

Be it Remembered that the Common Council of the City of Plymouth, Indiana, met in regular session on February 22, 2016. 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 6:35 p.m.

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

Mayor Senter presided for Council Members Culp, Delp, Ecker, Fonseca and Grobe. City Attorney Surrisi and Clerk-Treasurer Xaver were also present. Councilmen Cook and Houin were absent.

Councilmen Delp and Ecker moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting of February 8, 2016, as presented. The motion carried.

The following legal notice was advertised in the Pilot News on February 10, 2016:

**116
Legals**

**NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS
OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**

Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of the City of Plymouth, Marshall County, Indiana that the proper legal officers of the Common Council at their regular meeting place of the Council Chambers of the City Building, 124 North Michigan Street (Garro Street entrance), Plymouth, Indiana immediately following the Board of Works meeting at 6:30 pm, Monday, February 22, 2016, will consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year.

Fund Name:	Police Dept. Federal Equitable Sharing Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Supplies
Amount:	\$ 1,775.00
Fund Name:	Unsafe Building Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Other Services and Charges
Amount:	\$ 37,053.00
Fund Name:	Brownfield EPA Grant Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Other Services and Charges
Amount:	\$ 50,000.00
Fund Name:	Aviation Grant Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Capital Outlays
Amount:	\$ 271,567.00
Fund Name:	Deferral and Diversion Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Supplies
Amount:	\$ 8,745.00
Fund Name:	Safe Routes to School
Major Budget Classification:	Capital Outlay
Amount:	\$ 364,306.00
Fund Name:	Plymouth Greenway Trail Project Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Capital Outlay
Amount:	\$ 454,226.00
Fund Name:	Freedom Park Grant Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Capital Outlay
Amount:	\$ 7,512.00
Fund Name:	Tennis Court Project Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Capital Outlay
Amount:	\$ 713,820.00
Fund Name:	Lake and River Enhancement Grant Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Capital Outlay
Amount:	\$ 62,500.00
Fund Name:	Drug Free Community Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Supplies
Amount:	\$ 583.00

Taxpayers appearing at the meeting shall have a right to be heard. The additional appropriations as finally made will be referred to the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF). The DLGF will make a written determination as to the sufficiency of funds to support the appropriations made within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a Certified Copy of the action taken. Handicapped citizens needing special accommodations for the meeting, please call the ADA Coordinator, 574-936-2948.

Jeanine Xaver
Clerk-Treasurer

February 10, 2016 PN8994

Councilman Grobe and Councilwoman Fonseca moved and seconded to open the public hearing. The motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Xaver explained that historically the city goes through this process after the first of the year for funds that are not funded by property taxes. The process is to place a legal advertisement in the newspaper; have a public hearing; approval by the council; then the paperwork is sent to the state for final approval. All of these funds have the specified amounts of cash available.

Councilmen Ecker and Delp moved and seconded to close the public hearing. The motion carried.

Xaver also noted that this will not affect local property taxes. The city's property tax rate for the year is \$1.5751, which is increased 4.68 cents from last year. Last year's rate was \$1.5283.

Mayor Senter gave the annual State of the City Address:

STATE OF THE CITY
February 22, 2016

To:
Members of the Common Council
Madam Clerk Treasurer Jeanine Xaver
Members of the media
The Citizens of Plymouth

Welcome to Plymouth, Indiana, population 10,033. A city with three brand new signs that greet you as you enter from the north, south and west. The State of Indiana, who celebrates its 200th birthday this year, is known as the Crossroads of America. Well we can call Plymouth the Crossroads of Northern Indiana. Ten entrances...a mighty challenge for a very artistic and conscientious sign committee last year. With another \$100,000 in this year's budget we hope to add several more throughout The City. Signs of promoting our city.

I begin tonight by acknowledging Clerk-Treasurer Jeanine Xaver as she is completing her 17th month in her new position. I appreciate so much her openness and her honest opinions as we go forward. A few glitches in a new software program have slowed things a bit, but it's no fault of hers or her office staff. And so far the new clerk-treasurer is doing a splendid job. Thank you, Jeanine, for your painstaking leadership! Signs of excellent financial stability.

As many of you know, I came to work on December 31st and found that my ceiling in my office had caved in...again! This was the third time in eight years and that does not count the ice dams, carpeting issues and a horrible heating and air conditioning system. I vowed that day that we would look into either refurbishing and remodeling what we have now or moving to a new location with the police and fire departments. A committee has been formed and I am hoping to have our first meeting prior to the next board of works meeting on March 14th. Signs of better buildings.

