

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL  
VALPARAISO, INDIANA  
September 24, 2018**

The Common Council of the City of Valparaiso, Indiana, met on Monday September 24, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall. Mayor Costas called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart called roll. Present were Councilmembers Murphy, Hoffman, Reed, Hudson, Cotton and Porter. Councilmember Douglas was absent.

**MINUTES**

Councilmember Cotton moved to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2018 meeting. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion.

Upon voice vote the motion to approve the September 10, 2018 minutes passed with a 6 -0 vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 9, 2018**

**A RESOLUTION REDUCING THE 2018 BUDGET FOR THE VALPARAISO FIRE  
PROTECTION TERRITORY**

Councilmember Hudson moved that Resolution No. 9, 2018 be read a first time and considered for passage. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read Resolution No. 9, 2018. Councilmember Hudson moved to adopt Resolution No. 9, 2018. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion.

Clerk-Treasurer Swihart addressed the Council. She explained to come up with the tax levy the formula is to find out how much needs to be spent, how much is available and subtract that. The Fire Territory was significantly over the max tax levy with the figures as they stood. It is better for them to cut this year.

Assistant Chief Daly addressed the Council. He explained they cut three firefighters they have not used to date and \$400,000 in equipment money which has not been used. They also cut \$30,000 from the bond interest which was not paid because of the City's Rainy-Day Fund. The DLGF will not accept any figure other than they are going to spend 100% of the 2018 budget unless the Council actually reduces that budget.

Clerk-Treasurer Swihart advised this reduction is already in the budget. If this Resoltuion does not pass, she will add it back in and then DLGF will tell them to reduce next year's budget.

Upon roll call vote the motion to adopt Resolution No. 9, 2018 passed with a 6-0 vote.

**ORDINANCE NO. 16, 2018**

**2019 SALARY ORDINANCE**

Councilmember Hudson moved that Ordinance No. 16, 2018 be read a second time by title and a third time in full and be considered for adoption and the opportunity be given for the offering of amendments. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read the Ordinance. Councilmember Hudson moved to adopt Ordinance No. 16, 2018. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion.

Bill Oeding addressed the Council. At the last meeting he gave a detailed review of the Salary Ordinance. He offered to answer any questions.

Upon roll call vote the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 16, 2018 passed with a 6-0 vote.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17, 2018**

**VALPARAISO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS 2019 BUDGET**

Councilmember Hudson moved that Ordinance No. 17, 2018 be read a first time and considered on first reading. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read

Ordinance No. 17, 2018. Councilmember Hudson moved to carry Ordinance No. 17, 2018 to the October 8, 2018 meeting for Public Hearing only. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion.

Dr. Lauck addressed the Council and introduced Sharon Qualkenbush who presented the proposed 2019 budget. She explained changes the State has made in school corporation funds which results in them having more flexibility in spending. This year they will be advertising a budget of \$76,247,158.

Councilmember Cotton advised the approval of the school corporation's budget is a Council responsibility because it is an appointed school board.

A copy of this budget is available on the School Corporation's website.

Upon voice vote the motion to carry Ordinance No. 17, 2018 to the October 8, 2018 meeting, for Public Hearing only, passed with a 6-0 vote.

### **ORDINANCE NO. 18, 2018**

#### **CITY OF VALPARAISO 2019 BUDGET**

Councilmember Hudson moved that Ordinance No. 18, 2018 be read a first time and considered on first reading. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read Ordinance No. 18, 2018. Councilmember Hudson moved to carry Ordinance No. 18, 2018 to the October 8, 2018 meeting for Public Hearing only. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion.

Bill Oeding addressed the Council. He went through the budget and explained the numbers. A copy of his presentation is on the City's website. Anyone with questions can make an appointment with Clerk-Treasurer Swihart and she will meet with them.

Upon voice vote the motion to carry Ordinance No. 18, 2018 to the October 8, 2018 meeting, for Public Hearing only, passed with a 6-0 vote.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

There were no reports.

### **AUDIENCE**

Rex Richards – Chamber of Commerce. He complimented staff for making the City beautiful. He has been receiving a lot of comments from potential new residents.

Comments from the Audience:

When will the City paint the railroad overpass on Highway 30. Bill Oeding replied the Railroad is very protective of their property and it has been a challenge to get this accomplished.

Highway 30 looks good but the median needs attention. Work on Highway 30 runs from Hayes Leonard Road to Highway 49. As the City takes over responsibility for maintenance, it will look better.

Vale Park Road just before the bridge over Highway 49 has a bump on each side which should be fixed. Bill Oeding advised this is a State responsibility.

The sidewalk by Flint Lake School, was it intentionally zig zag. Bill Oeding explained this is a pathway, not a sidewalk. While it was not intentionally zig zag, but it is not objectionable.

The Park Board has received money from Center Township. Questions should be directed to John Seibert.

Outdoor dining is nice. Motorcycles going by are excessively loud. If there is a noise Ordinance, it should be enforced.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

/s/ Sharon Swihart, Clerk-Treasurer