

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF ATTICA**

5-9-2022

The Common Council for the City of Attica met on May 9th, 2022, at 6:00 P.M.

Those present at the meeting were: Council Members; Mr. Larry Grant, Mr. Scott Voorhees, Mrs. Patricia Hargan, and Mrs. Kaylie Carnahan. 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 April 11th, 2022, council meeting, Maus seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.**

CITIZENS PETITIONS:

- John Cannon from the Attorney General's Office spoke to the council on behalf of the Attorney General. Mr. Cannon provided information for the community on health care scams and explained about the repeal of the IUR tax effective 7-1-2022.
- Cindy Mason of Attica Mainstreet requested funding of \$25,000 for the part-time Mainstreet Executive Director position.

Maus made a motion to approve \$25,000 to fund the Mainstreet Executive Director position, Hargan, seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.

- Cindy Mason reported that the Park Board has taken over the Twilight Music Series and provided an update on 2022 events.
- Kelly Frodge asked for Council approval to have the Heritage Days Festival September 17th and 18th. The council approved the festival for the dates requested.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- None

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Eric Swank Director of Public Works:

- Swank reported to the council that the city does not have a working mosquito fogger, he gave estimates on the cost of purchasing a new one and provided information on the chemicals needed to spray. The council discussed the information provided and made the decision to not purchase a new machine at this time.

Police Chief Garret Miller:

- Reported that Officer Fesler graduated from the police academy.
- Officer Dillon begins employment May 23rd, 2022.
- The police department started a new Facebook page. This will be used to provide information to the community.
- Chief Miller and DPW Director Swank will be working together to create a list of abandoned properties that need cleaned up.
- The department is applying for a grant through the railroad to purchase firearms.

Roderick stated he received another complaint about un-plated vehicles at 801 S. McDonald St., Miller stated the vehicles have been checked but will be checked again.

Fire Chief Mike Little:

- Roderick asked the council to consider making the Fire Chief position part-time.
- Little provided more details regarding the need for the Chief position to be part-time, including the increased number of runs as well as all the paperwork that goes with calls, and the work preparing to pursue a fire territory. Roderick recommended an hourly rate of pay in line with the DPW and Police Chief rates. The council did not act on this at this time, it will be discussed at the June meeting.
- 4 new volunteers graduated the academy and will begin making fire runs with the department soon.
- Little asked the council to consider amending the Ordinance regarding council approval for Public Safety funds in the current year budget, so that once the council approves the budget, the funds can be used for public safety needs without additional council approval. The council discussed this request and agreed to amend the ordinance which will be presented at the next meeting.

Joanne Broadwater, Clerk-Treasurer:

- The ARP report was timely filed with the US Treasury Department.
- Provided the information, requested by the council at the April meeting, regarding the maintenance services from Baker Tilly on the city's financial plan. The council briefly discussed the contract for services, Roderick asked for a motion regarding the contract. **Hargan made a motion to retain Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors**

with fees not to exceed \$20,000 for their services related to city finances, Grant seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

- Handed out the quote from Baker Tilly to update the city's capital assets, the quote was \$5000 to \$10,000 dollars for the work. Broadwater stated she would seek a comparison quote and present it at the next meeting.
- Broadwater handed out the current city financials.

Voorhees asked if there were any updates regarding the ordinance for annual rental inspections. Ingrid didn't have an update on this issue. Roderick indicated he would have this information at the June meeting.

Voorhees asked for an update on the ReadI grant. Roderick stated Rod Bannon would provide the update.

WEGA Director, Rod Bannon:

- Bannon stated the ReadI grants have not been awarded, the process has changed. There are two new representatives on the committee to determine awards, from Fountain County, Jeff Curtis, and Brenda Hardy. Bannon gave a further explanation of how the grant awards will be made.