Again, I want to welcome our three new members of the Common Council to your fourth meeting. I look forward to working with you and accept the challenge of having councilors from the other party to possibly liven things up now and then. Plymouth's common council has always been fair and equitable to work with and I look forward to your conscientious leadership as we advance! Signs of diligent legislation.

Designs are close to being complete for the expansion of the biological process at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. These improvements will provide additional capacity for the community and accommodate current needs of our commercial and industrial users. These improvements will require a rate increase of 15 to 20 percent, which amounts to about \$3.16 to \$4.21 monthly on the average residential user. The positive is that this increase will still be 30% below the state average for communities of our size in the State of Indiana. These improvements are expected to provide quality services for the next 25 years.

Upgrades in the City of Plymouth's water supplies are expected to be completed by July of this year. This is the final in completing upgrades to the both the Ledyard and Pine water fields and brings them both up to current standards. Improvements are continuing on the installation of new and the replacement of aging existing water mains throughout The City. Signs of complete utilities.

After two years now River Park Square has blessed us with blooming Saturday mornings at the Farmer's Market and kids playing in the splash pad. Another month of Friday night concerts will be held this summer at the band shell as well as our first beer garden in June to raise money for the second phase of Freedom Park.

Last May we broke ground and in November a ribbon cutting for Freedom Park, a great new playground addition to our forgotten park--Packard Woods. It was fun to watch it take shape over the summer. I would like to thank the Freedom Park Committee for their tireless work and never giving up on their dream to include all children that want and need the freedom to play.

The Mary Beth Hunter Tennis Center will soon be a reality in Centennial Park, getting a complete "do-over" in the area where the present courts are now.

Price's Memorial Park was donated to The City by the Ray Price Foundation last September. What a beautiful gift from a family that brought a business to our city years ago. The park has two shelters, a gazebo, playground and a pond for swimming and fishing. And it fits perfectly in our park and trail system going from there through Centennial to Magnetic to Founders, Gill and River Park Square. Signs of a perfect park system.

If you get a chance stop by one of Plymouth's newest businesses on Pioneer Drive: The Zone. Ted Hayden, Rick Miller and their team have brought a basketball mecca to Plymouth.

And sometime this spring we will be doing something that's practically unheard of...cutting the ribbon for The Zone and then walking across Van Vactor Drive to break ground on a 45,000 square foot indoor soccer complex. Another positive addition bringing hundreds to our city from all over Indiana each weekend. Signs of growth.

The City is working well with the Marshall County Economic Development Corporation and its director Jerry Chavez. Job retention is just as important as job creation. Jerry's leadership has brought a new spirit to regional economic development and his team is working very hard in promoting the shell building...AKA the Commerce Building to several manufacturing companies.

I would also like to announce tonight that Commerce Drive has recently had a name change. It is now officially called Jack Greenlee Drive named, of course, for Plymouth's 28th mayor who led The City from 1992 to 2000. Mayor Greenlee was a long-time county councilman prior to becoming mayor and a one-term city councilman from 2004-2008.

The MCEDC is further entrenched in Marshall County by offering quarterly "County Development for the Future" meetings involving Lapaz, Bremen, Bourbon, Argos, Culver, Marshall County and Plymouth. In these luncheon meetings, egos and turf wars are left at the door and a regional concept of economic development is positively discussed. That says a lot about our continued effort in regional economic development.

The Metronet is up and running with 22 businesses and two government entities (the city and the county) on-line. The Metronet will enable the city to see a savings of more than \$18,000 annually in communications costs. Again, thanks to the Plymouth Redevelopment Commission, the Marshall County Council, the commissioners and St. Joseph County government for making that happen! Signs of smart economic development.

In October, we cut the ribbon for a 2.2 million dollar expansion and widening of the Plymouth Municipal Airport runway. There have been vast improvements at the airport in the last 5 years and I attribute that to a very aggressive Board of Aviation Commissioners as well as airport manager Dave Lattimer. We need to thank the Federal Aviation Administration for their assistance as well.

Mr. Lattimer and the BOAC are currently looking at an Automated Weather Observation System south of the runway. This system will send automated forecasts to the FAA and others in 20 minute intervals. Signs of better aviation.

At mayor's conference last year the City of Goshen's Mayor Alan Kaufman and several others from his city spoke of their Latino programs that they have been using the past several years. Goshen's Latino population is more than 28 per cent. Plymouth is not far behind at 20 per cent and one of the highest in the state. I believe we, as a city, can do much more for our Latino population. With the loss of Heart and Hands a few years ago, I think we have missed that connection of sharing our two cultures and the understanding each other. Soon I promise to put a team together and study this important part of our city and possibly even have a town hall meeting to discuss it. Signs of crossing cultures.

