

September 6, 2023

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilwoman Konieczny led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Franke, Feikes, Vincent, Galloway, Cutler, West, and Konieczny

Absent: None

Agenda Amendment: Councilman Franke made a motion to amend the agenda; motion was seconded by Councilman Vincent and unanimously carried. Councilman Franke made a motion to add the Memorandum of Understanding with thirty-nine north to the agenda; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. City Attorney Nick Otis stated the item would be after agenda item number ten.

Approval of 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; motion seconded by Councilwoman West and unanimously carried.

Petitions and Comments of Citizens

Aurelio Melgoza, 204 North Street addressed the Council with concerns about the Housing Opportunities Project.

Linda Dilks, 402 E Jefferson Ave, addressed the Council with concerns about the Housing Opportunities Project and lack of police presence in the first and second ward.

Richard Horner, 410 Allen Street, addressed the Council with concerns about the Housing Opportunities Project.

Standing Committee Reports

Park Board: Councilwoman Feikes reported the Park Board will meet Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 4:00 P.M. at the Park Office.

Police Merit Commission: Councilman Galloway reported the Police Merit Commission will meet Tuesday September 12, 2023, at 2:00 P.M. at the Police Station.

Mayor's Veterans Committee: Councilman Galloway reported the Mayor's Veterans Committee hosted the first ever All-American. There was a great showing, and it was great to have Mayor Dermody and Jim Pressel in attendance. The next meeting will be held on Monday September 11, 2023, at 5:00 P.M. at the Park Office.

Urban Enterprise Association:

Councilwoman Cutler reported the Urban Enterprise Association will meet Wednesday September 20, 2023, at 4:00 P.M. in Council Chambers.

Business Improvement District:

Councilwoman Cutler reported the Business Improvement District will meet September 11, 2023, in Council Chambers.

Airport Authority:

Councilwoman Konieczny reported the Airport will host two more "lunch on the fly" events to round out the year. This is a great time to meet up with other aviation enthusiasts and enjoy a tasty lunch. The events will be held at the airport from 11:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. on Friday September 22, 2023, and Friday October 27, 2023. A \$5 donation would be greatly appreciated to help offset the cost of lunch.

Historic Preservation Commission:

Councilwoman Konieczny reported the Historic Preservation Commission is excited to host a booth at the 24th Annual Sunflower Fair on Saturday, September 16, 2023. Be sure to stop by and say hi, learn about what the Commission has to offer and explore their interactive booth. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 5:30 P.M. in Council Chambers.

American Cancer Society "Paint the Town Purple" Proclamation

Mayor Dermody introduced June Lenig and her team and invited them to the podium to speak to the Council about the American Cancer Society. Ms. Lenig stated today is the American Cancer Society's Paint the Town Purple Day. Ms. Lenig and her team spent the day painting the downtown area purple with purple ribbons. She stated Relay for Life is being held September 23, 2023. It is a twenty-four-hour event beginning at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday and wrapping up at 10:00 A.M. on Sunday. The event is to raise awareness and raise money for the American Cancer Society. Mayor Dermody will be there to open the event on Saturday September 23rd.

Mayor Dermody read aloud the American Cancer Society "Paint the Town Purple" Proclamation.

Second and final reading of an Ordinance to Vacate a Portion of Darrow Street, Worden Street, an Alley Between Darrow Street and Cook Avenue, and an Alley Between Worden Street and Darlington Street

Councilwoman Feikes moved to read an Ordinance by title only; motion was seconded by Councilman Franke and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Feikes read an Ordinance to Vacate a Portion of Darrow Street, Worden Street, an Alley Between Darrow Street and Cook Avenue, and an Alley Between Worden Street and Darlington Street by title only.

Motion/Vote: Ord. 23-2023

Councilwoman Konieczny made a motion to approve and Ordinance to Vacate a Portion of Darrow Street, Worden Street, an Alley Between Darrow Street and Cook Avenue, and an Alley Between Worden Street and Darlington Street; motion was seconded by Councilman Franke and unanimously carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-2023

AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE A PORTION OF DARROW STREET, WORDEN STREET, AN ALLEY BETWEEN DARROW STREET AND COOK AVENUE, AND AN ALLEY BETWEEN WORDEN STREET AND DARLINGTON STREET

Introduction of a Resolution Adopting a Definitive Policy and Written Fiscal Plan

Councilwoman Franke moved to introduce a Resolution Adopting a Definitive Policy and Written Fiscal plan for the first and only time in its entirety; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilman Franke read a Resolution Adopting a Definitive Policy and Written Fiscal Plan in its entirety.