Bannon reported that he believes most of the money from this grant will benefit Tippecanoe County with money allocated for possible housing projects in Fountain and other counties in our region. Bannon believes the city project will have a better chance of being awarded in round two of this grant. Voorhees asked for clarification about if the downtown market will move forward without the ReadI grant funds, and the money the city has earmarked for the market.

Bannon explained the ReadI money was going to be used to restore the Evans Piggot building but the building will be torn down now instead of being renovated.

- Bannon addressed the list of items that the city will need to do before the market development and handed out draft designs of the market for the council to review.
- Bannon told the council that WEGA can purchase the Doug Cripe building with the cities support. This building would be used as a permanent home for WEGA, the marketplace and potentially Mainstreet. Bannon passed out drawings of the renovation of the Cripe building. Bannon indicated the purchase and renovation of the building would be a partnership between multiple organizations.
- Sharon Negele, WEGA treasurer, addressed the council on financing the purchase of the Cripe building. The purchase price of the building is \$165,000.00 and the owners are willing to take 3 payments of \$55,000 annually. Fountain

County is considering financing the build out of the building, so the purchase will be contingent on their involvement.

The council continued to discuss the tear down of existing buildings downtown and the timeline for the market moving forward.

- Bannon asked the council to extend their contract with WEGA to December 31st, 2024, due to the delays in the market and the purchase of the Doug's studio building. Broadwater responded to Bannon regarding this request and reminded Bannon that the original WEGA contract was through 2024 and the city attorney, Jud Barce, stated that the current council could not sign a contract beyond their term and changed the terms of the contract through December 31st, 2023. Bannon stated he disagrees with this statement. Roderick stated he would research it for a future meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Attorney Ingrid Barce presented 3 ordinances to the council for a vote.

The first Ordinance (2022-0509A) is to amend the zoning map for Mr. Mosier, who owns property that is zoned suburban instead of business like all the surrounding properties, the Planning Commission made a favorable recommendation for approval to the council. This property is located next to Tractor Supply on the East end of Attica.

Larry Grant made the motion to change the zoning for this property from S to B2, Scott Voorhees seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.

The second Ordinance (2022-0509B) is to amend the salary ordinance for 2023. **Voorhees made the motion to amend the 2023 Salary Ordinance to reflect the increase in police pay retroactive to January 1st, 2022, Maus seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.**

The third Ordinance (2022-0509C) is to amend the City of Attica's pay policy during declared emergencies. **Hargan made the motion to amend the City of Attica's pay policy during declared emergencies, Carnahan seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.**

- Bannon asked where the council is on approving the master plan? Barce explained that this is an amendment to the comprehensive plan and there is a process that needs to be followed, first it must go before the Plan Commission for a favorable recommendation before the Council can vote on this.
- Barce stated that in the last legislative session the legislature repealed the Indiana Utility Receipts tax which is approximately 1.4%. Barce explained the required process to implement this change.

- Grant asked about the old Buckley building (430 E Main St.). Roderick reported the BOW gave the owner 60 days to get the building enclosed and siding on.
- Grant asked about the lot across from the hotel, trailers and cars are still being parked there, and there is a dumpster there. Voorhees agreed and stated we need to start enforcing the ordinances. Roderick asked Swank to order "no parking" signs for this property.

The council continued to discuss the process to enforce the current ordinances.

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

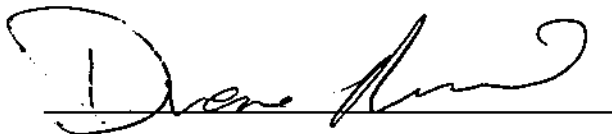
MISCELANOUS:

- None

ADJORNMENT:

Roderick stated he had no further business and requested a motion to adjourn. **Grant made the motion to adjourn, Carnahan seconded, all were in favor, motion passed, meeting adjourned.**

The next regular Council meeting will be held Monday, June 13th, 2022, at 6:00pm.



Duane Roderick, Mayor

ATTEST:  Deputy Clerk

Joanne Broadwater, Clerk-Treasurer