COMMON COUNCIL

Regular Meeting September 19, 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, September 19, 2016, at 8:31 A.M. Councilwoman Bowen 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 September 7, 2016 meeting, and Councilman Nolley seconded. The motion was carried on a 4-0-3 voice vote, with Councilmen Carmony, Wright, and Asher abstaining.

There was no old business.

Under new business, on Ordinance No. 16-2797, Councilman Nolley moved to approve the 2017 Budget on first reading, and Councilwoman Bowen seconded. Under discussion, Councilman Carmony talked about the budget process, the Open Door Law, and the fact there's very little participation from the public when these meetings are held. He feels he gets more clarity and ideas when discussing issues with others on the process, and feels it's good to have at least one or two more meetings before passing this on second reading on October 3. The motion was carried on a 6-1 voice vote, with Councilman Ridgeway voting no.

Under other business, Mayor DeBaun asked Shellie Ellison, chairperson for the Livable Communities Coalition, to come forward to talk about the accessibility changes made around the City of Shelbyville. She first talked about the $5,000.00 grant they were awarded to help citizens obtain low-cost loans to have their sidewalks repaired. Most people who were notified and targeted paid their portion to have their sidewalks repaired, and only one person took advantage of the loan. It's going to be opened to all Shelbyville residents next year. Much progress was done on sidewalks around Jefferson Street, from First through Fourth Streets, and Elm Street as well. CVS and Kramer Auto Sales were mentioned, having made their locations more accessible. If asked, their group will visit businesses to give them ideas on what they could do to make themselves more accessible for everyone.

Melissa O'Connor, from the Youth Assistance Program, came forward to review their 2017 budget, and give an update on what's happened since they started accepting referrals on March 17, 2016. They have received 48 referrals so far, and 34 open cases as of today. They have initiated their adult volunteer tutoring and mentoring program, and they have begun offering a variety of services, which includes caring for children between the ages of three and seventeen, focusing on preventative services. Melissa said the City and County provided start-up funding for this year going half and half, and asked if each would do the same for next year, and possibly more if they deem appropriate for their projected needs. Since this started in March and has had 48 referrals so far, Councilman Carmony asked if she could handle 100 referrals in a year. She felt she could, saying each referral is different, and some may need more attention than others; depending on their family's situation. Councilman Phares moved to approve giving half of the proposed budget of around $98,126.00, and Councilman Wright seconded. The motion was carried on a 7-0 voice vote.

Brandy Coomes, Executive Director of Main Street Shelbyville, wanted to remind everyone of the Bicentennial Torch Run being held this coming Saturday, September 24, and the BBQ, Brewfest, and music going on that evening as well, from 5:30 until 10:00 P.M. When asked by Councilman Asher about the progress of their new building, Brandy said there's much work to be done before they can move in, but she's looking forward to being in the heart of downtown.

Mayor DeBaun said he has hired Building and Plan Commission Director Dann Bird's replacement. His name is Bryant Niehoff, and he will be starting October 17. He is coming from the Rushville/Rush County Joint Planning Commission.

Mayor DeBaun wanted to thank Councilman Ridgeway for suggesting another downtown planning meeting. Final input on several items will be received, and then a public information session will follow on an undetermined date.

Mayor DeBaun said Capone's Speekeasy will be opening this coming Friday, at 1 Public Square.

Barbara Rogers, from Three Sisters Books and Gifts, said the last First Friday event of the year will be held on Friday, October 7. It will be Halloween-themed with a costume parade for kids, and a pet costume contest in which the Animal Shelter will benefit from that contest.

Parks Director Karen Martin said they just finished the last "Music in the Park" series of this year, and it went over very well. She said their Halloween festival for the kids will be held on October 28, from 6:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M.

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

Thomas D. DeBaun
Mayor

ATTEST:

Frank M. Zerr
Clerk-Treasurer