

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF ATTICA**

11-9-2020

The Common Council for the City of Attica met on November 9th, 2020, at 6:00 P.M.

Those present at the meeting were: Council Members; Mr. Larry Grant, Mrs. Kaylie Carnahan, Mrs. Valarie Maus, Mrs. Patricia Hargan and Mr. Scott Voorhees, Also, present were Attorney Jud and Ingrid Barce, Mayor Duane Roderick, and Clerk-Treasurer Joanne Broadwater.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

- Maus made a motion to approve the minutes for the October 12th, October 22nd and November 2nd, 2020 council meetings, Voorhees seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.

CITIZENS PETITIONS:

- Eric and Amy Haley addressed the Council regarding a possible Ordinance regarding parking trailers on the street. Amy stated that their street is too narrow to have parking on both sides of the street and believe that an Ordinance restricting trailers being parked on the streets would not solve their parking issue. Amy believes that, on their street, allowing parking only on one side would be a better solution. Amy felt an Ordinance of this nature would be harmful to small business that need to be able to park their trailers near their properties and would create an undue burden on those business owners.

Mayor Roderick stated the Ordinance has been tabled to allow the Council to give it more consideration because there a lot of issues that need to be discussed.

- Mr. Justin Taggert with Community Action provided an update on their housing plans. Community Action was awarded a grant to develop affordable housing for Hope Springs Shelter. The are starting with 6 units, 3 duplexes, that will be built within the next year. Mr. Taggert plans on applying for more funding to build an additional 10 units if possible. Mr. Taggert asked the City Council members if they will support this plan? Mayor Roderick asked Mr. Taggert if he has looked at lots owned by the city? Mr. Taggert stated yes, but most of those properties are located to close to the railroad tracks and will not work. Mayor Roderick asked the Council for their thoughts. The Council stated they were in support of this project. Hargan asked what the connection is to Hope Springs, Taggert replied that 20% of the units would be used as transitional housing for individuals moving out of Hope Springs. Hargan asked if Community Action would oversee upkeep, Mr. Taggert stated yes, for 20 years. There was additional discussion about the look of the properties.

Hargan made a motion to proceed with City support of Community Action to build more affordable housing in coordination with Hope Springs, Maus seconded, motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

NONE

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Eric Swank Director of Public Works:

- Reported the city workers are busy with leaf season and will get all the residents leaves picked up.
- Hargan asked Swank about resident who is having difficulty with her ditch on E. Pike St. Hargan asked if the rocks that were placed in the ditch could be picked up and the ditch filled in? Swank stated no they were not able to do that. Grant stated the city has not allowed residents to fill in their ditches because it causes subsequent drainage issues. Swank stated the city workers have been spraying the weeds for this resident because she is unable to take care of them herself.
- Grant asked if the city is partnering up on the Attica Hotel cleanup? Swank said yes, the city will help with removal of the debris.

Chief Durnil, Police Chief:

- Chief was not present, but Mayor Roderick updated the Council on the police academy training for Officer Miller and Officer Smyth will be graduating from the academy on Friday. PERF has changed their age requirement from 36 to 40 effective 1-31-21. Grant asked if Indiana Code also changed, Attorney Barce stated he would check into it and respond via email.

Chief Little, Fire Chief: was not able to attend.

Mr. Pycke, Building Commissioner:

- Pycke reported that an unsafe building order was issued for 206 W. Pike St. with the hearing date set for January 5th, 2021.
- Hargan asked if Pycke could check on 908 S. Brady Street, Voorhees stated windows have been broken out on the house. There was additional discussion regarding the city workers cleaning up properties after owners are given notice.
- Pycke stated he wanted to give Mr. Stepp an answer regarding his building permit and asked for guidance. There was discussion between Attorney Barce, Pycke and the Council regarding variances and vacating alleys, and stated both the BZA and the Council would be involved in this decision to allow the building permit.

