

**March 20, 2023**

The Common Council of the City of La Porte met in regular session Monday, March 6, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. in Council Chambers.

**Pledge**

Councilman Galloway led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Present** All present

**Absent**

**Minutes**

Mayor Dermody stated each member received an advance copy of the minutes from the previous meeting and asked if there were any corrections or additions. Councilwoman Feikes moved to approve the minutes as presented; motion seconded by Councilwoman West and unanimously carried.

**Petitions and Comments of Citizens**

Dean White, 3066 N. US HWY 35, stated his heart is in the City of La Porte. Mr. White reported there is a vista view for tourism on Waverly/Pine Lake Avenue and the high brush is blocking one of the most beautiful views of the lake. Mr. White also reported there is a hole in the pavement in front of his vacation rental. He would like permission to cover the hole with concrete to prevent someone from getting hurt. Mayor Dermody stated the Street Department will be out to fix the sidewalk the following day.

Charles Isley, 1116 Indiana Ave Apt A. wanted to publicly thank Annette Loeffler and Councilman Franke for their help. He stated every time he has come before the Council and asked for something they get it done.

**Standing Committee Reports**

**Redevelopment Commission:** Councilman Franke reported the Redevelopment Commission will meet on March 29, 2023, at 5:00 P.M. at City Hall in Council Chambers.

**Sustainability Commission:** Councilman Franke reported the Sustainability Commission will be meeting on March 27, 2023, at 4:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

**Park Board:** Councilwoman Feikes reported the Park Board met on March 15, 2023. Board members were given the five-year master plan update and review. There was discussion of "reclaiming" some of the land behind Ron

Reed Field to construct additional parking for the Fox Park Amphitheater. The UEA will fund \$40,000 of the project and the remaining money will come from other funding secured by the Park Department. Anthem's Grand Illusion, a tribute to the legendary rock band, Styx, will be performing at the Civic on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. General admission balcony tickets are \$20 each. Reserved tables for eight are \$250 and sponsor tables of ten can be purchased for \$400. The Park Department will be hosting a "seniors" prom at Cummings Lodge on April 30, 2023, for the Senior Center. You can contact Pam Carroll at the Park Office for more information.

**Traffic Commission:** Councilwoman Feikes reported the April Traffic Commission will meet on April 11, 2023, at 5:00 P.M. at the Police Station. Due to spring break, the meeting was moved back one week.

**Police Merit Commission:** Councilman Galloway reported the Police Merit Commission will hold its next met on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at 2:00 P.M. at the Police Station.

**Fire Merit Commission:** Councilwoman West reported the Fire Merit Commission will be Wednesday, April 5, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. at Fire Station #1.

**Airport Authority:** Councilwoman Konieczny reported the Airport Authority will meet Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at 5:15 P.M. at the Airport.

**Historic Preservation Commission:** Councilwoman Konieczny reported the Historic Preservation Commission will next meet on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at 5:30 P.M. in Council Chambers.

**Shield 616 Presentation:**

Officer Brain Favia, La Porte City Police introduced Jake Skifstad from Shield 616. Mr. Skifstad stated SHIELD616 was founded to provide all day rifle protection for peace officers and first responders who serve our communities. They have worked with over three hundred different agencies in thirty states. Jake has been on a mission since 2015 to grow SHIELD616 into a Nation-Wide resource. His time as a Police Officer and SWAT team member gave him a valuable experience and unique perspective on what departments need.

For more information visit [www.shield616.org](http://www.shield616.org)

**Public Hearing and Introduction of an Ordinance to Vacate a Portion of State Street Adjacent to the Pine Lake Avenue Overpass**

Councilwoman Feikes moved to read an Ordinance for the first time in its entirety; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously

carried. Councilwoman Feikes read an Ordinance to Vacate a Portion of State Street Adjacent to the Pine Lake Avenue Overpass in its entirety.

Mayor Dermody opened the Public Hearing. Mayor Dermody stated the Public Hearing was published in the La Porte Herald Dispatch on March 2, 2023. There being no public comment Mayor Dermody closed the public hearing.

