

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS CITY OF ATTICA

4-10-2023

The Common Council for the City of Attica met on April 10th, 2023, 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 Ingrid Moen, Mayor Duane Roderick, and Clerk Treasurer Joanne Broadwater.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

- **Voorhees made a motion to approve the minutes from March 13, 2023, council meeting, Grant seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.**

CITIZENS PETITIONS:

- Mayor Roderick asked the council to grant permission to close Main and Perry St. on April 22nd, 2023, for a no bullying event on behalf of Hillary Budreau who was not present. The council approved the road closure.
- Kyle Knosp asked the council to approve the vacating of the alley between two of his properties at 103 E. Jackson St. and 301 S. Perry St. Adjacent property owners, Harvey and Kathi Lange discussed the impact to their property next door with Mr. Knosp and the council. After which, the Langes were in favor of the alley vacation if their drainage concerns were addressed.

Council member Grant explained that the vacation is permanent if the council approves it and asked the Langes for confirmation that they were in fact in favor, the Langes confirmed their agreement to the vacation.

Voorhees made a motion to suspend the rules regarding the first reading of Ordinance NO 2023-0410A, Carnahan, seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.

Voorhees made a motion to approve Ordinance NO 2023-0410, the vacation of the alley between 301 S. Perry St. and 103 E. Jackson St., Carnahan seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.

- Eli French addressed the council about his concerns regarding the brick street at the intersection of E. Monroe St. and S. McDonald St. He stated they need repaired.

Mr. French also reported a leaky fire hydrant at the same location. Roderick stated the city is starting a major water project that includes replacing old hydrants that are leaking.

- Tim Kimple addressed the council, complimenting the council as well as the fire and police departments for their exceptional work.

Mr. Kimple asked for an update on rental property inspections and expressed concerns over the living conditions of some rentals. Mr. Kimple provided the council with copies of research he has done on this topic.

Mr. Kimple asked the council to stream the council meetings live or post a video of them after they end so the public can keep up to date with items discussed. Roderick stated this was being worked on.

Mr. Kimple expressed his concern that Attica was not providing supportive services for new businesses. Roderick stated WEGA will be offering these services in the future through their new downtown marketplace and co-working space.

- Cindy Mason, President of Mainstreet reported that Attica Mainstreet received a \$10,000 grant to purchase downtown banners.

Mason reported that the Attica Community Foundation will be offering ShredIt services at the recycling center on May 20th for city wide cleanup day.

Mason reported that Attica Mainstreet will sponsor "Dancing in the Streets" city celebration downtown Attica. The Flying Toasters Band will play, and fireworks will follow downtown.

- Geraldine Heeter is concerned about the empty house across the street from them. Roderick stated the house in question had been on the city's unsafe building list, Roderick asked for an update from DPW Director Eric Swank. Swank stated the owner had met all the requirements listed on the UBO and it was no longer on the city UBO list.
- Jerry Heeter expressed concern over resident flags with profanity on them, especially one near the elementary school. Police Chief Miller addressed the concern stating the city cannot legally do anything about the flags.

Mr. Heeter also asked the city about restricting semi's from breaking hard coming into the city (jake brakes). Roderick stated the State of Indiana will not allow the city to restrict the hard breaking of semi's.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Eric Swank Director of Public Works:

- Reported the water tower is being cleaned.
- Voorhees asked for an update on generator quotes, Swank stated he is waiting to see if the Fire Station expansion will occur so that the new generator will have a large enough capacity to support the whole building.

Police Chief Garret Miller:

- Miller reported that he is working with DPW Director Swank on ordinance enforcement throughout the city.
- Two new police cars are complete, the third has not been built yet.
- The former record storage room has been cleaned out, the floor resurfaced and is ready for the training simulator equipment to be installed.
- Grant asked about a property in Elmdale. Miller stated the property has been served, they are getting a plan together to clean it up.

He stated the property on N. 2nd street is also bad, the DPW and Police are working to get that property cleaned up as well.

- Carnahan asked about a tree branch hanging across St. Rd. 28 (904 E. Main St.). Chief Miller and DPW Director Swank stated they would look at it.
- Miller stated the playground equipment at Ravine Park is amazing and attracting a lot of families. He is concerned about the increased traffic on E. Jackson St. the street is 27 ft wide, and cars are currently parking on both sides of the street creating a safety hazard. Chief Miller stated a current city ordinance allows the Chief of Police or the Mayor to restrict parking to one side of the street for safety purposes. The plan is to only allow parking on the south side of the street.
- Carnahan asked if a crosswalk can be painted at Ravine Park to create a safer road crossing path, Swank stated it could.

Fire Chief Mike Little:

- Troy Routzahn spoke on behalf of Chief Little; he requested a special council meeting for April 25th, 2023, to close out the Fire Territory process.

Joanne Broadwater, Clerk-Treasurer:

- Broadwater handed out the city's financial reports.
- Provided a follow-up to Chief Millers report on the city record storage. Currently the city records are being stored in two rooms off the library at Attica Elementary.

The records are not safely accessible because the boxes are stored one on top of the other, they are not on the shelves they were previously stored on. Clerk Broadwater is searching for alternative storage, as well as researching the process to destroy old records.

Rod Bannon- WEGA Director:

- Mayor Roderick asked WEGA Director, Rod Bannon, for an update on economic development. Bannon asked Roderick about the 2023 community crossing grant. Roderick stated the new water meters will be installed first and the sidewalk patched until the 2023 CCMG grant is applied for in July.
- Bannon stated the downtown market project is on schedule, he would like the council to review landscaping choices and give approval.
- Bannon stated the project is progressing, and the construction phase would be handled by the city, Roderick stated it would be handled by HWC, the city's engineering firm.
- WEGA is working on a website.
- Voorhees reminded the council about the National Day of Prayer ceremony at Autumn Trace Senior Living at 8:30 am on May 4th, 2023.
- Voorhees reminded the council about a request for the council to attend an event on May 19th for Mental Health America at the Warren County Learning Center.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Ordinance NO 2023-0410B regarding the Harrison annexation. This ordinance is an amendment to include the legal description of the property south on St. Rd. 41.

Roderick explained the plan is for the Harrison's to develop a housing addition on this property.

Carnahan made a motion to pass Ordinance NO 2023-0410B, Hargan seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

MISCELANOUS:

- Roderick will be on vacation for the next meeting, Grant will run the meeting.
- Carnahan stated she has been asked by citizens about council meetings being either livestreamed or recorded and posted online. Roderick agreed, but also stated that if Microsoft Teams or Zoom is used to livestream the meetings the

public will not be able to speak, the meeting is a council meeting to conduct city business.

Broadwater gave a brief update on the council room technology. She is getting quotes to upgrade the council/court computer, and system to record or broadcast the meetings. She is also seeking quotes for an updated server to replace the current one that is out of date. She will provide updates on the process as she has them.

- Carnahan asked if the park board can provide benches for parents to sit on at Ravine Park near the new play equipment.
- Voorhees thanked Tim Kimple for his input and suggestions to help improve the city.

ADJORNMENT:

Roderick stated he had no further business and requested a motion to adjourn. The next Council meeting will be held Monday April 10th, 2023, at 6:00pm.

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



Duane Roderick, Mayor
Larry Lester

ATTEST: 

Joanne Broadwater, Clerk-Treasurer