

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
VALPARAISO, INDIANA**

May 14, 2018

The Common Council of the City of Valparaiso, Indiana, met on Monday May 14, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall. Mayor Costas called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Present were Councilmembers Murphy, Douglas, Hoffman, Reed, Hudson, Cotton and Porter.

MINUTES

Councilmember Hudson moved to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2018 meeting. Councilmember Cotton seconded the motion. Added to the motion was to approve the minutes from the Special meeting held May 7, 2018. Councilmember Hudson and Councilmember Cotton agreeing with the change in the original motion. Councilmember Cotton stated there were additional questions asked of the candidates at the end of the meeting and these were not included in the minutes. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart indicated that Councilmember Porter will be transcribing the questions asked and answers given during the interview process.

Upon voice vote the motion to approve the April 23, 2018 and the May 7, 2018 minutes passed with a 7-0 vote.

**Presentation
Ceremonial Lighting of ValpoNet Fiber Project**

Patrick Lyp addressed the Council. He went through the history of this project to date. Various businesses throughout the community needed this connectivity. Patrick introduced the various people and businesses from the community who helped make this project possible. Phase one is lighting of the system. Patrick presented this project to the City in 2015. They have set up a server, fiber switches and fiber modules that will light up the north corridor and the north and south loop. It will stay lit and will be monitored 24/7. Mayor Costas flipped the switch and it was lit.

Currently there is not a contract. They are working on the right economic structure. In the next 30 days they will have a contract prepared tying on customers. This will not become obsolete in a few years. This connectivity will always be needed no matter how current technology advances.

RESOLUTION NO. 6, 2018

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALPARAISO,
INDIANA, MAKING A PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION TO ISSUE GENERAL
OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY**

Councilmember Hudson moved that Resolution No. 6, 2018 be read a first time and considered for passage. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read Resolution No. 6, 2018. Councilmember Hudson moved to adopt Resolution No. 6, 2018. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion.

Mayor Costas addressed the Council. His administration has been working to improve or replace key facilities within the City. So far they have done the Police Department, Public Works facility, the Horticultural facility and the utilities. City Hall was built as a Post Office and was purchased by the City in 1986.

Bill Oeding addressed the Council. The City Hall building was built in 1917 and has good bones. Unfortunately it is not meeting the needs of the City's Departments located here. They are proposing a 15-year, \$3 Million Dollar Bond and \$1.2 Million in house funds. This will cover an addition and renovation. Bill went through and discussed the proposed plan. All will be handicapped accessible except for the third floor which is now the Engineer's office. They hope to start work in fall and anticipate it taking one year to complete. A brand new structure with comparable area would cost \$12-\$15 Million. This renovation should be sufficient for 20-30 years.

Councilmember Hudson left at 7:45 p.m.

John Julien of Umbaugh addressed the Council. He gave an overview of the funding plan. \$3 Million is well within the bonding capacity of the City. The average property in Valparaiso will be impacted just under \$10.

Councilmember Cotton discussed if the amount per \$100 of AV would be raised. He asked the gross bond capacity which is \$11.4 Million. There are two issues against that which reduces the capacity down to \$6.4 Million. This proposed bond leaves \$3.4 Million for other projects.

Councilmember Douglas stated he feels this is a great approach. Keeping the building and staying downtown is important.

Upon roll call vote the motion to adopt Resolution No. 6, 2018 passed with a 6-0 vote. Councilmember Hudson was absent.

ORDINANCE NO. 9, 2018

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS IN THE RIVERBOAT FUND AND THE CCIF FUND AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE

Councilmember Reed moved that Ordinance No. 9, 2018 be read a first time and considered on first reading. Councilmember Porter seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read Ordinance No. 9, 2018. Councilmember Reed moved to carry Ordinance No. 9, 2018 to the June 11, 2018 meeting. Councilmember Porter seconded the motion.

Mayor Costas explained this money is the City's portion for the renovation project. The Riverboat Fund will provide \$700,000 and the CCIF Fund will provide \$500,000.

