

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE INDIANA
BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2011, AT 7:00 PM, IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

PRESENT: President Simmons, Presiding; D. Peffer, Recording; Council Members Bricklemyer, Gallo, Geesey, Hartman, Jobe, Jones, Kravetsky, Petrosky, Shively, Thompson and Thorell; Mayor Hood; Chief Sutton; Solicitor Kablack; Assistant Treasurer Sipos; Public Works Director Fairman; Code & Zoning Director Kirk; Fire Chief Kelly; Jay Knarr, Main Street Manager; Randy Wells, Indiana Gazette; Maria Miller, Renda Broadcasting; Jim Wakefield; Stanley Jake; Mark Kozar, Esquire and representatives of Giant Eagle; and approximately twenty (20) visitors.

President Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

After a moment of silent reflection, Councilman Kravetsky led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pres. Simmons asked for a Roll Call, and all twelve Council members were in attendance.

There was a motion by Kravetsky, second by Thorell, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 8, 2011, as written. Motion Carried.

There was a motion by Jones, second by Geesey, to approve the Financial Reports for January 2011 as presented. Motion Carried.

Prior to Public Participation, Pres. Simmons reminded everyone of the three minute time limit for speaking. The following action occurred during Public Participation:

- Jim Wakefield, 209 Papermill Avenue, asked Council to instruct the Indiana Borough Planning Commission to take a long, hard look at the borough's zoning ordinance and consider an overhaul that would allow the best use of properties anywhere in the borough. Wakefield stated the Overlay Ordinance that has been proposed is friendly to the investor and the developers, but it would be nice if it was incorporated into other zoning areas as well.
- Stanley Jake, of Iselin, PA, stated that since the borough will be making its last payment for the KCAC this year, the additional money could be earmarked for maintenance of the building that houses the Indiana Free Library. Once again, Jake encouraged Council to extend the library's lease indefinitely. In response, Pres. Simmons stated both parties are satisfied with the situation that we have right now.

The following action occurred during Committee Reports:

ADMINISTRATION: No report. The meeting was canceled due to adverse weather conditions.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

- There was a motion by Bricklemyer, second by Shively, to advertise a Public Hearing for the transfer of a Liquor License for Steel City Samiches. Motion Carried. The Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 5, 2011, at 6:30 PM.
- The Committee heard from Jim Carmella, owner of college rentals, on his view of citations he received relating to garbage cans left on the sidewalks too long. This matter will be discussed at the March Work Session.
- Code & Zoning Director Kirk presented a revised ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1722 and replacing Ordinance 2006-O5 known as the Traditional Neighborhood Development Overlay Zone Ordinance. Also presented was the Indiana Borough Overlay Zone Design Standards. There was a motion by Thompson, second by Geesey, to advertise a Public Hearing for April 5th, at 6:45 PM in regard to these items. Motion Carried.
- Pres. Simmons then appointed Mr. Brad Martineau to the Community Development Committee as an ex-officio member. Martineau is a resident of White Township, who has many interests in the borough. Simmons feels his input will be very beneficial.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- A letter of appreciation was received from Punxsutawney Police Chief Fedigan for our Police Department's assistance during the 2011 Groundhog Day festivities.
- Chairman Kravetsky urged borough residents and business owners to make sure that street numbers are properly posted and legible on the fronts of their homes and businesses so emergency responders can see them.
- We have received the contract for the South 7th Street traffic study and will be proceeding when we receive Downtown Indiana's one-half commitment payment.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- There was a motion by Hartman, second by Thorell, to approve a 12th Street maintenance agreement with D & M Contracting, Inc. for by Zink Hall. Motion Carried.
- There was a motion by Hartman, second by Thorell, to ask Indiana County officials to terminate a contract between the borough and Earthmovers Unlimited, of Kylertown. Chairman Hartman stated the company has not satisfactorily completed a stream bank rehabilitation project along Cherry Run, and the borough will retain \$2,500 of the contract money to complete the project on our own. Hartman explained that the County needs to be the one to terminate the agreement since the work was being done with county-administered CDBG money. Motion Carried.
- There was a motion by Hartman, second by Jones, to adopt a resolution authorizing the signing of a Cooperation Agreement with White Township making Indiana County in charge of handling the monies for the H2O Grant. Through negotiations it was agreed to have a 60/40 split with 60% going toward Indiana Borough and 40% to White Township. Motion Carried.

