

REGULAR MEETING – March 2, 2010

The Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, met in regular session on Tuesday evening, March 2, 2010, at the hour of 6:30 p.m., local time, in the Common Council Chambers, located in the lower level of the City Hall Building, 100 East Michigan Boulevard, Michigan City, Indiana.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Council President Marc Espar.

Roll call was authorized and the following were noted present and/or absent:

PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS Patricia Boy, Phillip Jankowski, Marc Espar, Robert McKee, Willie Milsap, Richard Murphy, Joe Doyle, Angie Nelson, and Ron Meer (9).

ABSENT: None (0).

A QUORUM WAS NOTED PRESENT.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk – Thomas Fedder, Deputy Clerk – Gale Neulieb and Council Attorney – James Meyer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Espar inquired whether there were any corrections, deletions, or additions to the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 16, 2010.

Councilman McKee made a motion to approve the minutes as printed, second by Councilman Jankowski. The minutes were approved as printed.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Councilman Jankowski advised that to date the Utility Committee hasn't received from the Sanitary District Board their budget regarding their operating funds, rate increases or capital financing plan that was requested. Mr. Jankowski stated that these topics were not on the February 24, 2010 Sanitary District Board's Agenda and that ALCO had not posted the meeting on their website as of Tuesday morning, March 2, 2010.

Councilman Jankowski addressed the Council regarding a Sanitary District vehicle that was involved in an accident on January 22, 2010, the demotion of Councilman Ron Meer and the promotion to the Sanitary District employee that was driving the vehicle involved in the accident on January 22, 2010.

Councilman Jankowski commented that at the last Council meeting (February 16, 2010) he indicated the Sanitary District Board of Commissioners approved a new personnel policy hand book presenting a copy to the Utility Committee to review. Mr. Jankowski stated several comments and concerns regarding the language of the present approved personnel policy handbook.

Councilwoman Boy reported on the Fire Merit Commission meeting held March 1, 2010. Ms. Boy advised applications for probationary firefighters can be obtained at the Personnel Office at City Hall and the date for testing applicants would be scheduled at the next Fire Merit Commission meeting (April 6, 2010).

REPORTS OF SPECIAL OR SELECT COMMITTEES

There were no reports of special or select committees.

REPORTS of OTHER CITY OFFICERS and DEPARTMENTS

Mayor Oberlie requested a joint Executive Session with the Common Council and the Board of Public Works and Safety to be scheduled; advising this meeting is to develop strategy for negotiations of contracts.

Council President Espar stated he would schedule the Executive Session and advise the Clerk's Office.

PETITIONS

There were no petitions.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

RESOLUTIONS

There were no resolutions

ORDINANCES

There were no ordinances.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council President Espar stated that Mayor Oberlie requested advice and consent concerning the re-appointment of Mr. Werner Graf, Tom Przybylinski, and Mr. John Pugh as members of the Michigan City Historic Review Board. President Espar advised their terms of office would begin immediately and expire on March 13, 2013 and that the vote will take place at the next Council Meeting (March 2, 2010).

Councilwoman Nelson made a motion to approve the request from Mayor Oberlie's advice and consent concerning the re-appointment of Mr. Werner Graf, Tom Przybylinski, and Mr. John Pugh as members of the Michigan City Historic Review Board, second by Council Members McKee and Boy.

The motion was carried by the following vote: **AYES: Council Members Jankowski, McKee, Meer, Milsap, Murphy, Nelson, Boy, Doyle, and Espar (9). NAYS: None (0).**

Council President Espar advised Mayor Oberlie was requesting advice and consent concerning the appointment of Mr. Paul Foreman as a member of the Michigan City Board of Cemetery Trustees, beginning immediately and expire December 31, 2011.

Councilman Milsap made a motion to approved the request from Mayor Oberlie for advice and consent to appoint Mr. Paul Foreman as a member of the Michigan City Board of Cemetery Trustees, second by Councilman Meer and approved by the following vote: **AYES: Council Members McKee, Meer, Milsap, Murphy, Nelson, Boy, Doyle,Espar and Jankowski (9). NAYS: None (0).**

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Keith Devereaux, 221 Columbia Street, stated his concerns regarding Councilman Meer's demotion at the Sanitary District.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

Councilwoman Boy thanked Councilman Meer for doing the right thing.

Councilwoman Boy thanked Mayor Oberlie for his Proclamation to the League of Woman Voters making "Making Democracy Work" week advising it was the League of Woman Voters 90th Anniversary and the 90th Anniversary of Woman's Suffrage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution. Ms. Boy also thanked the governor for his Proclamation as well.

Councilwoman Nelson thanked the Mayor for his Proclamation also.

Councilwoman Nelson addressed the Council regarding the Human Rights Commission, "Black History Month Contest", thanking everyone that was involved.

Councilman Meer commented on the communities concerns that have been expressed regarding the IOSHA safety inspection of the Michigan City Waste Water Treatment Plant and reasons why they are being addressed.

Councilman Jankowski thanked Councilman Meer for his actions regarding the IOSHA and IDEM reports.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Councilwoman Nelson, supported by Councilman Meer, and there being no further business to transact, President Espar declared the meeting ADJOURNED (approximately 7:00 p.m.).

Thomas F. Fedder, City Clerk