Councilman Galloway made a motion to suspend the rules and vote on the approval of the Ordinance tonight; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried.

**Motion to Vote/Approve**

Councilwoman Konieczny made a motion to approve an Ordinance to Vacate a Portion of State Street Adjacent to the Pine Lake Overpass; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler an unanimously carried.

**ORDINANCE NO. 5-2023**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE A PORTION FO STATE STREET ADJACENT TO**  
**THE LIKE AVENUE OVERPASS**

**Development Agreement Estoppel Certificate:**

Councilwoman Konieczny made a motion to present a development agreement Estoppel Certificate; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Konieczny read a Development Agreement Estoppel Certificate in its entirety.

Bert Cook, Executive Director La Porte Economic Advancement Partnership stated this property is currently the Aldi Property owned by Kensington Development. The agreement states that all terms and conditions have been met and the new buyer can enter into the agreement knowing nothing is outstanding.

**Motion to Vote/Approve**

Councilwoman Feikes made a motion to approve the Development Agreement Estoppel Certificate; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried.

**Introduction of a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of La Porte, Indiana Approving an Amendment to the Declaratory Resolution and Economic Development Plan for the Thomas Rose Industrial Park Economic Development area:**

Councilman Franke made a motion to read a Resolution for the first and only time in its entirety; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilman Franke read a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of La Porte, Indiana Approving an Amendment to the Declaratory Resolution and Economic Development Plan for the Thomas Rose Industrial Park Economic Development area in its entirety. Bert Cook, Executive Director for the La Porte Economic Advancement Partnership stated this has already been passed by both the Redevelopment Commission and the Plan Commission prior to coming before the Council.

**Motion to Vote/Approve**

Councilman Franke made a motion to approve a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of La Porte, Indiana Approving an Amendment to the Declaratory Resolution and Economic Development Plan for the Thomas Rose Industrial Park Economic Development area; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Konieczny and unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. R-7-2023**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE  
INDIANA APPROVING AND AN AMENDMENT TO THE DECLARATORY  
RESOLUTION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE THOMAS  
ROSE INDUSTRIAL PARK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AREA**

**Introduction of a Resolution to Transfer Funds within the 2023 Budget**

Councilman Galloway made a motion to read a Resolution for the first and only time in its entirety; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilman Galloway read a Resolution to Transfer Funds within the 2023 budget in its entirety.

**Motion to Vote/Approve**

Councilman Franke made a motion to approve a Resolution to Transfer Funds within the 2023 Budget; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. R-8-2023**

**A RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS WITHIN THE 2023 BUDGET**

**Introduction of a Resolution by the Common Council of the City of  
La Porte Approving the Downtown Parking Study**

Councilwoman Cutler made a motion to read a Resolution for the first and only time in its entirety; motion seconded by Councilwoman Franke and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Cutler read a Resolution by the

Common Council of the City of La Porte Approving the Downtown Parking Study in its entirety. Director of Community Development and Planning Craig Phillips stated the study took a look at the different types of parking available in the downtown area. A set of recommendations were presented.

**Motion to Vote/Approve**

Councilwoman Feikes made a motion to approve A Resolution By The Common Council Of The City of La Porte Approving The Downtown Parking Study; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. R-9-2023**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE APPROVING THE DOWNTOWN PARKING STUDY**

**Other Business**

Mayor Dermody stated our Administration is focused on 39 North and its residents. He would like to see the 39 North Board dissolved. The focus will remain on the residents and business owners and keeping them safe with an adequate water supply. Councilman Galloway asked if plans were in place behind Rural King where the trees were removed. Mayor Dermody stated the property is owned by developers of Storage Units and Duplexes. He has told them he supports the housing. Currently there are no plans in place for the property. Councilman Galloway asked if there is a way for smaller trash cans to be delivered to our seniors who may not be able to handle the 96 gallon can. Mayor Dermody stated Waste Management is working with our staff to disperse smaller trash cans.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, Councilman Galloway moved to adjourn; motion seconded by Councilman Franke and unanimously carried.

Approve: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas P. Dermody, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Courtney Parthun, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: April 3, 2023