COMMON COUNCIL

Regular Meeting August 15, 2016

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, August 15, 2016, at 8:32 A.M. Councilman Asher opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, and Councilman Carmony followed that with a prayer. All Council members were present, and Mayor DeBaun presided.

Councilman Wright moved to approve the minutes of the August 1, 2016 meeting, and Councilman Ridgeway seconded. The motion was carried on a 6-0-1 voice vote, with Councilman Carmony abstaining.

Under miscellaneous business, David Finkel asked to talk to the Council about the upgrades made to the Strand Theatre on the heating and air conditioning system. He wanted to thank the Council for its advance to the Strand so the HVAC system could be installed, and he said it's working beautifully. Normally receiving $20,000.00 annually from EDIT monies, the City advanced $120,000.00 to upgrade the 100 year old building. He said the Strand hasn't seen any cost savings because it went from one unit to seven units, but it cools the building much quicker than what it used to. Giving an instance, he said what used to take one hour to lower the temperature by one degree in the summer, it now takes one minute. He also noted how quiet it is in the Theatre with the new system. Mr. Finkel named many entertainers who have sought to perform at the Strand, and one of the original Celtic Women is coming to perform later this month. Although more work still needs to be done, its list of things to be completed is very minimal. Mr. Finkel talked about the various avenues the Strand uses to advertise its events.

Under old business, Ordinance No. 16-2796 authorizes and ratifies a buy money program for the Police Department. Councilman Ridgeway moved to approve the request on second and final reading, and Councilman Nolley seconded. The motion was carried on a 7-0 voice vote.

Under new business, on Resolution No. 2016-18, tax abatement on real estate property was requested by Toray Resin Co. Councilman Asher moved to approve, and Councilwoman Bowen seconded. Under discussion, Scott Hickman, General Manager, and Keith Conway, Controller, said they are looking forward to having a new warehouse expansion, noting they are in a growth mode. This warehouse space will also help keep their products closer, because they do have warehouses at other locations. Mr. Hickman said the goal is to hire locally, but their biggest challenge is that unemployment is very low in Shelby County. The motion was carried on a 7-0 voice vote.

On Resolution No. 2016-19, tax abatement on personal property was requested by Toray Resin Co., totaling $1,000,000.00. Councilman Nolley moved to approve, and Councilman Ridgeway seconded. The motion was carried on a 7-0 voice vote.

Under other business, County Councilwoman Linda Sanders, Chairman of the International Relations Council in Shelby County, wanted to thank the City of Shelbyville for always stepping up to the plate to do an outstanding job for the Sister-City Program with Shizuoka City, Japan. A large contingent of Japanese students was in attendance, so Mayor DeBaun had each of the students and chaperones give their names.

Mayor DeBaun noted there were a couple people in the audience who might want to come forward to talk about the skateboard issue. The first to speak was Brett Sturgill, who said that although he and many kids were disappointed with the comments about skateboarders recently, he wanted to keep a positive attitude today. He commented on a few places in other communities where skateboard parks did and didn't work, to give some possible ideas. He said several go to other communities, including Ohio, to use their skateboards, and it's a missed opportunity. Mr. Sturgill said there is a concrete contractor who would be willing to donate 100% of his labor for a skateboard park, which would be a huge cost savings. Mayor DeBaun said that what was needed before going further with this discussion was to have input from responsible adults who can communicate with the City. Councilman Carmony asked the questions; how popular is skateboarding, will it be used in 5 more years, how many skateboarders are there in Shelbyville, what type of place would it be, and where might it be? Not knowing these answers for certain, Mr. Sturgill felt there are hundreds of skateboarders, and

the best location would be at Blue River Memorial Park. Penny Lane Diersing was the second speaker, saying there are older and younger generations of skateboarders. She has talked with Conger Skate Park, who said they would like to speak with all involved. They have built skateboard parks all across Indiana, which is all they do. Some locations include Carmel and Noblesville. She and Mr. Sturgill felt the skateboard park should be monitored, so bicycles couldn't be brought in, which could do a lot of damage. By charging a fee, both felt it would give the kids ownership and make them take pride in it. Mayor DeBaun asked; "what happens if a park is built but kids don't want to pay, are they going to continue coming downtown destroying property, and cause further division?' Mayor DeBaun asked Penny if she would contact the designers of skateboard parks to set up a meeting with him and others. Also, the next Council meeting date was set for Wednesday, September 7, at 7:00 P.M., so the talks could continue.

Councilman Ridgeway said 54 students are going to college this fall and asked Kaitlyn Frazee to talk about what it means to be able to go to college for free for the first two years. She said she was scared to start, but she's looking forward to the opportunity. She has also helped at the Animal Shelter.

There being no further business, Councilman Nolley moved to adjourn.

Thomas D. DeBaun
Mayor

ATTEST:

Frank M. Zerr
Clerk-Treasurer