schools and elementary schools. The other project they had in mind is **alley activation project. They chose the alley behind the UB Block apartments** and they cleaned up the area. They will transition this project to next years “That Viking Thing” student members to finish cleaning and sanding the benches and picnic tables in that area and hang string lights for a nice atmosphere to hang out in. They commented that the group learned a lot about leadership and running meetings.

Katy Hudson, Humane Shelter Executive Director reported on the 1st quarter animal intake and other happenings. The shelter has had 161 calls in the City and 100 calls in the County for the first quarter, which has been typically a slow quarter. They are seeing an increase in wellness checks and have encountered a few hoarding situations which involved 14 dogs found in an abandoned house and 34 in another abandoned house in the City. As their facility can’t take care of a volume like that, they had to invest in new kennel/dog run to help. They have spayed and neutered 500 cats since the P.A.L. (prevent a litter) program started and they see 30 – 40 sign up for the program monthly. They are doing their best to help the animals in Huntington City and County.

Rose Hulman engineering students presented their senior project to Council. They did research for the installation of a Natural Pool in the Drover Park area. They explained the

benefits of the natural pool versus a chlorine pool. They presented a design for the area and explained how the filtration system would work for the pool. This would be an attraction for Huntington. There is only one other in the United States located in Minneapolis. Council thanked the students for their work and presentation of this idea.

OLD BUSINESS: City Attorney Hartburg updated Council on the ongoing opioid litigation, use of settlement funds, and additional options. The City has received over \$200,000 from the opioid settlement which has been combined with the funds from other local governments at the Huntington County Community Foundation for use with the treatment/prevention of substance abuse. He explained that the City now has an opportunity to join additional defendants. Council Member Brautigam moved that the City follow its attorneys’ recommendation that the City’s opioid complaint be amended to add all appropriate pharmacy benefit managers, specifically but not limited to Express Scripts and OptumRx, as defendants and that the Mayor be authorized to execute and process such materials as are necessary for the City to fully include such defendants, seconded by Council Member Rensberger. Motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

CF-1/PP: Incipio; Innovative Packaging; Midwest Industrial Metal; Memcor; and Huntington Sheet Metal Compliance forms were presented for approval. Council Member Johnson made a motion to approve the CF-1’s, seconded by Council Member Pike. Motion passed 7-1. Council President Chapman signed.

MISCELLANEOUS: Clerk Treasurer McElhaney presented the April 2024 monthly budget reports.

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

APPROVED:

<u>Richard Strick</u> As Mayor	<u>Dwight Brautigam</u> As Member
<u>Charles Chapman</u> As Council President	<u>Dave Funk</u> As Member
<u>PJ Felton</u> As Member	<u>Todd Johnson</u> As Member
<u>Andrew Rensberger</u> As Member	<u>Paul Pike</u> As Member

Attest:
Christi A. McElhaney
As Clerk-Treasurer