

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
September 25, 2017**

The Common Council of the City of Rensselaer met on September 25, 2017 in regular session in Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Stephen Wood called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by invocation offered by Rev. Elizabeth Hartmann with the First Christian Church and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Answering roll call were: Mayor Stephen Wood; Clerk-Treasurer Frieda Bretzinger; Council Members Scott Barton, Rick Odle, George Cover, Ernest Watson, Jr; City Attorney Mike Riley; Cemetery Supt. Kevin Cochran; Park Supt. Joe Effinger; Building Commissioner Kenny Haun; Fire Chief Bob Graves; Police Chief Jeff Phillips; Utility Office Manager Heather Smart; Gas Supt. Carol Lockridge; Electric Manager of Operations Steve Miller; Electric Plant Supt. Claude Grow; Project Coordinator Jerry Lockridge; Caitlin Sievers with the Rensselaer Republican. Council Member Bill Hollerman, Electric Lead Line Foreman Lenny Larson and Street Supt. Andy Daniels were absent.

Also in attendance were: Robert Schenk with Rensselaer Adventures; Stace Pickering with C/I; Rev. Elizabeth Hartmann with the First Christian Church, Peter Woodburn and Beth Graf with Woodburn and Kyle.

The minutes of the September 11, 2017 council meeting were presented. There was a motion by Barton, second by Odle, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent.

Citizen Comments and Presentation of Petitions: Peter Woodburn and Beth Graf with Woodburn and Kyle are conducting the "Parks for People Campaign". Woodburn said the plans have been solidified and they will be using Titan as the architect. Campbell Printing will be doing the printing for the project. Pickering will be handling the video aspect of the project as a video team will be coming in. October 25th will be starting off the campaign.

Ordinance 13-2017, Adoption of the 2018 Budget: Bretzinger read the budget as \$5,836,426.00, the tax levy at \$2,174,111.00, and the tax rate at \$1.1281. There was a motion by Cover, second by Watson, to adopt Ordinance 13-2017 as presented. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent.

Ordinance 14-2017, Policies and Procedures. Another change was made at the request of an employee. Riley said he didn't think we were bound by regulations by the Dept. of Labor since Indiana doesn't have those kinds of regulations. Odle said to strike the wording that breaks cannot be combined with lunch breaks. There was a motion by Cover, second by Odle, to strike the language stating break time may not be combined with lunch breaks or to make up lost time according to Department of Labor. There was a motion by Odle, second by Cover, to approve Ordinance 14-2017 as changed. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent.

Ordinance 16-2017, Repeal and Replace Ordinance 08-2017: This ordinance repeals Ordinance 08-2017 and replaces it with Ordinance 16-2017. There was a motion by Watson, second by Odle, to approve Ordinance 16-2017 as presented. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent.

Resolution 24-2017, Transfer of Funds: Bretzinger said this resolution was requested by the department heads requesting transfers within their departments. There was a motion by Watson, second by Barton, to approve Resolution 24-2017 as presented. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent.

Monthly Activity Logs for Credit Cards: The monthly activity logs were presented to council for approval. There was a motion by Watson, second by Odle, to approve the activity logs. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent.

Permission to Obtain Quotes for Electric Truck: Miller asked permission to get quotes for a 60' Aerial Tower Truck. There was a motion by Barton, second by Watson, to allow Miller to get quotes. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent.

Allow Mayor to Process the Gas Easement on Mt. Calvary Road: Wood said this is the easement and he asked permission to pay the invoice for St. Joseph's College for \$850.00. There was a motion by Odle, second by Cover, to allow the mayor to process payment. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent.

Cemetery Deed Request: Bretzinger read cemetery deed requests for Nancy Smith and Rodney and Shannon Davis. There was a motion by Barton, second by Watson, to approve the deed requests. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent.

New Squad Car: Phillips asked permission to get quotes for a new squad car. There was a motion by Cover, second by Watson, to approve the request. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent.

Committee Reports: There were none.

Administrative Comments:

Barton had nothing.

Bretzinger had nothing.

Cover had nothing.

Hollerman had nothing.

Odle had nothing.

Watson said good job.

Wood said the week of October 1-7 is Public Power Week. He asked for up to \$200 from Public Relations Fund for refreshments. There was a motion by Barton, second by Cover, to allow the \$200.00 to come from Public Relations Fund. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent.

Claims Approval: The claims were presented for payment. There was a motion by Barton, second by Odle, to approve the claims. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent.

Superintendents Reports:

Building Dept.: Haun had nothing.

Cemetery Dept.: Cochran had nothing.

Electric Dept.: Miller said the line guys made it back from Gainesville, FL last Wednesday. Larson was absent. Grow had nothing.

Fire Dept.: Graves had nothing.

Gas Dept.: Lockridge had nothing.

Legal Dept.: Riley had nothing.

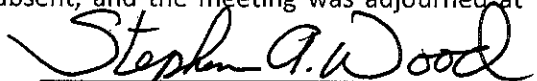
Park Dept.: Effinger said the park board and corporation will meet next Monday night.

Police Dept.: Phillips said October 4th is Coffee with a Cop.

Street, Sanitation, Sewage and Water Dept.: Daniels was absent. Lockridge asked permission to advertise for roads. He said we received \$739,329.00. Wood said it was 327. There was a motion by Barton, second by Watson, to go out for bids. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent.

Utility Office: Smart had nothing.

There being nothing more to come before council, there was a motion by Cover, second by Odle, to adjourn. The motion passed by majority, with Hollerman absent, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.


Stephen A. Wood, Mayor

Attest:


Frieda Bretzinger, Clerk-Treasurer