Rod Bannon, Economic Development Director:

Was not in attendance

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Street parking tabled to January 2021.
- Building code enforcement and ordinance officer tabled until January 2021.
- Barce explained the variance request from Tractor Supply.
- Hargan asked for an update on McDonald House. Barce replied he sent Katy Kays a conditional use permit package and explained why it was necessary. Barce also explained the notice procedure to neighbors.

NEW BUSINESS:

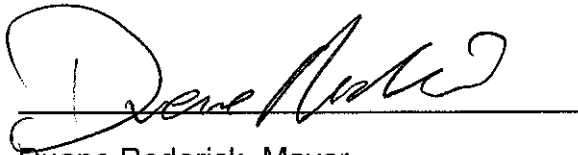
- Kyle Knosp talked to the Mayor about the city supplying more water and sewer service to his property for additional cabins he wants to build. Knosp also wants the city to take over operation of a lift station he currently maintains. Barce explained the process necessary to do this. Barce stated Knosp does not want to be annexed into the city, but the city cannot include his property into a TIF district if he is not annexed. Barce said he has a conference call with Tom Pitman an attorney who is a TIF expert and will report back to the Council after the call. Voorhees asked about the cost of the city taking over operation of the lift station, Swank explained the expenses to the city to take over the station. Swanks estimated upfront cost to the city is \$15,000 to \$20,000, plus ongoing maintenance. Grant discussed the benefit of having Knosp's property annexed into the city. Grant also asked if they are on a different rate since they are outside of the city, Broadwater stated they were on the same commercial rate as other businesses in the city. Voorhees brought up an additional concern regarding the increased use of city streets to access the ATV park. The additional traffic on Perry St. is causing other issues such as speeding and the danger of novice drivers. The Council discussed this further but did not make any decisions.
- Mayor Roderick asked Jud what the process is for the City to sell property because he was approached by an interested buyer. Barce explained the city would pass a resolution that the property is surplus property, get two appraisals, then take bids for the appraised value.
- Roderick reported he was contacted by the Attica Consolidated School Superintendent Sheri Hardman, asking if the city would donate the diving board stand from the city pool to the school. Barce said a motion is needed to donate the property, he would draft a resolution declaring the items surplus property and it does not need appraised to give to another government entity. Maus made the motion, Hargan seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.

- Hargan asked for an update on the pool, Roderick stated nothing has happened at this point because it is a multi-million-dollar project, and we do not have the funding at this time.
- Broadwater presented an SBOA drafted Ordinance that allows the city to seek reimbursement through the CARES act for public safety costs. Barce read the Ordinance 2020-1109. Grant made a motion to adopt as written, Voorhees seconded, all were in favor, motion passed. Grant made a motion to suspend the rules requiring this ordinance to be read in two meetings, Hargan seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.
- Broadwater requested the Council to allow the Clerk's office to hire a consulting firm to assist in addressing the SBOA audit findings as well as, to be a resource as needed to the Clerk's office. A contract was provided for the Council to review. There was some discussion by the Council, Roderick suggested \$5000 to start then evaluating the need later on. Hargan made a motion to hire Local Government Services for up to \$5000 worth of services, Grant seconded, motion passed.
- Maus shared that she was contacted by a resident regarding a neighbor who claims that the neighbor south of her property is dumping trash between his property and her property and she wants to know what she can do about it. Grant suggested the city clean up the property then bill the owner for the work.
- Maus also stated neighbors of the auto repair shop on Suzy lane complained that the abandoned vehicles on the back of the property is an eyesore. Roderick stated if the vehicles are not operable the owner will need to put a fence up around the property.

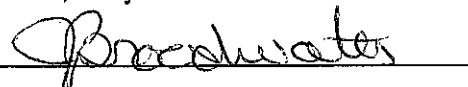
ADJORNMENT:

Roderick stated he had no further business and requested a motion to adjourn. The next Council meeting will be held Monday, December 14th, 2020 at 6:00pm.

Hargan made the motion to adjourn, Maus seconded, all were in favor motion passed, meeting adjourned.



Duane Roderick, Mayor

ATTEST: 

Joanne Broadwater, Clerk-Treasurer