- There was a motion by Hartman, second by Thorell, that the County award a contract for \$692,860 to Terra Works Inc., of Clarion, for the borough's next Elm Street Project along Locust Street. The Elm Street Program is a PA Department of Community and Economic Development initiative that revitalizes residential areas near downtown business districts. During discussion, Councilman Bricklemeyer asked about sidewalks. Hartman stated there isn't anything in this project that provides for sidewalks. Councilman Thorell stated the issue of the lack of sidewalks in our town is very serious. Code Officer Kirk stated this has been a controversial issue for many years. While it might be worthwhile to determine where it might be feasible, Kirk stated we will probably have real difficulty requiring property owners to put them in where sidewalks currently don't exist. Hartman stated that may be something we could do for future projects, but it is too late for this one. Motion Carried.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION:

- Pres. Simmons is looking for someone to take his place on this Commission.
- They are looking at a spring planting on Maple Street.
- The trees along Philadelphia Street, between 9th and 10th Streets, were dying. A letter has been written to see about them being covered under warranty.

RECREATION COMMISSION:

- A brief business meeting was held.

The following action occurred during Interim Borough Manager Sutton's report:

- Sutton reported the borough's annual audit process began this week.
- If anyone has items to be placed on the agenda for the March Work Session, please notify him as soon as possible.

The following action occurred during Chief Sutton's report:

- Everyone received a copy of the Police Department's Report for February 2011.
- Council also received a copy of the Parking Department statistics for February 2011, as well as February 2010 for comparison.
- Councilman Hartman thanked Sutton for the professional and efficient way a problem he had was handled.

The following action occurred during Fire Chief Kelly's report:

- There were 47 calls for service during the month of February, with only a \$100 loss last month.
- Kelly suggested asking members of the media to help inform the public about the important need for house numbers to be displayed. Councilman Geesey stated that perhaps the IUP student population could assist elderly residents that may experience difficulty in addressing this problem.

The following action occurred during Mayor Hood's report:

- Hood thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
- Hood and Councilman Thorell recently attended a PLCM meeting in Harrisburg, and Senator Don White and Representative Dave Reed were in attendance to represent Indiana County as well. Hood was very impressed with a presentation that newly-elected Lt. Governor Jim Cawley made. The next meeting will be held in Altoona.
- Hood asked that everyone keep the military personnel in their thoughts and prayers.

Council adjourned into an Executive Session at 7:40 PM.

Council reconvened into Regular Session at 8:00 PM.

The following action occurred during Unfinished Business:

- There was a motion by Geesey, second by Shively, to adopt a resolution approving the transfer of a liquor license to Giant Eagle. The vote was 11 yes and 1 no. Councilman Hartman voted no. Motion Carried.
- There was a motion by Thompson, second by Geesey, to advertise the amendment to Ordinance No. 1722, Section 5, regarding temporary sandwich board signs and hold the necessary Public Hearing on April 5th, at 6:45 PM, in conjunction with the TND Overlay Ordinance. Motion Carried.
- Pres. Simmons then gave an update on the proposed \$585,900 loan to help fund the next segment of the Philadelphia Street revitalization project scheduled to begin this spring. Simmons explained that uncertainties in the federal budget have left it unclear how much the borough will receive in CDBG dollars to augment the loan. The next segment of the project will make improvements along Philadelphia Street from Fifth Street to Sixth Street, along North 7th Street from Philadelphia Street to Water Street, and will replace the Vinegar Hill steps and the retaining wall along Water Street. There was a motion by Geesey, second by Thompson, to table the previous motion to obtain a loan from S & T Bank until such time as we have more concrete data. Councilman Hartman then suggested that the motion to table include a time limit of until the April Council meeting. Both Councilmen Geesey and Thompson agreed to the friendly amendment. Motion Carried.

The following action occurred during New Business:

- There was a motion by Geesey, second by Thompson, to advertise a Public Hearing for the Dave Moore TND conditional use request to be held on Tuesday, April 5th, at 6:15 PM. Motion Carried.
- There was a motion by Jones, second by Geesey, to send a packet of information on a particular Council member to the Ethics Commission for their review and their recommendations to Borough Council based on a complaint to Council. The

vote was 11 yes, 1 abstained. Councilman Brickleyer abstained from voting on the motion to send information to the State Ethics Commission as it involved him as the suspect. Motion Carried.

Pres. Simmons announced that the Executive Session held earlier had been in regard to the last motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 PM, upon a motion by Geesey.