COMMON COUNCIL

Regular Meeting October 5, 2015

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Shelbyville, Indiana, was held in the Common Council Chambers of City Hall on Monday, October 5, 2015, at 7:00 P.M. Councilman Hamilton opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, and Councilman Carmony followed that with a prayer. Councilman Nolley was absent, and Mayor DeBaun presided.

Councilman Hamilton moved to approve the minutes of the September 21 and September 23, 2015 meetings, and Councilman Brown seconded. The motion was carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

Under miscellaneous business, Councilman Brown moved to approve the City Financial Reports, and Councilman Hamilton seconded. The motion was carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

Under old business, on Resolution No. 2015-15, confirming an economic revitalization area and tax abatement for North Harrison Senior Apartments, LP, Councilman Brown moved to approve the request, and Councilman Asher seconded. Jeff Ryan and attorney John DePrez were present to answer any questions. Mayor DeBaun thanked Jeff for beginning the demolition. The motion was carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

On Ordinance No. 15-2772, concerning the salary ordinance for 2016's employees, Councilman Hamilton moved to table this until the next Council meeting, and Councilman Carmony seconded. It was determined in the prelim meeting that the salary rank pay for Police and Fire might have to be changed, although the correct figures have been included in the 2016 budget. The motion to table this until the next meeting was approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

On Ordinance No. 15-2773, concerning the elected officials salaries for 2016, Councilman Brown moved to approve this on second and final reading, and Councilman Asher seconded. Under discussion, Councilman Brown again stated he thought the Mayor's and Clerk-Treasurer's salaries could be increased even more, and even though he can't receive an increase for the Council in 2016 because he couldn't run again, he pushed for the increase for them. Councilman Carmony said that for whatever reason, some of the salaries aren't kept up or down on some of the positions. He said we get too far behind, like ten years, in some cases, then it looks like some of these raises are just gigantic, but if you look at it over the long course of time, it's quite reasonable. He said he hopes the Council will stay on top of these numbers, and make them current with the market we're in. The motion was carried on a 6-0 voice vote on second and final reading.

On Ordinance No. 15-2771, concerning the 2016 budget, Councilman Brown moved to approve this on second and final reading, and Councilman Asher seconded. There were no comments or questions from the audience. The motion was carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

Under new business, on Resolution No. 2015-19, Street Commissioner Jennifer Jones requested permission to transfer monies within the MVH Fund to purchase a new chipper. Councilman Asher moved to approve the transfer, and Councilman Brown seconded. The motion was carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

On Resolution 2015-20, supporting the legislative efforts of the national FOP to address the violent surge against police officers in this country, Councilman Fero moved to approve the request, and Councilman Carmony seconded. To honor the ninety eight officers who have lost their lives this year, the Shelbyville Police Department will turn on their blue and red lights for five minutes on Saturday October 10, at 11:00 A.M. Detective Joe Nolley spoke to the Council on what is being done and what can be done to better protect our officers who serve and protect our communities. The motion was carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

On behalf of the Shelbyville Redevelopment Commission, City Attorney Trent Meltzer presented to the City Council, for their review, the 2016 budget that they passed earlier this evening. Councilman Brown said the Council has reviewed and accepts their budget. Mayor DeBaun noted that Councilmen Fero and Phares are on the Redevelopment Commission Board, so if anyone has any comments or questions, they can see them or him.

Mayor DeBaun asked Kris Schwickrath to come forward to give her presentation on trees. She currently serves as president of the Board of Zoning Appeals, and said there were a couple reasons for her being here tonight. The first was to come up with a plan to save the large, mature ash trees, and she's willing to serve on that committee. She said there are several ash trees in the City that can be saved, but it costs quite a bit to inject the trees to keep out the emerald ash borer from killing the several decades old trees. She suggested by the Spring, when the injections need to occur, to come up with a number of trees to save, based on the costs of injections per tree. The second reason for being here tonight, was to come up with some type of tree replacement program. Mayor DeBaun asked Kris to work with Purdue Extension Director Scott Gabbard on the ash trees to come up with an estimate, then get back with him, he'll get the information to the Council, and then they'll come up with a plan. She said there is a problem with not having an apparatus or mechanism for the maintenance of trees, which is a very long-term process, saying many newly planted trees die within three years because they're not maintained or pruned. Councilman Carmony said he's sympathetic to the need of having more trees and their aesthetic value to the City if we had more wholesome, beautiful trees.

Under comments or requests from citizens, Mayor DeBaun asked Joe Nolley to introduce his two guests. One was a student from Belgium, and the other was his daughter.

Councilman Carmony reiterated again how he'd like to see more participation from the citizens at these meetings. He said he'd like everyone in the community to bring their families to a City and County Council meeting at least once each year, noting they don't have to say anything, but observe the process, and be enlightened to give input if they wish.

There being no further business, Councilman Brown moved to adjourn, and Councilman Hamilton seconded.

Thomas D. DeBaun
Mayor

ATTEST:

Frank M. Zerr
Clerk-Treasurer