

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL  
VALPARAISO, INDIANA  
January 22, 2018**

The Common Council of the City of Valparaiso, Indiana, met on Monday January 22, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall. Mayor Costas called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Present were Councilmembers Hoffman, Reed, Hudson, Cotton and Porter. Councilmembers Murphy and Douglas were absent.

**MINUTES**

Councilmember Hudson moved to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2018 meeting. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion.

Upon voice vote the motion to approve passed with a 5-0 vote.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1, 2018**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS IN THE POLICE MOTOR VEHICLE EQUIPMENT FUND AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE**

Councilmember Hudson moved that Ordinance No. 1, 2018 be read a first time and considered on first reading. Councilmember Cotton seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read Ordinance No. 1, 2018. Councilmember Hudson moved to carry Ordinance No. 1, 2018 to the February 12, 2018 meeting. Councilmember Cotton seconded the motion.

Chief Balon addressed the Council. This is a yearly request. The money will be used for squad car repair and purchase. The fund is replenished with vin check fees and other fees.

Upon voice vote the motion to carry Ordinance No. 1, 2018 to the February 12, 2018 meeting passed with a 5-0 vote.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2, 2018**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS IN THE LOCAL POLICE EDUCATION FUND AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE**

Councilmember Hudson moved that Ordinance No. 2, 2018 be read a first time and considered on first reading. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read Ordinance No. 2, 2018. Councilmember Hudson moved to carry Ordinance No. 2, 2018 to the February 12, 2018 meeting. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion.

Chief Balon addressed the Council. This is a yearly request. This is a statutory account and funds are replenished by accident reports, gun permits etc.

Upon voice vote the motion to carry Ordinance No. 2, 2018 to the February 12, 2018 meeting passed with a 5-0 vote.

**ORDINANCE NO. 3, 2018**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS IN THE LOCAL ROAD & STREET FUND AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE**

Councilmember Hudson moved that Ordinance No. 3, 2018 be read a first time and considered on first reading. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read Ordinance No. 3, 2018. Councilmember Hudson moved to carry Ordinance No. 3, 2018 to the February 12, 2018 meeting. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion.

Nate McGinley addressed the Council. This is a yearly request. The money will be used for salt and asphalt.

Upon voice vote the motion to carry Ordinance No. 3, 2018 to the February 12, 2018 meeting passed with a 5-0 vote.

## **ORDINANCE NO. 4, 2018**

### **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS IN THE FIREFIGHTING FUND AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE**

Councilmember Hudson moved that Ordinance No. 4, 2018 be read a first time and considered on first reading. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read Ordinance No. 4, 2018. Councilmember Hudson moved to carry Ordinance No.4, 2018 to the February 12, 2018 meeting. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion.

Chief Dutz addressed the Council. This is a yearly request. Money for this fund is received from inspection fees.

Upon voice vote the motion to carry Ordinance No.4, 2018 to the February 12, 2018 meeting passed with a 5-0 vote.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

At the closed meeting of the Council on January 8, 2018 they unanimously voted Councilmember Hudson as President and Councilmember Reed as Vice President of the Council. To make it official in a public meeting, Councilmember Hudson moved to appoint herself as President of the Council and Diana Reed as Vice President of the Council. Upon voice vote the motion passed 5-0.

Councilmember Porter discussed the last School Board meeting. There was a discussion as to whether or not the Valparaiso Community School system should have Martin Luther King Jr. Day off. There was not sufficient input for the Board to make a decision. They are asking for public input on this issue before their February 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. This can be done on their website.

There was discussion regarding the pros and cons of being open on Martin Luther King Jr. day. The City is open but it does sponsor and participate in the celebration at VU. Councilmember Cotton stated being open is the pattern where it is a predominately white community. Councilmember Reed advised many of the schools are adjusting their calendars. They want the semester to end right before Christmas. There are not a lot of days to work with in this process.

### **AUDIENCE**

Brian – he rides his bike to the DASH. The new parking lot does not have a bike rack. Tyler Kent advised him there are bike lockers. He can ask at the desk for a key to one of them.

Kevin Cornett – he feels taking away the MLK holiday sends a bad message. Councilmember Cotton discussed growing up with this issue and there are a lot of people who would not like to have it be a national holiday. He does not feel there is a lot of education going on in regard to Martin Luther King Jr. Councilmember Reed advised she knows there is quite a bit of education in the school system on the history behind Martin Luther King Jr.

Ryan Cole – he walks to the DASH parking lot. Not all of the sidewalks are clear when it has snowed. There was discussion how to take care of this and Bill Oeding advised there will be a new path to the parking area which will eliminate this problem. There was discussion about the current snow ban ordinance.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

/s/ Sharon Swihart, Clerk-Treasurer