I want to thank the 100 plus employees of Plymouth. They all do an outstanding job and I hear nothing but praise while I am out and about in The City. I commend each and every one of you for a job well done and I know you will keep up the great work! Signs of awesome employees.

City Attorney Sean Surrisi has been on the job now for four years and shows no signs of slowing down. It has been a blessing to work with him and each department head appreciates his direction and advice. Signs of grand guidance.

Operating a city of 10,000 plus depends on great teamwork and I want to thank the department heads for going above and beyond and for enthusiastically going out of their way to make the city a positive place to live and work. Some of them probably average 60 hour work weeks...some are on call keeping us safe in the wee hours of the morning...some are great organizers. Signs of unmatched leadership.

In closing, as many of you know, my wife's cousin is a country singer from Paris, Illinois, a city of 9,000 northwest of Terre Haute. Brett Eldredge's grandmother and Leanne's father were brother and sister. Brett was the 2014 CMA New Artist of the Year. On Brett's first album, which came out in 2013, there is a song that I think is apropos for tonight:

Signs, tellin' you a story, Paintin' you a picture in black and white.
Life, coming at you slowly, Hits ya in the heart, not just the eyes.
If you wanna know what's goin' on in this little town, All you gotta do is read
the Signs

Thank you

City Attorney Surrisi presented Ordinance No. 2016-2097, An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Plymouth Concerning Personnel Policies to Allow for Retiring Fire/EMS Personnel to Purchase their Service Helmet and Boots, on second reading.

Councilmen Delp and Grobe moved and seconded to approve Ordinance No. 2016-2097, An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Plymouth Concerning Personnel Policies to Allow for Retiring Fire/EMS Personnel to Purchase their Service Helmet and Boots, on second reading. It passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Culp, Delp, Ecker, Fonseca, Grobe
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Cook, Houin

City Attorney Surrisi presented Ordinance No. 2016-2097, An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Plymouth Concerning Personnel Policies to Allow for Retiring Fire/EMS Personnel to Purchase their Service Helmet and Boots, on third reading.

Councilmen Ecker and Delp moved and seconded to approve Ordinance No. 2016-2097, An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Plymouth Concerning Personnel Policies to Allow for Retiring Fire/EMS Personnel to Purchase their Service Helmet and Boots, on third reading. It passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Culp, Delp, Ecker, Fonseca, Grobe
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Cook, Houin

City Attorney Surrisi presented Ordinance No. 2016-2098, An Ordinance Adopting the Fee Schedule for the Department of Aviation for the City of Plymouth, on second reading.

Councilmen Grobe and Ecker moved and seconded to approve Ordinance No. 2016-2098, An Ordinance Adopting the Fee Schedule for the Department of Aviation for the City of Plymouth, on second reading. It passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Culp, Delp, Ecker, Fonseca, Grobe
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Cook, Houin

City Attorney Surrisi presented Ordinance No. 2016-2098, An Ordinance Adopting the Fee Schedule for the Department of Aviation for the City of Plymouth, on third reading.

Councilmen Ecker and Councilwoman Fonseca moved and seconded to approve Ordinance No. 2016-2098, An Ordinance Adopting the Fee Schedule for the Department of Aviation for the City of Plymouth, on third reading. It passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Culp, Delp, Ecker, Fonseca, Grobe
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Cook, Houin

City Attorney Surrisi reported that Michiana Contracting, Inc. has been awarded the public works contract for the Centennial Park Pool Bathhouse Renovation Project and presented for the council's consideration:

IC 36-1-21-5(B)(2),(3) Certified Statement Regarding Council Member's Relative's Contract with the Park & Recreation Board.

Surrisi also presented Elected Official Disclosure of Relative's Contract with the City of Plymouth, Pursuant to IC 36-1-21-5 in relation to Councilman Mike Delp's part ownership of Michiana Contracting, Inc.

Councilmen Ecker and Grobe moved and seconded to accept the statement and disclosure as presented. Councilman Delp abstained from voting. The motion carried.

Plan Consultant Ralph Booker presented PC No. 2016-01 Certified Proposal to Amend the Zoning Ordinance for the City of Plymouth, and Consideration of PC 2016-01 by the Plymouth Common Council, on first reading. He explained that this is in regards to the Plymouth Zoning Ordinance provisions regarding signs that was recently approved by the Plymouth Plan Commission.

City Attorney Surrisi explained that in this situation it is permissible to suspend the rule that the proposal must be read on second and third reading at a later date, which is his recommendation.

Councilmen Grobe and Delp moved and seconded to suspend the rule and consider PC 2016-01 on all three readings. The motion carried.

