

REGULAR MEETING COMMON COUNCIL – July 9, 2024

The Common Council of the City of Huntington met on the 9th day of July 2024, at 7:00 p.m., for its regular meeting 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: Dwight Brautigam, Charles Chapman, PJ Felton, Dave Funk, Todd Johnson, Paul Pike, and Andrew Rensberger.

PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Strick opened the public hearing on the Additional Appropriation for General Fund, MVH, MVH Restricted, and LRS Fund. With no one wishing to speak, Mayor Strick closed the public hearing.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Council Member Johnson moved to approve Council's June 25, 2024, regular meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Council Member Chapman. Motion passed 7-0. Minutes signed.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS: Council Member Felton and Funk commented that the Golf Cart Subcommittee is ready to present an Ordinance. Council Member Funk also commented on the Plan Commission recommendation on zoning for the offices on Flaxmill Road next to Innovative Packaging. Council Member Rensberger commented there will be an upcoming meeting next week regarding HK Porter. No other reports were given.

Hank Miller, 5570 N 300W, began his comments by thanking the Mayor and the City for moving toward transparency by providing live streaming of its Council meetings. He then brought up some concerns he has about allowing Golf Carts due to modifications that can be made to them which makes them more dangerous and can cause problems. He also has some concerns about the safety of kids in schools due to the culture and some student behavior and another concern he has is with the library regarding one sided content on current issues that is available to kids. He closed by urging the community leaders to work together to solve issues.

OLD BUSINESS

Council Member Felton made a motion to approve on **first reading Ordinance 6-C-24: “An Ordinance of the City of Huntington, Indiana Authorizing Golf Cart Operation on City Streets”**, seconded by Council Member Funk. There was much discussion regarding concerns over safety on the narrow streets in the City and the insurance requirements needed in case of an accident. Some Council Members wanted to see the Ordinance contain restricted areas of operation and not cover all City streets. After more discussion, and a comment from Council Member Chapman on a potential amendment, Council Member Pike called the question, seconded by Council Member Johnson. Motion failed 2-5. Ayes: Felton and Funk. Nays: Brautigam, Chapman, Johnson, Pike, and Rensberger. Council Member Chapman moved to reconsider the ordinance to

include amendments further restricting the use of golf carts. After some additional discussion, the motion was not considered because it included an amendment to an ordinance that had been voted down.

NEW BUSINESS: Council Member Felton made a motion to approve on first and final reading of **Resolution 11-R-23/24: “Funds Transfer Resolution from December 2023”**, seconded by Council Member Johnson. Motion passed 7-0. Resolution signed.

Council Member Chapman made a motion to approve on first reading, **Ordinance 8-C-24: “Additional Appropriation” (General, MVH, MVH Restricted, and LRS Funds)**, seconded by Council Member Felton. Director Cuttriss and Superintendent Bischoff explained the purchases for which these funds will be used. Motion passed 7-0. Council Member Pike made a motion to suspend the rules and allow a second reading, seconded by Council Member Chapman. Motion passed 7-0. Council Member Felton made a motion to **approve on second and final reading, Ordinance 8-C-24: “Additional Appropriation”**, seconded by Council Member Brautigam. Motion passed 7-0. Ordinance signed.

Superintendent Bischoff gave Council an update regarding some **capital purchases that his department will present to Council concerning trucks that need to be ordered now for 2026 delivery**. Council Member Felton made a motion to allow the Street Superintendent to **move forward with the purchase**, seconded by Council Member Brautigam. Motion passed 7-0.

Council Member Rensberger made a motion to approve on **first reading Ordinance 10-C-24: “An Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning Map of the City of Huntington: A Southwestern Portion of 1312 Flaxmill Road”**, seconded by Council Member Johnson. Director Keplinger reported that the Plan Commission gave this zoning request a favorable recommendation. Motion passed 7-0. Council Member Brautigam made a motion to suspend the rules and allow a second reading, seconded by Council Member Pike. Motion passed 7-0. Council Member Brautigam made a motion to **approve on second and final reading Ordinance 10-C-24: “An Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning Map” (Southwestern Portion of 1312 Flaxmill Road)**, seconded by Council Member Chapman. Motion passed 7-0. Ordinance signed.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Clerk Treasurer McElhaney presented the June 2024 monthly budget reports.

Mayor Strick **updated Council on the draft Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) Ordinance:** 1. ATC would like the proposed dates to be specific and 2. The official boundaries map has been updated to accommodate a nearby church.

Director Keplinger is requesting that **Council make a new employee appointment to the City’s Plan Commission** due to a resignation from an employee who was serving and was unable to attend the meetings. Council Member Johnson made a motion to advertise with City employees about the appointment opening, seconded by Council Member Brautigam. Motion passed 7-0. Director Keplinger will bring back a list of names to the next Council meeting, if no one is interested in the appointment, Council Member Felton would be happy to serve.

Mayor Strick complimented the City staff of around 20 employees including Police, Street, and Water Departments that worked together on July 4, 2024 to repair a water main break that affected the entire downtown. The damage occurred around 5:00 a.m. after a semi-truck hit a fire hydrant that caused pressure that broke several water mains downtown and the area was back open by 9:00 p.m. The Mayor also thanked local businesses, including Wise Guys, Antiquology and Paesans Pizza, for feeding and providing drinks to the City workers.

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

APPROVED:

Richard Strick As Mayor

Dwight Brautigam As Member

Charles Chapman As Council
President

Dave Funk As Member

PJ Felton As Member

Todd Johnson As Member

Andrew Rensberger As Member

Paul Pike As Member

Attest:

Christi A. McElhaney As Clerk-Treasurer