

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
VALPARAISO, INDIANA
July 23, 2018**

The Common Council of the City of Valparaiso, Indiana, met on Monday July 23, 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, Hudson, Cotton and Porter. Councilmember Reed was absent.

MINUTES

Councilmember Cotton moved to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2018 meeting. Councilmember Porter seconded the motion.

Upon voice vote the motion to approve the June 25, 2018 minutes passed with a 6-0 vote.

**PRESENTATION
ValpoNEXT**

Eric Zosso, President of the ValpoNEXT Board, reviewed the history and explained future plans of ValpoNEXT. This is a 20-30 year vision plan. The Planning Committee worked on implementing the Plan 2014 through 2016. In March of 2017 they formed a Board of Directors.

Mayor Costas suggested Eric work with Lori Simon and have an article in the next City Newsletter about ValpoNEXT.

Councilmember Cotton asked how much time is spent on developing new projects versus working on the original ideas. Eric replied the focus is on long term vision plan. Councilmember Cotton asked how much interface there is with the Council. Eric asked the Councilmembers to contact him and he will meet with them. He invited them to the ValpoNEXT events.

ORDINANCE NO. 14, 2018

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

Councilmember Hudson moved that Ordinance No. 14, 2018 be read a first time and considered on first reading. Councilmember Cotton seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read Ordinance No. 14, 2018. Councilmember Hudson moved to carry Ordinance No. 14, 2018 to the August 13, 2018 meeting. Councilmember Cotton seconded the motion.

Chief Balon addressed the Council. This money was collected from various fees and will be used for training aids. The fund currently has a balance of approximately \$140,000.

Upon voice vote the motion to carry Ordinance No. 14, 2018 to the August 13, 2018 meeting passed 6-0.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Douglas discussed the RDC's Neighborhood Improvement Grant of \$60,000.

Maggie is having a City Government Academy. This will give residents an opportunity to learn more about the day to day operations behind the scenes of the city Departments.

Patrick Lyp announced the Coach USA bus will not be coming to Valparaiso as of August 19th. This is due to Coach not being able to have enough drivers to maintain the route to Valparaiso.

AUDIENCE

Bill Durnell – 703 Washington Street - asked why the RDC budget is \$130,000 is allocated for neighborhood improvement but the Grant is only \$60,000. It was explained the extra money is still there. The \$60,000 was agreed would be a good figure to start with and see if the Grant program was successful.

Todd discussed his opposition to having fluoride added to the City water. It is his opinion that fluoride is poison. Mayor Costas explained this issue was discussed several years ago and the decision was made to continue adding fluoride.

Councilmember Cotton asked how many municipalities do not add fluoride to their water. Todd replied there are eight counties in Indiana that do not use fluoride.

Walt Breitinger advised he remembers the fluoride issue was discussed some time ago and it was agreed that in 4-5 years it would be reviewed. It is close to the time to review.

Councilmember Cotton discussed the need for the Councilmembers to review the CF-1 forms for all of the tax abatements to make sure the recipients are in compliance.

Mayor Costas discussed that Patrick Lyp reviews the forms. Any Councilmember is able to ask for and look at the forms. Councilmember Cotton discussed his opinion that the process can be improved to make sure all stay in compliance.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

/s/ Sharon Swihart, Clerk-Treasurer