

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE INDIANA
BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2011, AT 7:00 PM, IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

PRESENT: President Simmons, Presiding; D. Pepper, Recording; Council Members Bricklemyer, Geesey, Hartman, Jobe, Jones, Kravetsky, Petrosky, Shively, Simmons and Thompson; Borough Manager Raykes; Mayor Hood; Chief Sutton; Solicitor Kablack; Public Works Director Fairman; Code & Zoning Director Kirk; Asst. Treasurer Sipos; Fire Chief Kelly; Randy Wells, Indiana Gazette; Reporter from Renda Broadcasting; Representatives of Downtown Indiana; and ten visitors.

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

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

President Simmons announced there would be a brief Executive Session after the Committee Reports.

Pres. Simmons asked for a Roll Call. All Council members were present, with the exception of Councilmen Gallo and Thorell.

There was a motion by Bricklemyer, second by Geesey, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 5, 2011, as written. Motion Carried.

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

The following action occurred during Public Participation:

- Richard Wolfe, owner of Robinson-Lytle Funeral Home, spoke in regard to the proposed BID (Business Improvement District). Wolfe has several issues with the proposal, and he feels it is an unfair tax on the property owners. Wolfe doesn't feel it was assessed properly, and he questions what he is going to get for his money. Wolfe stated there are no guarantees that this will bring more businesses into town, and it certainly won't generate more business for his establishment. Before voting, Wolfe wanted Council to consider the business owners that this could really hurt.
- Jack Delaney, Sr., who was accompanied by his son, also expressed concerns with the BID Program. Delaney is very proud of our downtown, and his business has been here for forty years. While he doesn't have a problem participating in the BID, Delaney feels everyone should be participating. Delaney doesn't feel a business on one side of the street should be expected to pay, while another business on the other side is excluded. Delaney would also like some consideration on the amount that he is being charged per linear foot.

- Tim McQuaide, owner of The Coney and a member of Downtown Indiana, spoke in support of the proposed BID. McQuaide stated all businesses received two certified letters and numerous meetings were held in regard to this proposal; however, a lot of people did not participate. As a business owner, McQuaide doesn't want to see any more taxes either, but he appreciates the infrastructure improvements that have been made to the business district due to the grant money that has been received and will continue to be available due to a BID being developed in Indiana. McQuaide urged Council to think about what is coming down the road and vote positively on the BID proposal.

The following action occurred during the Committee Reports:

ADMINISTRATON:

- There was a motion by Jones, second by Thompson, to approve a resolution adding Borough Manager Jeff Raykes on the signature card for the bank. Motion Carried.
- There was a motion by Jones, second by Bricklemyer, to advertise an ordinance that will change some language in the pension ordinance for the non-uniformed employees. Motion Carried.
- During an Executive Session at their July 26th meeting, the Committee reviewed a recent request for land acquisition. This is the same request that was discussed at the Work Session's Executive Session. After reviewing the facts and figures in a presentation, it is the Committee's recommendation that the Borough's property not be sold to the interested party. Instead, the Committee suggests that Borough Manager Raykes explore the options of leasing the land with the party of interest.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: No report due to the meeting being canceled.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Numerous letters of appreciation and commendations were received for several officers' outstanding job performance.
- There was a motion by Kravetsky, second by Thompson, to approve the request of Gerald Smith to close South 5th Street, between Church and School Streets, for a Community Block Party, on Saturday, August 27th, from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM. The proper application has been completed. During discussion, Councilman Hartman asked if there would be alcohol involved, and Kravetsky replied no. Councilman Bricklemyer asked if there was a fee associated with this, and Chief Sutton said yes. Motion Carried.
- There was a motion by Kravetsky, second by Jones, to approve the request of Matthew Gaudet to hold a 5-K Run on November 18, 2011, as per the route outlined to the Committee. The event will start and end on Philadelphia Street, and he will pay the applicable fee. Motion Carried.
- At the August 18th Public Safety Committee, Sergeant Anthony Clement will present his second annual forum on the abuse of illegal drugs in Indiana Borough and the enforcement involved with them.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- The WWTP passed its toxicity inspection in June.
- In regard to Locust Street (the Elm Street Project), all of the punch list items have been completed. Public Works Director Fairman stated Terra Works, Inc. did a great job, and there were very few complaints.
- Penn Dot will be replacing the culvert at 15th and Philadelphia Streets and in order to accommodate that project, the borough will likely be forced to relocate a portion of an 8 inch sewer line. Since we would be responsible for 50% of the cost of the project, our share could range between \$37,000 and \$70,000. Chairman Hartman stated the Committee doesn't think this is fair, so Borough Manager Raykes has been asked to negotiate a reduction in our contribution due to the financial constraints within the sewage maintenance accounts. Hartman asked that this item be placed on the agenda for the next Work Session.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION: No Report

RECREATION COMMISSION: No meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

Council adjourned into an Executive Session at 7:30 PM.

Council reconvened into Regular Session at 8:00 PM.

Pres. Simmons announced the purpose of the Executive Session was to discuss revenue and real estate matters.

Borough Manager Raykes then presented his monthly report, and the following items were highlighted:

- The 2012 budget process has begun, and each member of Council received a copy of the proposed budget schedule.
- The Pension Audit staff was on-site in July, and we are expecting a final report this month.
- Bid packages for the Trash/Rubbish contract were advertised.
- ARLE Grant application was sent to Penn Dot. The monies will be focused on improving pedestrian safety at the Seventh Street/Wayne Avenue/Locust Street intersection.
- We are beginning to coordinate the \$1.5 million dollar PA Community Transportation Initiative (PCTI) reimbursement program for Segment B2 of the Streetscape Project.
- Conducted a Wellness Day with Highmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield. We partnered with First Commonwealth for the event, which was organized by Nichole Sipos.
- Conducted the first staff meeting of department heads. Future meetings will be held on a monthly basis.
- Met with Diane Stipcak, of IUP, to discuss the placement of 4-6 students in Planning, Administration and WWTP.
- The Comprehensive Plan is in the final Stages.