Upon voice vote the motion to carry Ordinance No. 9, 2018 to the June 11, 2018 meeting passed with a 6-0 vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 10, 2018

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALPARAISO, INDIANA, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDS TO PAY FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS, INCLUDING THE RENOVATION OF THE CITY HALL, AND INCIDENTAL EXPENSES IN CONNECTION THEREWITH AND ON ACCOUNT OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS; AND APPROPRIATING THE PROCEEDS THEREOF

Councilmember Reed moved that Ordinance No. 10, 2018 be read a first time and considered on first reading. Councilmember Porter seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read Ordinance No. 10, 2018. Councilmember Reed moved to carry Ordinance No. 10, 2018 to the June 11, 2018 meeting. Councilmember Porter seconded the motion.

Mayor Costas explained this Ordinance is to issue the Bonds for the City Hall renovation project.

Upon voice vote the motion to carry Ordinance No. 10, 2018 to the June 11, 2018 meeting passed with a 6-0 vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 11, 2018

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALPARAISO, INDIANA, ESTABLISHING A NON-REVERTING LAW ENFORCEMENT RECORDING FUND AND A UNIFORM FEE FOR PRODUCTION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT RECORDINGS

Councilmember Reed moved that Ordinance No. 11, 2018 be considered under suspension of the rules and moved for it to be considered on first and second readings. Councilmember Porter seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read Ordinance No. 11, 2018.

Chief Balon address the Council. This Ordinance establishes a fee for copies of body cam videos. The money collected will be used for training and purchase of additional equipment. The amount of the fee is \$150.00. Anyone coming to the Police Station can view the video there for no fee. The fee is just for a copy.

Councilmember Cotton asked how the fee amount was determined. Chief Balon explained this was determined by the State.

Councilmember Douglas asked if someone comes to the police station to watch the video would the video be redacted. Chief Balon explained confidential information would be redacted.

Councilmember Cotton again discussed the \$150 fee and how it is established. He also questioned the Ordinance being passed on suspension of the rules.

Upon roll call vote the motion to pass on first reading passed with a 6-0 vote.

Councilmember Douglas moved to suspend the rules. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion.

Upon roll call vote the motion to suspend the rules unanimously passed with a 6-0 vote.

Councilmember Reed moved to adopt Ordinance No. 11, 2018 on second reading. Councilmember Porter seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read Ordinance No, 11, 2018.

Upon roll call vote the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 11, 2018, under suspension of the rules, passed with a 6-0 vote.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Reed reported the opening of Tower Park is May 24th at 4:30 p.m.

Councilmember Cotton discussed a newspaper article about Journeyman Distillery. Stu Summers addressed the Council. The RDC purchased the old Anco Building. They have spent a substantial amount of money fixing it up. They have also bought nine homes on Campbell and Brown. North of the Anco building was an old dumping grounds. The RDC has purchased that also. All of that property was put into a Request for Proposal for developers to submit proposal of how they might develop that property. They received three proposals. One was only for a portion of the property. The other two were comprehensive. One was a senior living center and the other was Journeyman Distillery. The RDC authorized Stu and Patrick Lyp to move forward with Journeyman Distillery. The proposal also includes residential and commercial development along Brown and Campbell. The third part of the proposal is to create a permanent parking solution for the Chicago Dash. There will be 300 parking spaces. The fourth part is a realignment of Brown/Campbell. The RDC is applying for tax credits with the State. It is proposed to add about 570 new housing units and a tourist oriented destination. They expect to start construction about this time next year.

Councilmember Cotton asked about the tax credits. Stu Summers explained how the program works. They also have filed for Opportunity Zones. The RDC has invested about \$2 Million already. They have received a \$6.8 Million grant from the RDA.

Councilmember Hoffman advised the public to submit questions they would like asked of school board candidates.

AUDIENCE

Todd Skurvino – 1407 Eisenhower Avenue. He feels the water here is awful. There should not be any chemicals in the water. The fluoride makes you dumb. Steve Poulos replied that in 2014 a seven-panel commission was formed to study fluoridation. The documents, determination and final report are on the website. Councilmember Porter asked if the fluoride is put in just for dental health. Steve replied it is. Councilmember Cotton asked about the cost versus self-fluoridation.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

/s/ Sharon Swihart, Clerk-Treasurer