

REGULAR MEETING COMMON COUNCIL – January 14, 2025

The Common Council of the City of Huntington met on the 14th day of January 2025, at 7:00 p.m., in accordance with all applicable requirements and notice.

INVOCATION: Ashlyn Kippert, The Awakening, 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 HEARINGS: Mayor Strick opened the public hearing for the **additional appropriation ordinance (Fire Pension Fund)**. With no one wishing to speak, Mayor Strick closed the public hearing.

Mayor Strick opened the public hearing on a requested alley vacation at 1160 Gardendale Avenue, Justin Wall, the property owner and petitioner, explained he would like to build a fence on the property that he has cleaned up. With no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Strick closed the public hearing.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Council Member Johnson moved to approve Council's December 10, 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 Chapman reported on the County Dispatch meeting. They will be moving to fiber internet by March. They have outdated phones; they are looking at a new system for next year. Dispatch staff is down 3 positions, and the Board is looking to hire. Council Member Felton reported on the Solid Waste Board meeting. In looking into the cost of moving the recycling in house to the landfill site, the Board is looking at keeping GFL at the West Park recycle site. They will vote in February. Council Member Rensberger gave an update of the Redevelopment Commission meeting. They are anticipating HK Porter to be cleaned up by the end of 2025. No other reports were given.

Council President Chapman and Mayor Strick presented the **2025 Council slate of Appointments:**

President: Chapman

Public Safety Dispatch: Chapman

Plan Commission: Funk

Redevelopment Commission: Johnson and Rensberger

HCUED: Johnson

Solid Waste Board: Felton

Local Emergency Planning: Brautigam

Lime City Economic Development: Brautigam

CEDIT Advisory: Pike

Council Member Pike made a motion to approve the proposed 2025 slate of Common Council Committee Appointments, seconded by Council Member Johnson. Motion passed 7-0.

Director Keplinger presented the **Historic Review Board slate of appointments**: Bryn Keplinger, Andrew Macklin and Kristy Wall. Council Member Chapman made a motion to approve the appointments, seconded by Council Member Pike. Motion passed 7-0.

Clerk-Treasurer McElhaney presented all elected officials their **2025 nepotism and contracts certificates** to be reviewed and signed. Council Members, Mayor Strick, and the Clerk-Treasurer all signed.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council Member Brautigam made a motion to approve on **first reading Ordinance 1-C-25: “An Alley Vacation Ordinance” (1160 Gardendale Avenue)**, seconded by Council Member Felton. Council’s questions were asked and answered. Motion passed 7-0.

Council Member Chapman made a motion to approve on **first reading Ordinance 2-C-25: “An Additional Appropriation Ordinance” (Fire Pension Fund)**, seconded by Council Member Felton. Council’s questions were asked and answered. Motion passed 7-0.

MISCELLANEOUS: Clerk-Treasurer McElhaney presented the City’s December Monthly Budget spreadsheet. Also, the fourth quarter 2024 Community Foundation Substance Abuse report was presented. The W.H.A.R.M.M. meeting invitation was included in Council’s packet for January 22, 2025, in Andrews. Council Member Chapman stated it is a well-organized collaboration between all the Huntington County entities, and he encouraged members to attend.

Mayor Strick stated that the City’s DORA ordinance has been approved by the State Alcohol and Tobacco Commission and that the City will be moving forward with implementation this year.

Director Cuttriss updated the Council on the ongoing construction projects around the City, so that they may inform their own constituents when asked.

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

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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