

# REGULAR “HYBRID/ZOOM” MEETING

## July 5, 2023

The Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, met in Regular session on Wednesday evening, July 05, 2023, at the hour of 6:30 p.m., Hosted by “Hybrid/Zoom” and streamed live on “My Michigan City” Facebook Page.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Fitzpatrick  
Roll call was authorized, and the following were noted present and/or absent.

**PRESENT:** COUNCIL MEMBERS Bryant Dabney, Sean Fitzpatrick, Angie Nelson Deutch, Don Przybylinski, Paul Przybylinski, Gene Simmons, Dalia Zygas, and Tracie Tillman (8).

**ABSENT:** COUNCIL MEMBER Michael Mack (1).

**NOTE:** President Fitzpatrick stated the Councilman Mack will not be present this evening and is excused.

### **A QUORUM WAS NOTED PRESENT**

**ALSO, PRESENT:** Council Attorney Jewel Harris, Gale Neulieb, City Clerk, and Stacy Dudley, Deputy Clerk

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any corrections, deletions, or additions to the Regular “Hybrid/Zoom” Council meeting minutes that were held on June 20, 2023.

Councilman D. Przybylinski made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular “Hybrid/Zoom” meeting that was held on June 20, 2023; second by Councilman Tillman.

The motion carried and the minutes were approved from the June 20, 2023 Regular Council meeting; by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Deutch, D. Przybylinski, Simmons, Zygas, P. Przybylinski, Tillman, Dabney, and Fitzpatrick (8)  
**NAYS:** Council member None (0)

### **REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES**

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any standing committee reports, there was no response.

### **FINANCE REPORT**

President Sean Fitzpatrick asked if there were any reports from the Finance Committee.

Councilwoman Tillman advised that there wasn't a Finance Committee meeting due to there were no claims received for July 5, 2023.

### **CLAIMS DOCKET**

President Fitzpatrick read the following Riverboat/Boyd Development Claims Fund for July 5, 2023

**July 5, 2023**

<b>Fund #2235 – Riverboat – Claims -</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>00.00</b>
<b>EFT</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>00.00</b>
<b>Fund #2504 – Boyd Development -</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>00.00</b>
<b>EFT</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>00.00</b>
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>00.00</b>

President Fitzpatrick advised that there is no vote on the July 5, 2023 Riverboat/Boyd Development funds do to not having any claims.

Councilwoman Tillman stated that to date (July 5, 2023) the Riverboat Fund cash position/ unexpended balance \$1,593,445.33.

**REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSION**

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any reports from any boards or commissions, there was no response.

**REPORTS OF SPECIAL or SELECT COMMITTEES**

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any reports of special or select committees, there was no response.

**REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR OR OTHER CITY OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENTS**

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any reports from the mayor or other city officers and departments.

Heather Stevens, LaPorte County Circuit Court Clerk, addressed the Council regarding the LaPorte County Vote Center Plan that was adopted by the LaPorte County Election Board on June 16, 2023; explaining how the electronic poll books work, the eight (8) voting center locations that voters can stop at anyone any one of them to vote on election not just being able to go to a certain precinct and that you will still go to the Michigan City Court House for early voting; asking for any positive or negative comments about the centers.

Discussion ensued between County Clerk Steven and Council members, Tillman, Deutch, Fitzpatrick, D. Przybylinski, P. Przybylinski, and Zygas questioning why we are moving forward to start the voting centers with the election in November, how we are going to educate the voters, reasons why voting centers were not implemented before now, that the county didn't have the electronic pole books to move forward, that all ballots will be at every location of the voting centers, they also have a mobile unit to use for a voting center, locations being done geographically rather than by voters, time to remove voting being done at all schools, received input regarding where the locations might be, how they are going to notify and educate each voter, signs being put up at polling locations that are no longer going to be used and advising the public where they can go, questioned about not having a voting center in the middle of the city where there are a lot of residents/voters, how many counties in the state of Indiana are "Vote Center Counties".

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any other questions or comments from the Council for Clerk Stevens, there was no response.

## PETITIONS

President Fitzpatrick asked the Clerk if there were any petitions. Clerk Neulieb stated there are no petitions this evening.

## COMMUNICATIONS

President Fitzpatrick asked the Clerk if there were any communications.

Clerk Neulieb read the following correspondence received in the Clerk's Office.

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office on June 16, 2023 from Rodney McCormick regarding how the Board of Public Works and Safety conducts "Public Comments" at their meetings.

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office on June 23, 2023 from Rosemarie Kleinert regarding 2025 Fryer Sub Monopole Tower

In accordance with Ordinance No. 4538, the Clerk's Office received the police report documenting the theft of \$655 cash from Greenwood Cemetery on June 26, 2023

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office on June 26, 2023 from the Indiana Department of Transportation regarding the Streetscape Improvement Project along Washington Park Boulevard.

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office on June 28, 2023 from City Interim Engineer Brad Minnick regarding the 2023 CCMG 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle, 2024 Construction Season and Final CCMG Street List.

Councilman P. Przybylinski called for a "Point of Order" advising that according to the Council's Ordinance there is supposed to be a police officer present at our meetings; making a motion to adjourn/have a fifteen minute meeting to get an officer present, the motion was second by President Fitzpatrick; the motion carried and was approved by the following vote to wait on an officer to arrive; **AYES:** Council members D. Przybylinski, P. Przybylinski, Tillman, and Fitzpatrick (4) **NAYS:** Council members Simmons, Zygus, Dabney and Deutch(4)

Councilwoman Deutch called for a "Point of Order" stating that she doesn't feel it is too late for an officer to get here; the Mayor just walked out of the Chamber; asking Mr. York to ask him to call to get an officer to come to the Council meeting.

Councilman P. Przybylinski asked for a fifteen-minute recess.

President Fitzpatrick advised that we have reached our fifteen-minute recess, calling our meeting back to order.

Councilman P. Przybylinski called a "Point of Order" stating that according to our ordinance a police officer is to be present during all Council meetings; we do not have a police officer present at our Council meeting making a motion to adjourn, second by Councilwoman Tillman; the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m. by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members P. Przybylinski, Tillman, Fitzpatrick, Deutch, and D. Przybylinski (5) **NAYS:** Council members Simmons, Zygus, and Dabney (3)

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Gale A. Neulieb, City Clerk