Craig Phillips, Director of Community Development and Planning stated the Council had previously been presented the Fiscal Plan in its entirety by Dean Rogers from Baker Tilly. Mr. Rogers is here tonight and will briefly highlight a few items. Dean Rodgers from Baker Tilly highlighted a few important items on the Fiscal Plan and noted the revisions.

Motion/Vote: R-21-2023

Councilman Franke made a motion to approve a Resolution Adopting a Definitive Policy and Written Fiscal plan; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes an unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION R-21-2023
A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A DEFINITIVE POLICY AND WRITEN FISCAL PLAN

Second and Final Reading of an Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of La Porte, Indiana, Annexing to and Bringing Within the City Limits of La Porte, Indiana, and Amending the Zoning Ordinance for Property Located in Center Township, Contiguous Herewith: Name of Petition: 39 North Annexation – Part 1

Motion/Vote: Ord. 24-2023

Councilman Franke made a motion to approve an Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of La Porte, Indiana, Annexing to and Bringing Within the City Limits of La Porte, Indiana, and Amending the Zoning Ordinance for Property Located in Center Township, Contiguous Herewith: Name of Petition: 39 North Annexation – Part 1; motion was seconded by Councilman Franke and unanimously carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-2023
ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE, INDIANA, ANNEXING TO AND BRINGING WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF LA PORTE, INDIANA, AND AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE FOR PROPERTY LOCATED IN CENTER TOWNSHIP, CONTIGUOUS HEREWITH: NAME OF PETITION: 39 NORTH ANNEXATION – PART 1

Memorandum of Understanding:

Councilman Franke moved to read the Memorandum of Understanding by title only; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried.

Councilman Franke moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding Between City of La Porte, Indiana Board of Public Works, and the Thirty-Nine North Conservancy District; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried.

Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 25-2022, to Amend Salaries in the Fire Department and to Add an Information Technology Department

Councilwoman Cutler made a motion to read an Ordinance for the first time by title only; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Cutler read an Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 25-2022, to Amend Salaries in the Fire Department and to Add an Information Technology Department in its entirety. Second and final reading will take place at the September 18, 2023, meeting.

Mayor Dermody stated The City of La Porte will finally have an in-house Information Technology Director, Roscoe Hoffman. Roscoe is coming to us from the County and will be starting September 25, 2023. Clerk-Treasurer Parthun stated adding Roscoe to our staff will help to lessen the contract with our third-party managed services. This year the funds to pay him will come from this additional appropriation and going forward in 2024 every department will use him so every department will pay for him.

Chief Snyder stated Project Swaddle is a seven-member team. The team will do two pre-birth and two post birth home visits to new moms. These employees are paid solely from grant funds for hours worked as part of Project Swaddle but for the City to pay them through payroll the position needs to be added to the Salary Ordinance.

Public Hearing and Introduction of a Resolution for an Additional Appropriation for CEDIT Fund

Councilwoman West moved to read a Resolution for the first and only time in its entirety; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried. Councilwoman West read a Resolution for an Additional Appropriation for CEDIT Fund in its entirety.

Public Hearing

Mayor Dermody opened the public hearing. Clerk-Treasurer Courtney Parthun noted the affidavit of publication was published in the Herald Dispatch on August 17, 2023. There being no public comment Mayor Dermody closed the public hearing.

Motion/Vote: R-22-2023

Councilman Vincent made a motion to approve a Resolution for an Additional Appropriation for CEDIT Fund; motion was seconded by Councilwoman West and unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION R-22-2023 A RESOLUTION FOR AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR CEDIT FUND

Introduction of a Resolution to Transfer Funds Within the 2023 Budgets

Councilman Galloway moved to read a Resolution for the first and only time in its entirety; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried. Councilman Galloway read a Resolution to Transfer Funds Within the 2023 budgets in its entirety.

Motion/Vote: R-23-2023

Councilman Franke moved to approve a Resolution to Transfer Funds Within the 2023 Budgets; motion was seconded by Councilman Vincent and unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION R-23-2023
A RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS WITH THE 2023 BUDGETS**

Budget Workshop:

Mayor Dermody stated a Council Budget Workshop will be held on September 12, 2023, at 1:30 P.M.

Other Business:

None

Adjourn

Councilman Galloway moved to adjourn; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes.

Approved:

Thomas P. Dermody, Mayor

Attest: _____
Courtney Parthun, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: September 15, 2023