

REGULAR SESSION, COMMON COUNCIL, MARCH 9, 2015

Be it Remembered that the Common Council of the City of Plymouth, Indiana, met in regular session on March 9, 2015. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers of the City Building, 124 N. Michigan Street, Plymouth, Indiana. The meeting was called to order at 6:51 p.m.

Mayor Senter led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilman Delp offered prayer.

Mayor Senter presided for Council Members Delp, Culp, Ecker and Grobe. City Engineer Gaul, City Attorney Surrisi and Clerk-Treasurer Xaver were also present. Councilman Smith was absent.

Councilmen Delp and Ecker moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting of February 23, 2015, and to dispense with reading them since they have been reviewed and found to be correct. The motion carried.

Mayor Senter offered condolences to the Greenlee family following the passing of Jack Greenlee.

Councilmen Grobe and Ecker moved and seconded a motion to approve the ratification of Navejar request. The motion carried.

Ralph Booker reviewed the PC 2015-02, Certified Proposal to Amend the Zoning Ordinance in regards to landscaping standards. Due to a mathematical error, Booker has recommended that this be sent back to the plan commission for further deliberation. Councilmen Culp and Delp moved and seconded that the proposal be sent back to the plan commission. The motion carried.

Booker presented PC 2015-03, Certified Proposal to Amend the Zoning Map Overlay Districts to correct an error where the overlay maps did not match the book. He proposed that the overlay be expanded as proposed in PC 2015-03.

Councilmen Delp and Ecker moved and seconded the motion to accept the Plan Commission's amendment to the zoning map overlay districts, PC 2015-03. It passed by roll call vote.

AYES:	Delp, Culp, Ecker and Grobe
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	Smith

Joe Mersch addressed council to request an Exemption of Licensing Requirements of Ordinance 1309 for the Knights of Columbus to collect donations on May 1 and May 2, 2015, with a rain date of May 8 and May 9, 2015. Councilmen Ecker and Culp moved and seconded to accept the application. The motion carried.

Dale Cramer addressed council to request an Exemption of Licensing Requirements of Ordinance 1309 for the Plymouth Kiwanis to collect donations on May 15 and 16, 2015. Councilmen Culp and Grobe moved and seconded to accept the application. The motion carried.

Jerry Chavez presented on proposed property tax abatement program guidelines. Councilman Culp questioned the benefit to the city using the 7 year term versus the 10 year term. Chavez explained that if a 7 year term is used then capital investment can be utilized earlier.

Surrisi advised that this proposal is just a guideline and the council should consider which option best suits the city in terms of incentives for potential new businesses.

Clerk-Treasurer Xaver was asked her opinion regarding the options. She replied that with the business property tax loss and residential property tax caps, the higher term of abatement would mean more loss of tax revenue for the city.

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Councilman Ecker asked how this proposal compares to other cities in the area. Chavez indicated he thought smaller towns such as Argos and Culver opted for the 10 year abatement because they have fewer businesses in their communities.

Councilmen Delp and Ecker moved and seconded to accept the guidelines with the 7 year abatement knowing that it can be adjusted. It passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Delp, Culp, Ecker and Grobe
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Smith

Mayor Senter offered the privilege of the floor to the audience. No one accepted.

Councilmen Ecker and Culp moved and seconded to accept the following communications: Minutes of the Board of Public Works and Safety meeting of February 23, 2015; Minutes of the Board of Public Works and Safety Executive Session meeting of February 23, 2015; 5; and the Clerk-Treasurer's Financial Reports dated February 28, 2015; the 2014 Year End Financial Management Reports from Umbaugh for the Wastewater Department; and the 2014 Year End Financial Management Reports from Umbaugh for the Water Department The motion carried.

There being no further business to discuss, Delp and Grobe moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried; the meeting was declared adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

S/Jeanine M. Xaver
Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED

S/Mark Senter, Mayor