

**October 2, 2023**

The Common Council of the City of La Porte met in regular session Monday, October 2, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. in Council Chambers.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Councilwoman Feikes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:** All Present

**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 as presented, motion was seconded by Councilwoman West and unanimously approved.

**Petitions and Comments of Citizens**

There were no petitions or comments.

**Standing Committee Reports**

**Sustainability Commission:** Councilman Franke reported the Sustainability Commission met Monday, September 25, 2023, at 4:00 P.M. at City Hall in Council Chambers. Mr. Franke applauded Tucker King for securing a one million dollar grant to be used for trees. The Sustainability Commission discussed the stipulations laid out by the grant and what they might want to use the funds for.

**Redevelopment Commission:** Councilman Franke reported the Redevelopment Commission met Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 5:15 P.M. at City Hall in Council Chambers. Claims were paid and a lease was discussed along with a Resolution that is being presented to the Council regarding property in the Thomas Rose Industrial Park.

**Traffic Commission:** Councilwoman Feikes reported the Traffic Commission will meet on Wednesday October 3, 2023, at 5:00 P.M. at the Police Station

**Mayor's Veterans Committee:** Councilman Galloway reported the Mayor's Veterans Committee will meet Monday, October 9, 2023, at the Park Department.

**Police Merit Commission:** Councilman Galloway reported the Police Merit Commission will meet October 10, 2023, at the Police Station. Lastly,

Councilman Galloway reported Bolt for the Heart will be on October 14, 2023, beginning at Cummings Lodge.

**Traffic Commission:** Councilwoman Feikes reported Traffic Commission will meet Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at 5:00 P.M. at the Police Station.

**Business Improvement District:** Councilwoman Cutler reported at the Business Improvement District meeting, City Planner Craig Phillips reported on the status of the irrigation system repairs for the downtown planters. A new control box was installed, and board member Liz Ward met with Craig to review the programming of the system. All planters had to be watered manually this summer by Mofield properties. Now that the Control Module is working, the City Planning Office will turn it on at the end of the season to make a list of all individual planters needing irrigation repair. The next Business Improvement District meeting will be Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 5:00 P.M. at City Hall.

**Urban Enterprise Association:** Councilwoman Cutler reported at the Urban Enterprise Association meeting, Code Enforcement Director Jeff Batchelor requested and additional \$20,000 in grant funding for the Residential Dumpster Program, and it was approved. The Board discussed the possibility of an alley clean-up project for next Spring, and it will be considered at the November planning meeting. Business grant applications for exterior wall repairs at Bennetts Uptown Shoppes and parking lot improvements at Developmental Alliance were reviewed by the board and approved. A grant to cover the cost of repairs and re-coating of a UV sealant on the Mural at Plaza 618 was discussed and approved, as well as a Community Enhancement Grant for the Plaza Christmas Tree this year. The next Urban Enterprise Association meeting will be Wednesday October 18, 2023, at City Hall.

**Fire Merit Commission:** Councilwoman West reported the Fire Merit Commission will meet Wednesday October 3, 2023, at 6:30 P.M.

### **City of La Porte Police Officer Recognition**

Mayor Dermody invited Chief Brettin to recognize Police Officers involved in saving a young person's life. Chief Brettin stated on August 28, 2023, officers responded to the area of the overpass for a juvenile female attempting to jump off the bridge. Officer Atkinson and Officer Helmecy both arrived on scene and jumped into action by grabbing and holding the juvenile until other officers and the fire department arrived to assist. Both Officer Atkinson and Officer Helmecy's actions directly impacted the outcome of this incident and for that they were awarded the Life Saving Award. Cpl. Adam Jaskowiak and Sgt. Justin Dyer also arrived on scene and helped in

holding the female up to prevent her from falling. For their actions, they were awarded the Commendation Award.

Mayor Dermody thanked the Officers, and everyone involved for saving this young person's life.

**Introduction of a Resolution Adopting the Development Agreement Between the City of La Porte and Park and Severs, LLC for the Park Street Residential Development**

Councilwoman Feikes made a motion to table a Resolution Adopting the Development Agreement Between the City of La Porte and Park and Severs, LLC for the Park Street Residential Development; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Konieczny and unanimously carried.

