

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF ATTICA**

1-10-2022

The Common Council for the City of Attica met on January 10th, 2022, at 6:00 P.M.

Those present at the meeting were: Council Members; Mr. Larry Grant, Mrs. Valarie Maus, Mrs. Kaylie Carnahan, 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 December 13th and December 27th, 2021, council meetings, Maus seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.**

CITIZENS PETITIONS:

- None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- None

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Eric Swank Director of Public Works:

- Reported that Mark Carnahan retired from the city after 23 years of service. The city now has two open positions.
- Mayor Roderick thanked Mark for his service to the city.
- Mayor Roderick stated he sent an email to the Council with the estimates for the boring work that needs to be done on Union Street. The lowest quote is \$149,900. The engineering firm HWC did request bids for this work and Eric Smith, of HWC, stated only one of 3 qualified companies was willing to bid for this work. Voorhees asked if unexpected expenses occur, that take the cost over the \$150,000 mark and has the city met the bidding requirement? Roderick stated yes since bids were requested but only one bid was received.

Swank stated the state is going to require casing to be used for this project that was not quoted. Swank gave a more detailed explanation of the work that will be done with the changes. Swank plans to meet with the contractor and go over the whole project prior to accepting the bid. Swank stated the work will bore under the highway and the only street that will be temporarily closed is portions of Union Street while the work is being done.

Swank stated the city can purchase some of the materials for the project to save money.

- In his position as ordinance enforcement officer and building inspector, Swank reported he has 5 or 6 properties he will be issuing unsafe building orders.
- Carnahan also reported a resident complained about a ranger driving through their yard by a city worker, Swank indicated it has already been addressed.

Police Chief Garret Miller:

- Police call volume for the APD for 2021 was 4932 calls for service.
- A company presented options for new body cameras for the department.
- Officer Fesler is currently at the police academy.
- Officer Austin Smyth accepted a position with the Fountain County Sheriff's department. The APD is now taking applications for the open position until January 31st, 2022.
- Chief Miller and Eric Swank will be working together to issue ordinance violations aimed at cleaning up properties.
- Miller reported on the swat incident that occurred when the APD attempted to serve a federal arrest warrant. Miller stated the suspect had multiple, felony outstanding warrants for his arrest and the department had information that the individual was bringing in large quantities of methamphetamine into the city. Multiple departments were involved in the incident.

Fire Chief Mike Little:

- Reported that AFD had 502 calls for 2021 which is a record. December calls totaled 47, there were 3 fires, 31 EMS, 10 car accidents, 2 hazmat's and one misc. swat standoff. Little said there were 5 or 6 calls the department was not able to respond to due to lack of coverage.
- 5 people have been sent to fire 1 and 2 classes and should be done in April.
- Little will be scheduling a meeting with Bill Jones to discuss information about establishing a fire territory.

Rod Bannon, Economic Development Director:

- Was not present.
- Carnahan asked if Mr. Bannon would be attending any meetings? Mayor Roderick stated he would ask him to plan on attending future meetings.

Joanne Broadwater, Clerk-Treasurer:

- Clerk Broadwater reported that she and Mayor Roderick would be meeting with Eric Walsh from Baker Tilly to go over the initial draft of the capital assets spending plan.
- Handed out the closing appropriation report for 2021.
- Voorhees asked for clarification on the meeting with Bakertilly, Broadwater explained it is to review the initial draft of the Financial Plan created for the city.
- Broadwater also suggested the council review the Indiana Finance Authority final ruling on the ARPA money that she emailed out.
- Roderick stated that Stephen Brock will do the fiscal plan for the water project, and we received a letter of engagement from Tom Pitman, who will act as Bond Council for the water project, indicating the cost of his services will be \$35,000.
- Voorhees provided an update to the council on the property on the corner of Perry and Jackson streets, Kyle Knosp will close on the property this week and will develop it over 1.5 to 2 years. The development will include retail and office space.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Attorney Barce stated the Cum Cap Development fund is used for any governmental purpose and she will advertise the hearing in February to reestablish the levy back up to the maximum allowed.
- The city received a counteroffer on the C&D matter that was the same as previously offered. Legal counsel will request an executive session to discuss a counteroffer based on the complaint. Barce would also like the council to discuss current ordinances that can be enforced through the ordinance violations bureau and how to make this process more efficient. The council continued to ask questions of Chief Miller regarding the current ordinance violation process. The executive session will be held on January 24th at 5:30 prior to the public working session for the council.
- Attorney Barce presented an ordinance for a change in right of way for the intersection of W. Monroe and S. Union streets, changing Monroe from a yield on to a 4-way stop. Broadwater spoke up and stated the change that was supposed to occur was the yield on W. Monroe was to change to a stop at Union with Union having the right of way. Attorney Barce stated she would redraft the ordinance and present it at the next meeting. Voorhees, stated Union should be straight through all intersections with stops at each intersecting east, west road that crosses Union St.
- Voorhees asked if the issue of no speed limit sign on S. Union St. had been addressed. Swank stated not at this time, he believes the speed limit is 30 mph.

- Hargan asked Attorney Barce if anything has been done about the first-floor apartments downtown, Attorney Barce stated they are attempting to identify the proper owners so letters can be sent out. Barce also stated these apartments may be a zoning issue so there is overlapping jurisdiction. Barce stated zoning violations takes precedence over an ordinance violation.
- Barce handed out the no parking on the South side of Park Ave. ordinance for Council review. Grant stated he received a phone call from Dave Huckleberry, who originally brought this concern to Grant, stating he didn't want the Ordinance, just the curb painted to indicate no parking on the south side of the street. Roderick stated he thinks the no parking sign as well as painting the curb when it warms up is appropriate. **Grant made a motion to pass Ordinance 2022-0110 B eliminating parking on the south side of Park Ave. Carnahan seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.**
- Voorhees asked Swank for an update on the generator, Swank stated he was still working on it.
- Roderick stated the person from KJG who looked at the downtown buildings to determine their condition contracted COVID and hasn't completed the report. Voorhees asked if the Evans Piggot building was included in the inspection, Swank stated it was not. Voorhees expressed concerns about the condition of the basement in this building due to major drainage issues. Swank stated whenever it rains all the rain enters the basement and the basement becomes totally flooded, potentially compromising the building.

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

MISCELANOUS:

- Maus stated she received a complaint regarding junk on the property at the corner of Lithia and McDonald. She gave the details to Swank. Grant stated he is familiar with this property, and he believes the junk is in the side and back yard.
- Voorhees asked Chief Miller about the city owned parking lot across the street from the Hotel. Chief Miller stated nothing has been done. The Council discussed various options on how to monitor unwanted long-term parking on this property.

Miller stated the easiest way to address this problem is to put "no parking" signs on the lot, the police can then tag violators giving the owners the opportunity to move vehicles.

Barce stated prior to putting the "no parking" signs up the public needs to be given notice of the ordinance change, it will be advertised in the paper.

- Carnahan asked if the city has requested any proposals for development of the hotel property, Roderick stated not at this time, the council continued to discuss this property, and other city owned properties.
- Voorhees reminded the Council that the city agreed to install pillars limiting traffic through the Davis-Timberlake alley and restore the fencing on either side of the pillars, the fencing has not been restored. Voorhees stated he spoke to Eric Swank prior to the meeting and Swank stated it would get taken care of.

ADJORNMENT:

Roderick stated he had no further business and requested a motion to adjourn. The next regular Council meeting will be held Thursday, February 14th, 2022, at 6:00pm.

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



Duane Roderick, Mayor

ATTEST: 

Joanne Broadwater, Clerk-Treasurer