- We are completing a rewrite of the Indiana Borough Zoning Ordinance to produce a more user friendly document and replace antiquated regulatory language. We are working with two student planners, with a completion date of August 2011.
- An updated appointment/reappointment schedule for Committees and Commissions was created, and he would like to commend Brenda Darr for her efforts.
- Entering discussions with IUP regarding the replacement of several academic buildings on campus scheduled to begin June 2013.
- Preparing for scoping and funding meeting for the Student District Master Plan along the Wayne Avenue/7th Street corridor on August 23rd. Acting planning partners are White Township, IUP and the Borough.
- HRG has completed the traffic study of 7th/Philadelphia Street. Recommendations include eliminating left-hand turning lane on North 7th Street, installing a protected permitted LHT South 7th Street, and eliminating all walk phase. HRG worked with District 10 engineers to find acceptable option. District 10 has asked that Council accept or reject recommendations with an August/September timeframe to enable next steps.
- We were working through utility issues related to relocation of power for several businesses along the 500 block of Philadelphia Street. Dave Kirk reported the new transformer issue was resolved today.
- A new Street Sweeper arrived from A & H Equipment of Bridgeville.
- Meeting with Penn Dot regarding sewer line relocation for bridge rehab project at 15th/Philadelphia Streets is continuing. A 50% match is required.
- Beginning discussion of state mandated Sign Inventory Project.
- Closed out Marsh Run Project with ICOPD.
- Locust Street Project has been completed under budget.
- Borough Manger Raykes will be participating in the upcoming Hawk Walk, which is a neighborhood based welcome program for incoming IUP students.
- We will be participating in meetings to discuss the 2011 IUP Homecoming activities.
- Recently met with Mark Geletka, of IUP Facilities Management, and his staff to discuss ongoing and upcoming projects. Will be scheduling quarterly meetings with IUP/Indiana Borough/White Township to keep informed and maintain an open line of communication.

Councilman Hartman, a member of the ICTCC, reminded Council that Berkheimer Tax Administrator of Bangor, PA will start collecting the Earned Income Tax for all of Indiana County beginning January 1, 2012. Several informational meetings are planned to help individuals, businesses and municipalities become familiar with the new procedures that will be implemented. Hartman explained that the new contract allows them to charge us postage, so we need to encourage our residents to file on-line. Another change is that as the revenues come in, they will be sent to us on a weekly basis as opposed to the previous quarterly method.

Code & Zoning Director Kirk stated that on July 20th, the Indiana Borough Planning Commission held a Public Hearing in regard to the proposed Comprehensive Plan. The

Planning Commission then took formal action and forwarded it on to Council for approval. Kirk then introduced Mr. Rick Grossman, a Planning Consultant from Grove City, who presented a brief overview of the proposed Comprehensive Plan. Grossman explained that he was just finishing a plan for White Township when he was approached to do one for Indiana Borough. Since grant money was available, the process began in 2007. A walking tour of the town was conducted and a Town Hall meeting was held to give residents a chance to express their thoughts and questions about the process. Grossman stated that in essence, a comprehensive plan is the official policy making document of the Borough, and this has been five years in the making. There are 65 pages in the report, but Grossman asked that Council pay special attention to Land Use Plan Map #3, as well as the final chapter of the Plan. Kirk had a few colored copies of the Comprehensive Plan and stated it is also available to view on the borough's website at www.indianaborough.com. A motion was then made by Hartman, second by Kravetsky, to advertise a Public Hearing for the proposed Comprehensive Plan prior to the Regular Council meeting on September 6, 2011. Motion Carried.

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

- There were 17 calls for service during the month of July, with a loss total of \$2,500.
- Kelly wanted to thank everyone for their help with the recent Specialty Tire fire. Kelly really appreciated all of the mutual aid assistance that he was given.
- For future reference, Kelly has emailed all of the mutual aid fire companies about the need to blow their sirens in order to activate the traffic lights in town.

The following action occurred during Chief Sutton's report:

- Everyone received a copy of the Police Department Activity Report for July 2011.
- Council also received a copy of the Parking Department statistics for July 2011, as well as July 2010 for comparison.

Mayor Hood reported the following items during his report:

- Hood extended a welcome to everyone in the audience and thanked them for attending the meeting.
- He complimented Jeff Raykes on his Borough Manager's report.
- Mayor Hood stated the Locust Street project looks very good.
- Hood then complimented members of Council for their hard work and dedication.
- Hood asked that everyone keep the military personnel in their thoughts and prayers.

The following action occurred during Unfinished Business:

- There was a motion by Geesey, second by Jones, to adopt the BID Ordinance that had been advertised. Roll Call Vote: 10 yes, 2 absent. Council members Gallo and Thorell were absent. Motion Carried.

The following action occurred during New Business:

- There was a motion by Thompson, second by Kravetsky, to appoint Jeff Grim, of 367 Washington Street, to the Planning Commission. Grim will be filling the unexpired term of Jeff Raykes. Motion Carried.
- There was a motion by Geesey, second by Jones, to appoint Shirley Stover, of 325 Edgewood Avenue, as a Zoning Hearing Board Alternate. Motion Carried.
- Susan McClure, Chairperson of the Indiana Borough Planning Commission, noted the recent passing of George Crock, who had previously served on the IBPC for a number of years.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM, upon a motion by Geesey.