

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE INDIANA
BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2009, AT 7:00 PM, IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

PRESENT: Vice-President Bricklemyer, Presiding; D. Peffer, Recording; Council Members Gallo, Hartman, Hogan, Kravetsky, Petrosky, Shively, Simmons, Thompson, and Thorell; Borough Manager Gabler, Police Chief Sutton; Mayor Hood; Wayne Kablack, Esquire; Code Officer Kirk; Public Works Director Fairman; Chuck Kelly, Indiana Fire Association; Betsy Lauber, Downtown Indiana; Alan Haycock; J. D. Varner; Randy Wells, Indiana Gazette; Celeste Gossman, Renda Broadcasting; and several visitors.

Vice-President Bricklemyer called the meeting to order, at 7:00 PM.

After a moment of silent reflection, Councilman Hartman was asked to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Pres. Bricklemyer asked for a Roll Call. All Council members were present, with the exception of Councilman Fruehstorfer and Councilwoman Jones.

There was a motion by Thompson, second by Simmons, to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing of June 2, 2009, as written. Motion Carried.

There was a motion by Hogan, second by Shively, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 2, 2009, as written. Motion Carried.

There was a motion by Kravetsky, second by Gallo, to approve the Financial Reports for June 2009 as presented. Motion Carried.

Vice-Pres. Bricklemyer announced an Executive Session would be held after adjournment, for a legal matter.

The following action occurred during Public Participation:

- ◇ Betsy Lauber, Downtown Indiana, presented a brochure that will be used to advertise an upcoming promotion. "Lovin' Downtown Every Second" will be held the second Friday of every month, and Lauber invited everyone to come and participate in all of the activities planned for the downtown area.
- ◇ Alan Haycock, 658 Grant Street, expressed his frustration with the Elm Street Project. Haycock is very upset at how long the project has taken, and the conditions that the residents have had to put up with during that time. Haycock questioned who authorized the start of the project in October last year, knowing that it couldn't be completed during the normal construction season. Haycock also questioned a number of other things, such as who hired the first Elm Street Manager without checking all of his credentials; what is being done to recoup the money losses incurred by the first contractor; and who is going to be responsible

for having all of the residents' houses power washed of the layers of dirt and grime that are covering them now. In conclusion, Haycock suggested the Elm Street Project be closed down until some light can be shed on the situation.

- ◇ John D. Varner, 420 Oak Street, once again spoke to Council in regard to electronic signs and asked that a committee be designated to procure a compromise. Varner left a copy of his proposal with Vice-Pres. Bricklemyer for review.

The following action occurred during the Committee Reports:

ADMINISTRATION/PUBLIC WORKS:

- ◇ In regard to the block wall retaining problem at 655 Willow Avenue, Borough Manager Gabler stated it looks like Mr. Stephens has found a way to resolve the problem at a very reasonable cost to himself. Public Works Director Fairman stated some guard rail will be needed there, but the cost to the borough will be minimal.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY:

- ◇ There was a motion by Hogan, second by Gallo, to approve a request for a temporary business license to Stephen McCabe, for the 9th Street Deli, to sell food merchandise from a truck that would park in a parking space. Motion Carried.
- ◇ There was a motion by Hogan, second by Simmons, to approve a request for a temporary business license to Joe Ferranti, for Fat Boy's Hot Dogs, to operate from the right-of-way for Washington Street, across from the Oak Grove, contingent upon the fact that area is public right-of-way and that Ferranti coordinates any downtown weekend sales with Hot Dog John. Roll Call Vote: 6 yes, 4 no, 2 absent. Council members Shively, Simmons, Thompson, Bricklemyer, Hartman and Hogan voted yes; Council members Kravetsky, Petrosky, Thorell and Gallo voted no; and Council members Fruehstorfer and Jones were absent. Motion Carried.
- ◇ Downtown Indiana's "Taste and Tour" will be held on Thursday, July 16th.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION: No Report

RECREATION COMMISSION:

- ◇ A routine business meeting was held last night.
- ◇ There are still a lot of great discount tickets available to area amusement parks and the zoo.
- ◇ At a previous meeting, Councilman Hartman stated Indiana Borough needed to think about increasing their 2010 allocation. Councilwoman Hogan asked if they knew how much of an increase they were looking at. Councilman Gallo stated he couldn't answer that at this time.