**Introduction of a Resolution of Common Council Approving a Lease**

Councilman Franke 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 Franke read a Resolution of Common Council Approving a Lease in its entirety.

Bert Cook, Executive Director of La Porte Economic Advancement Partnership stated this is a five-year incentive which is less than what most communities are offering. It's a very creative way to offer incentives and is being used in many communities in our area.

**Motion/Vote: R-24-2023**

Councilman Vincent made a motion to approve a Resolution of the Common Council Approving a Lease; motion was seconded by Councilman Franke and unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. R-24-2023  
A RESOLUTION OF COMMON COUNCIL APPROVING A LEASE**

**2024 Budget Presentation:**

Mayor Dermody presented the 2024 Civil City Budget.

**Introduction of a Resolution Authorizing Reduction of 2023 Budget Appropriations**

Councilman Galloway moved to read a Resolution Authorizing Reduction of 2023 Budget Appropriations for the first and only time in its entirety; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried.

Councilman Galloway read a Resolution Authorizing Reduction of 2023 Budget Appropriations in its entirety.

**Motion/Vote: R-25-2023**

Councilman Vincent made a motion to approve a Resolution Authorizing Reduction of 2023 Budget Appropriations; motion was seconded by Councilwoman West and unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. R-25-2023  
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REDUCTION OF 2023 BUDGET  
APPROPRIATIONS**

**Introduction of an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024  
Civil City Budget**

Councilwoman Feikes made a motion to read an Ordinance for the first time in its entirety; motion was seconded by Councilman Vincent and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Feikes read an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Civil City Budgets in its entirety. The second and final reading will take place at the October 16, 2023, meeting.

**Public Hearing**

Mayor Dermody opened the public hearing. Clerk-Treasurer Parthun stated the appropriations and tax rates for the 2024 Civil City Budget were published on Gateway on September 19, 2023, at 3:08 P.M. There being no public comment, the public hearing was closed.

**Introduction of an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024  
Redevelopment Commission Budget**

Councilwoman Cutler made a motion to read an Ordinance for the first time in its entirety; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Konieczny and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Cutler read an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Redevelopment Commission Budget for the first time in its entirety. Second and final reading will take place at the October 16, 2023, meeting.

**Public Hearing**

Mayor Dermody opened the public hearing. Clerk-Treasurer Parthun stated the appropriations and tax rates for the 2024 Redevelopment Commission Budget were published on Gateway on September 19, 2023, at 3:39 P.M. There being no public comment, the public hearing was closed.

### **Introduction of an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Airport Budget**

Councilwoman Konieczny made a motion to read an Ordinance for the first time in its entirety; motion was seconded by Councilwoman West and unanimously carried. Councilwoman Konieczny read an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024 Airport Budget in its entirety. The second and final reading will take place that the October 16, 2023, meeting.

### **Public Hearing**

Mayor Dermody opened the public hearing. Clerk-Treasurer Parthun stated the appropriations and tax rates for the 2024 Airport Budget were published on September 19, 2023, at 3:09 P.M. Edward Volk, La Porte Municipal Airport Authority Board President spoke to the Airport Budget. There being no further public comment, the public hearing was closed.

### **Introduction of an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of The City of La Porte, Indiana, For the year 2024**

Councilman Vincent made a motion to read an Ordinance for the first time in its entirety; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried. Councilman Vincent read an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of The City of La Porte, Indiana, For the Year 2024 in its entirety. The second and final reading will take place at the October 16, 2023, meeting.

### **Introduction of an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Elected Officials of The City of La Porte from The General Fund, For the Year 2024**

Councilwoman West made a motion to read an Ordinance for the first time in its entirety; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cutler and unanimously carried. Councilwoman West read an Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Elected Officials of The City of La Porte from the General Fund, For the Year 2024. The second and final reading will take place at the October 16, 2023, meeting.

### **Other Business:**

Bolt for the Heart is on October 14, 2023, starting at Cummings Lodge with Food Trucks, vendors, 10K walk/run.

### **Adjourn**

Councilman Galloway moved to adjourn; motion seconded by Councilwoman Feikes and unanimously carried with the following roll call vote:

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

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

Approved: October 16, 2023