

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS (AMENDED)  
CITY OF ATTICA**

**11-8-2021**

The Common Council for the City of Attica met on November 8th, 2021, at 6:00 P.M.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

- Voorhees made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 11<sup>th</sup>, and October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021, council meetings, Grant seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.

**CITIZENS PETITIONS:**

- Christian Beaver appeared to introduce himself and announce he is running for State Senate in District 23.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

NONE

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

**Eric Swank Director of Public Works:**

- Was not present.

**Police Chief Garret Miller:**

- Reported that out of 4 applicants for the two open officer positions, two passed their written and physical tests and will be interviewed in the next few weeks.
- Brendon Cheever will graduate from the police academy December 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Police call reports for the Attica Police Department were provided, there were 382 calls for the month of October. Fountain County Sheriff's office had 534 and Warren County Sheriff's office had 392 calls for service for the same time.

Chief Miller provided further information and broke down the per officer call. During the month of October, the City of Attica only had 4 active officers, so the average per officer call count was 96 compared to 59 calls per officer for the Fountain County officers, and 43 calls per officer in Warren County. A further breakdown showed the Attica Police Department call volume for the year from January 1<sup>st</sup> through November 8<sup>th</sup> was 3907 calls for service, compared to the Fountain County Sheriff's department who had 5658, again broken down on a

per officer basis, Attica PD had 651 calls per officer, Followed by Fountain County officers with 628 per officer. With the addition of the two new officer positions approved by the Fountain County Council, the per officer call volume would reduce to 514. Chief Miller also stated the call type has changed from 2019, the department is seeing more OWI's and domestic calls that result in an increased number of arrests, that requires more officer time per call.

**Fire Chief Mike Little:**

- Reported that the Fire Department is due for an ISO audit. This is a review of the department and a grade for the city which impacts homeowners' insurance premiums. This audit will occur in April 2022. Chief Little thinks we can decrease our current number which will reduce homeowner insurance premiums and help attract companies wanting to locate in Attica.
- Updated the Council on the county ambulance response. Autumn Trace has contracted exclusively with Warren County Ambulance service for their residents. Because of this anytime Med 1 is called it will be out of town so our Fire Department will respond to more out of town calls putting more stress on our department.

**Mr. Pycke, Building Commissioner:**

- Provided an update on the current outstanding unsafe building orders.
- Pycke reached out to 805 E. Summit St. regarding their fence without success. Grant stated the next step will be for the city attorney to send a letter regarding the issue.

**Rod Bannon, Economic Development Director:**

- Provided an update on the master planning effort. Over 630 surveys were completed. There were also focus groups and an open house. The WEGA committee will be meeting with the Troyer Group soon for the full results.
- Bannon explained that WEGA pursued a "Ready Grant" which is a state grant that will be awarded to 10 regions, Fountain County is in the Tippecanoe region. WEGA included the marketplace idea into the grant application. If WEGA is awarded the grant, they are counting on the cities ARP funds for the matching portion of the grant. Voorhees stated he knows a lot of the ARP funds are going towards the department of public works. If the city does not have the matching funds WEGA will not receive the grant. The Council discussed in more detail the market and the cost to the city.

**Joanne Broadwater, Clerk-Treasurer:**

- Clerk Broadwater presented an opportunity to buy an ad to support educational material for our police department. The cost of the ad is \$649.00. Chief Miller thinks the support of the city is worthwhile.

**Carnahan made a motion to approve the purchase of the ad, Hargan seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.**

- Voorhees asked what needs to be done to shore up the negative appropriation balances before the end of the year. Broadwater stated we may need to do additional appropriations, which will be presented at the next meeting if necessary, and we will need an additional meeting in December to approve transfers of money within departments to bring all appropriations into the positive.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- Roderick stated he emailed the Council a copy of Covington's Salary Ordinance to compare with what he handed out in October.
- Roderick stated he believes we need to begin getting estimates to tear down buildings in the 200 block of Perry St. even though final decisions have not been made on tearing down the buildings.
- Hargan brought up that there are first floor downtown apartments on Perry St. in what should be storefront space, and that it doesn't look good. Grant stated there is an ordinance that addresses this, it states apartments can be in the back part of the building, but not the front.
- Hargan also brought up the Davis Timberlake alley vacation because the fence is still up and blocking the public alley. Hargan asked for discussion on this. The Council discussed options to open the alley back up but limit the use to golfcarts. Roderick stated he would have the director of DPW look at opening the alley and ways to restrict traffic.

**(AMENDMENT)** Carnahan asked if brown pilons with reflective tape all up and down, instead of yellow could be used. Chief Miller indicated it may be a liability to the city if something less noticeable is used. Grant stated he is good with any restrictive measures the Council agrees on, he is just concerned with total closure due to setting a precedence for other requests. Citizen Patrick Runyon spoke up and stated there are coal shafts running through this alley, stating if there is injury it is the cities liability. Atty Barce indicated it is the owner's property and liability if injury occurs, the city has a right of way. Voorhees asked if an official appeal has been received, Broadwater stated the clerk's office has not received anything. Attorney Barce said if the marking met high visibility standards the pilons would be fine.

Carnahan clarified that the fence on either side of the pilons could remain up, other council members agreed. Hargan asked about additional signage, further discussion indicated signage on both ends of the alley is needed. Roderick stated the city workers will be the ones to install the pilons so it will be done when they have time. Carnahan asked if a motion was necessary, Atty Barce stated yes, since money will be spent. **(END OF AMENDMENT)**

Hargan made a motion to place pilons on the north end of the alley that is only wide enough for golf carts to pass through and signage stating the above. Grant seconded, Grant, Carnahan, and Hargan, were in favor of the motion, Voorhees voted no, and Maus abstained from voting. The motion passed 3-1 in favor erecting pilons at the north end of the alley.

- Grant brought up that there is a truck up on jack stands parked on a city owned parking lot. Roderick stated he sent the image to Officer Swisher to deal with. Parking is allowed, but not other uses. Police Chief Miller said he would take care of it after the meeting. Grant brought up another residence where the residents are stacking trash on top of the cans causing complaints from the neighbors.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- None

**MISCELANOUS:**

- None

**ADJORNMENT:**

Roderick stated he had no further business and requested a motion to adjourn. The next regular Council meeting will be held Thursday, December 13th, 2021, 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