Councilmen Delp and Grobe moved and seconded to approve PC No. 2016-01 Certified Proposal to Amend the Zoning Ordinance for the City of Plymouth, and Consideration of PC 2016-01 by the Plymouth Common Council, on second reading. It passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Culp, Delp, Ecker, Fonseca, Grobe
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Cook, Houin

Councilmen Grobe and Councilwoman Fonseca moved and seconded to approve PC No. 2016-01 Certified Proposal to Amend the Zoning Ordinance for the City of Plymouth, and Consideration of PC 2016-01 by the Plymouth Common Council, on third reading. It passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Culp, Delp, Ecker, Fonseca, Grobe
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Cook, Houin

Plan Consultant Ralph Booker presented PC No. 2016-02 Certified Proposal to Amend the Zoning Ordinance for the City of Plymouth, and Consideration of PC 2016-02 by the Plymouth Common Council, on first reading. Booker explained that this proposal is in regards to the standards within the Historic Neighborhood Overlay District.

Councilman Delp and Councilwoman Fonseca moved and seconded to suspend the rules and consider the motion on all three readings. The motion carried.

Councilman Delp and Grobe moved and seconded to approve PC No. 2016-02 Certified Proposal to Amend the Zoning Ordinance for the City of Plymouth, and Consideration of PC 2016-02 by the Plymouth Common Council, on second reading. There was question regarding the process for the historic neighborhood overlay district application. Booker clarified that initial applications will be reviewed by the Technical Review Committee. Should an application be denied by this committee, the applicant may appeal to the Plan Commission. If again denied, an applicant would then need to appeal to the Circuit Court. It passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Culp, Delp, Ecker, Fonseca, Grobe
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Cook, Houin

Councilman Delp and Councilwoman Fonseca moved and seconded to approve PC No. 2016-02 Certified Proposal to Amend the Zoning Ordinance for the City of Plymouth, and Consideration of PC 2016-02 by the Plymouth Common Council, on third reading. It passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Culp, Delp, Ecker, Fonseca, Grobe
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Cook, Houin

City Attorney Surrisi presented Resolution No. 2016-683, Additional Appropriations Resolution.

Councilmen Ecker and Grobe moved and seconded approve Resolution No. 2016-683, Additional Appropriations Resolution. It passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Culp, Delp, Ecker, Fonseca, Grobe
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Cook, Houin

Larry Faulstich addressed the Common Council with the following request on behalf of the Marshall County Blueberry Festival Board of Directors:

Dear Mayor Senter,

The 2016 Labor Day Weekend will mark the 50th Annual Marshall County Blueberry Festival. The 50 year old Festival is a result of a "Picnic in the Park" to celebrate the Sesquicentennial of the state of Indiana in 1966. Using the theme "Another Picnic in the Park" the Festival will also celebrate the Bicentennial of Indiana in 2016.

Held annually since 1967, the Festival serves as a venue for 100 plus non-profit organizations to earn money for their yearly projects and ranks as Indiana's largest 4-day festival. Non-profit organizations such as the Marshall County Boys and Girls Club, the LaPaz Volunteer Fire Department, the Bremen Kiwanis, Argos and Triton FFA, Ancilla College, Culver Young Farms, ASK Ministries, Tippecanoe Fire Department, the Moose Lodge and 7 Marshall County public school corporations are just some of the benefactors of the Festival. Our famous "Blueberry Donuts" have been with us since the beginning, when they were being made and sold by the Blissville Church of the Brethren. When the church decided it needed help, they joined forces with another church to make the donuts. Grace Fellowship is now a group of 7 area churches, who make over 52,000 blueberry donuts, selling them all. Our Festival is the only one they participate in, making the wait even longer. Over the past 23 years, over \$592,000.00 has been earned by Plymouth High School by parking cars in the high school parking lot. The Festival also awards 5 scholarships yearly, 3 for the Miss Blueberry Pageant and 2 for Marshall County area high schools.