Borough Manager Gabler reported the following items during his report:

- ◇ The limb and brush pickup held in June was very successful. In fact, 11.91 ton of material was collected.
- ◇ He had talked with Waste Management, and there has been a noticeable improvement in their service. While things are improving, calls about missed service are now being recorded with the Code Department.
- ◇ Gabler had met with representatives of the Foundation for IUP about the closure of Maple Street. It now looks like Maple Street will be opened up after the demolition phase, in time for the start of fall-semester classes. Gabler stated it may need to be briefly closed for short periods of time afterwards.
- ◇ Unfortunately, Gabler wasn't successful in talking to them about reopening Eleventh Street. They shot that down completely.
- ◇ In August, we will be issuing our new residential parking permits. We are putting the form on-line, and landlords can sign off on it giving their authorization for the tenants to get the permit.
- ◇ Councilman Simmons asked about the status of the 600 block of Grant Street. Public Works Director Fairman stated it was milled today, and it should be base paved on Thursday. They will then come back and start topping it.

The following action occurred during Chief Sutton's report:

- ◇ Everyone received a copy of the Police Department Activity Report for June 2009.
- ◇ Council also received a copy of the Parking Department statistics for June 2009, as well as June 2008 for comparison.
- ◇ The second phase of the Parking Garage Renovation Project is well underway and should be completed by the end of August or early September.
- ◇ Councilwoman Hogan reported a missing parking meter on South 7th Street, beside the Calvary Presbyterian Church. Dave Fairman stated he will take care of it.

Code Officer Kirk stated Planning Commission Chairperson Susan McClure has appointed a sub-committee to address various issues with the overlay district, and Richard Thorell and Claire Hogan will serve as Council's representatives. The first meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 15th, at 10:00 AM, in the Council Chambers.

During the Fire Association report, Chuck Kelly wanted to go on record and express his frustration and disappointment with IUP's refusal to reopen Eleventh Street. Kelly explained that this creates a hardship for the fire department in the event of an emergency. Now that Maple Street is closed too, it really puts them in a bind. Borough Manager Gabler suggested the Fire Association write a letter to IUP expressing their concerns and explaining the difficulty this will create in answering a call to one of their buildings. Kelly agreed to send a letter immediately.

Vice-President Bricklemyer announced that a “Town Hall” meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 21st, instead of the regular Work Session. Bricklemyer asked members of the media to help inform the public, and a notice will be included on the sewage bills as well.

The following action occurred during Mayor Hood’s report:

- ◇ Hood thanked everyone for their public participation.
- ◇ Hood thanked Chuck Kelly for bringing attention to the fact that Eleventh Street’s closure creates a potential hazard and could cause problems for the Fire Department.
- ◇ Mayor Hood and Councilman Thorell recently attended the PLCM Convention in Lancaster, and they will be making a report in the future.
- ◇ The next ICBA meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 15th, in Saltsburg. Please let Mayor Hood know if you would like to attend.
- ◇ 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 Hartman, second by Hogan, to approve the policy statements for the Police, Non-Management and Management Pension Plans. Motion Carried.
- ◇ There was a motion by Petrosky, second by Hartman, that Thompson/McClay Insurance Associates be awarded the 4-year insurance proposal contract. Roll Call Vote: 7 yes, 3 no, and 2 absent. Council members Petrosky, Shively, Thompson, Thorell, Bricklemyer, Gallo and Hartman voted yes; Council members Simmons, Hogan and Kravetsky voted no; and Council members Fruehstorfer and Jones were absent. Motion Carried.

The following action occurred during New Business:

- ◇ Councilwoman Hogan stated the ordinance brochures need to be updated, and she wondered how many we had left. Code Officer Kirk is going to check on the status of the brochures, but he explained that his department sends out letters informing tenants of the various ordinances that the borough has such as trash, etc.
- ◇ Dana Henry, of the Chamber of Commerce, invited Council to attend a “meet and greet” gathering for DCED Acting Secretary George Cornelius on Wednesday, July 15th, from 5-7 PM, at Upstairs at the Coney. Vice-President Bricklemyer asked Borough Manager Gabler to send a reminder email to everyone about the event.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM, upon a motion by Gallo and a second by Simmons.