

**Ligonier Common Council Meeting
Monday, October 27, 2014 – Ligonier City Hall
301 South Cavin Street – Ligonier, IN – 7:00 pm**

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Call to order by Mayor Fisel – Public Hearing for Sewage Rates

The Mayor asked for public comment. As there were no comments, the public hearing was closed.

Call to order by Mayor Fisel – Common Council Meeting

Roll Call

Present: Council President Ken Schuman, Council Members Becky Gray, Kelly Ware, and Julia Bell
Mayor Patty Fisel, City Attorney Steve Hagen, and Clerk Treasurer Barb Hawn

Absent: Council Member Chris Fought

Minutes from previous meeting of October 13, 2014

Motion to approve: Julia Bell

Second: Becky Gray

Vote: All Ayes

Citizens Comments – None

Unfinished Business

Ordinance 850-2014 – Sewage Rates

Eric Walsh of Umbaugh (the city's financial advisor) presented a power point explanation leading to the determination of the final sewage rate increase. The city must adopt a higher rate to cover the cost of the financing as a commitment of safety required by SRF. However, funding provided by the TIF area allows the users to pay a lower monthly fee, with an increase of approximately \$7 to the average residential sewage bill (based on 4,000 gallons). Rates will be effective with the billing mailed at the end of December 2014.

Motion to pass Ordinance 850-2014 on the first reading: Ken Schuman

Second: Julia Bell

Vote: All Ayes

Motion to suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 850-2014 on the second reading: Ken Schuman

Second: Becky Gray

Vote: All Ayes

Motion to further suspend the rules and pass Ordinance 850-2014 on the third and final reading: Ken Schuman

Second: Julia Bell

Vote: All Ayes

Ordinance 858-2014 – Amended Numbering of Buildings

The ordinance passed on the first reading at the last meeting. An amendment adding "Inspector shall assign to every building its respective number, subject to approval of the Ligonier Plan Commission" was added. Council President Ken Schuman asked that the ordinance be reviewed for additional changes before proceeding.

Motion to table and take ordinance 858-2014 under advisement: Ken Schuman

Second: Kelly Ware

Vote: All Ayes

New Business – None

Claim Registers – APV # 43685-43766

Motion to approve: Ken Schuman

Second: Julia Bell

Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Members of Council and Administration

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette

- The department is busy with leaf pick up. Will continue until the first week of December.
- Part-time employee Rick Johnson will remain on staff as a seasonal employees rather than retire
- The building façade has been updated. The new roof install will begin next week.

Park Director Alan Duncan

- Outside restrooms at the parks will be closed at the end of next week.
- Park personnel will take care of closing the new fountain at the fire station.

City Engineer Rick Pharis

- The former Superior building is down. The RDC will meet tomorrow to approve payment and is expected to hold the 5% retainage for damage to sidewalk and alley.

Council Member Kelly Ware

- A reminder to residents be careful about putting branches in with the leaves on the edge of the street
- Commented on the extension of the river walk past AME to Parker. It is very nice.

Council Member Julia Bell

- Employees of the dental office commented regarding the change from angle to parallel parking on the south side of the fire station. She advised them that additional spaces will be eventually become available when buggy parking is moved to the former Superior property.

Mayor Fisel's Comments

- A thank you card from Martin McDonald was received and read.
- An OCRA workshop was held in Kendallville. The Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer both attended and it was very informational.
- Grant Administrator Bob Murphy has asked the city to find a new grant administrator as he intends to retire. The Mayor has an appointment with a rep from Region 3A
- Mayor Fisel attended the Mayor's Round Table in Columbia City. Indications are that the business personal property tax legislation has been pushed aside for the time being. The area mayors will continue to follow the situation. A legislative day for mayors will be held on November 13.
- People are commenting and happy to see the improvements in the city. Thanks to everyone for the excellent team work that makes it happen.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Ken Schuman

Second: Julia Bell