With attendance around 450,000 over the 4 days, the economic impact of the Festival is at the moment unknown, however the Marshall County Tourism Bureau has commissioned a study that will be completed by 2017. With that being said, the money drawn into the City of Plymouth and Marshall County by the Festival has to be staggering. Every hotel room in Marshall County and the surrounding counties, private homes, bed and breakfasts, and campgrounds are totally booked. Gas stations, grocery stores, restaurants, stores such as Walmart and other "mom and pop" businesses benefit from the Festival. One restaurant business owner has told the Blueberry Board of Directors, the weekend in sales is his largest of the year, surpassing Mother's Day Weekend. Also don't forget all the other non-profits outside of the park, who cash in on the Festival. The Blueberry Board of Directors pays \$60,000 for security by Merit Police Officers, \$29,000 for port-a-johns, \$10,000 for golf carts, \$35,500 for stages and sound equipment, \$40,000 for entertainment, \$14,000 for Gospel and the rent for the park. Before rent was charged for the Park, the Blueberry Board of Directors would ask the Park Board what was needed by the park and would help by supplying such items as picnic tables to Centennial Park. In the last 5 years, the Marshall County Blueberry Festival has paid the City of Plymouth \$153,000.00 for rent for the use of the park, which has helped the City of Plymouth, to keep Centennial Park, the beautiful place that it is. The Marshall County Blueberry Festival over the years as well has put in place an infrastructure that consists of 19 electrical transformers, hundreds of feet of buried electric wiring, underground water and plumbing, and this past year was able to have Verizon bring in four repeaters and the fiber optics for year round cell phone coverage in the park. This year the Board will be working on the cleaning, clearing, and replacement of the stairs to the lower terrace, where the Garden-tractor and Horse pulls are held. Total budget for the 2016 Festival is around \$656,150.00.

All of this planning of course comes with a price. As a non-profit organization who received all the funds to run the Festival from Sponsors, Food, Craft, Commercial vendors and the pre-sale of Mega Passes for the carnival, the Festival has successfully promoted Plymouth and Marshall County putting them on the map for the past 50 years. The Festival has had a big part in growing both the City of Plymouth, Marshall County and Plymouth Community Schools Corporation, by attracting families to visit our community, possibly taking up residency. Every penny earned by the Festival is returned to the planning of the next Festival. Between 2011 and

2014, the Blueberry Committee invested over \$29,830.00 in required electrical upgrades to our electrical panels by the Indiana State Fire Marshall. In the next couple of years, the Festival is again facing an estimated \$35,283.14 in upgrades of aging underground wiring. A major project from 2011 to 2014 was the painting of the trams, replacing of the blue and red tarps, replacing seats, tires and welding of the trams at a cost of \$29,762.37. The Marshall County Blueberry Festival as a non-profit shares all of its equipment including trams, trash rings, fencing, poles, med beds and security trailers with any non-profit of Marshall County, FREE, as a service to the residents of the county.

The Blueberry Board of Directors is planning special events for this year's festival, having booked a couple of new kids' attractions and FastTrack RC Cars will attract race car enthusiasts' of all ages. Dog lovers will view several shows performed by the K9 Crew dogs and a lumberjack attraction, along with others are still in the planning. Three stages of entertainment are booked for the weekend, with plans already for some unique parade entries. The Board has ordered the "largest" Fireworks Extravaganza to date. The budget for the Fireworks has been raised by \$25,000.00 for this year's 50th Festival. We recognized the fact, while attending the Indiana State Festival Convention in Indianapolis, 90% of the festivals in Indiana, receive some financial backing from the city or county they are held in. With this knowledge, the Blueberry Board of Directors humbly ask your financial support of the 50th Annual Marshall County Blueberry Festival in the amount of \$25,000.00 to Sponsor the Fireworks Extravaganza and help again, to promote both Marshall County and the Home of the Marshall County Blueberry Festival, Plymouth, Indiana.

Respectfully,
Jim Nolin, President
The Marshall County Blueberry Board of Directors

Councilmen Grobe and Delp moved and seconded to table to request. Mayor Senter asked if any other governments in Marshall County have been approached.

Festival Coordinator Sherrie Martin replied that they have not at this time.

Delp thanked the Blueberry Committee for all their hard work over the years. His personal opinion is to give the Council some time to review and request before making a decision. The motion carried.

Councilman Ecker asked for an update on the railroad tracks at Harrison and Broadway Streets. City Attorney Surrisi stated that he does not have an update at this time, but has been in communications with the railroad companies. He will follow up with them again and have additional information at the next meeting. Ecker also asked that the Board of Public Works and Safety discuss the congestion due to cars parking along Harrison Street from Center to Michigan Streets. Street Superintendent Marquardt stated that if the Board of Works chooses to enforce a no parking zone then the Street Department will put up signs.

Councilman Ecker and Councilwoman Fonseca moved and seconded to accept the following communications: Minutes of the Board of Public Works and Safety meeting of February 8, 2016; Minutes of the Plan Commission meeting of February 2, 2016; Clerk-Treasurer's Trial Balance Cash and Investments Report, December 2015; Clerk-Treasurer's All Funds Expense Report, December, 2015. The motion carried.

There being no further business to discuss, Councilmen Delp and Grobe moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

S/Jeanine M. Xaver
Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED

S/Mark Senter, Mayor