

Be it Remembered that the Common Council of the City of Plymouth, Indiana, met in regular session on February 25, 2013. 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 6:30 p.m.

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

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

Councilmen Delp and Ecker moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting on February 11, 2013 and to dispense with reading them since they have been reviewed and found to be correct. The motion carried.

Mayor Senter presented his State of the City Address:

STATE OF THE CITY
February 25, 2013

To: The Citizens of Plymouth
Members of the Common Council
Madam Clerk Treasurer Toni Hutchings
Members of the media

Good evening and thank you for this opportunity to address the Common Council tonight on the status of this wonderful city in which we live and work. It is my distinct pleasure for five years now to serve the City of Plymouth as your mayor.

140 years is the theme of tonight's State of The City

1873:

- Mark Twain was in his prime
- The nation witnessed the second inauguration of President Ulysses S. Grant
- Jesse James took up train robberies in Iowa
- A settlement in Central Marshall County along the banks of the Yellow River was incorporated as the City of Plymouth, Indiana.

We've come a long way since 1873. Our nation has seen two world wars and seven regional wars since then. We have had depressions, booms, recessions and turn-arounds. The City itself has grown and changed since 1873 as well. It is much different today with box stores and fast food restaurants; new technology; many subdivisions; the best of utilities desired by many other municipalities in the Midwest; a flourishing airport; a street department like no other; police and fire departments that keep us safe in the wee hours of the morning; a great park system; full-time services of engineering and law; and probably the most glaring: sound fiscal discipline that is the envy of many other cities and towns.

But at the same time, we still have that same spirit that the founding fathers had in 1873...the same ingenuity and adaptability that characterizes us as Hoosiers.

For the second State of The City in a row talking about OPERATION BRIGHT SPOT! It has not always been bright...matter of fact some have called it blight! We have businesses in this area whose out-of-town owners need to step-up and clean-up their sites. Last year I named names in order to get the attention of those owners and so far we have heard from a few. Most of these owners do not live and work in Marshall County or Plymouth. They do not notice the dilapidation and degradation of their properties. They do not realize the impact on Plymouth's property values. And apparently they do not care! Working with the Marshall County Health Department and Building Commissioner Keith Hammonds we will keep the pressure on these buildings' owners. The awful Plymouth Motel is gone...we are trying our best to work with the owner of Park Jefferson Apartments but we have found that that is not an easy task...we had a meeting just last week with the owner of the Comfort Suites to find out what his action plan is going to be...letters have been sent to the owners of the Clark Gas Station and the Economy Inn motel on the north side. A new program I'm introducing tonight is an Adopt-A-Street program that will give not-for-profits and youth groups a chance to take pride in a particular street and keep in cleaned-up.

But we cannot be a BRIGHTER SPOT ON THE MAP as long as we have a methamphetamine issue. This is a concern that I began talking about in 2008 and I really thought that we have made headway over the years, but in my opinion, Meth is back with a vengeance. In the last month a prominent youth leader was arrested for meth east of town. Here in Plymouth two children were found in a lab at Country Place Apartments. We have a meeting scheduled this Friday with members of the prosecutor's office, PPD, ISP and the MCSD to discuss this awful epidemic that has re-invaded our community. I look forward to another town hall meeting sometime in April or May to discuss this issue with the citizens of Plymouth.

And staying with public safety, in 2010 this administration began meeting with members of the administrative staff at the Plymouth Community School Corporation. Chiefs Bacon and Miller as well as detectives and DARE Officer Mark Owen meet with Mr. Tyree, Mr. Condon and Mr. Olsen to discuss what is going on in the schools. This has culminated in great rapport with members of the corporation. Since

Sandy Hook, school safety is back in the forefront and I believe it is time to dedicate one police officer as a full-time school resource officer.

Just last week the Plymouth Redevelopment commission opened bids for demolition of three buildings near River Park Square. Demolition will be taking place in the spring and soon after construction for the park will begin. This improvement of an asphalt pad and bad grass will be throughout the summer. I am looking forward to a more prominent Farmer's Market, with trees, shrubs and greenery everywhere including a new city Christmas tree to light up everyone's favorite holiday.

Along with River Park Square we cannot forget the South Gateway Project on the southern end of Downtown. On May 6th the first wrecking ball struck the old Cook Building and within five minutes as dust filled the air a pile of bricks and mortar, concrete and rebar, plaster and drywall were all that was left. From there the JCI Bridge Group as well as RW Armstrong cleared the land and conducted the first phase of the new entrance into our downtown. On November 23rd we cut the ribbon on a serene new setting near the Yellow River.

Retention of jobs is so vital to our community and the looming loss of Whitley Products does not help that cause in any way. With the assistance of the Common Council, the Clerk-Treasurers office and the MCEDC in 2012 we closed on several tax abatements to keep jobs here in Plymouth. Zentis, Culver Tool, Hoosier Racing Tire and AK Industries all brought jobs and expansions and in Aleck Home Medical we have a beautiful new building across from St. Joseph Regional Medical Center on Lake Avenue.

A study by the MC Economic Development found that Plymouth was lacking in buildings that were turnkey ready. The Plymouth Redevelopment Commission looked at this situation and decided to partner with PIDCO to fund a new shell building in PIDCO's Commerce Industrial Park. This has been delayed due to new flood plain maps by FEMA and the Indiana DNR, but later this year we expect that will be behind us and we can get this project off the ground.

The Plymouth Redevelopment Commission has also committed \$1.5 Million dollar improvement of the city's water system and 2 new wells at the Pine Road Plant. The \$175,000 improvement of the Ledyard Plant with a new filtering system is now completed and both of these projects were done without a utility rate increase.

The Plymouth Redevelopment Commission, working with the Marshall County Commissioners and Council, hope to bring MetroNet to Plymouth and Marshall County. The metronet will provide business, health care, first responders, and local government with state-of-the-art telecom infrastructure. Completion of this fiber-optic network will allow Plymouth to effectively compete for jobs in the advanced manufacturing and bio-medical fields as well as reduce the City's telecommunication costs.

In September the City began preparing for a new Comprehensive Plan. Our last was published ten years ago and it was time to bring on some fresh ideas for future infrastructure, land use and growth, housing and neighborhoods, keeping the downtown vitalized and, of course, economic development. The committee work should be completed in about six weeks before it goes before the plan commission and council for approval. The most important part of the plan will be to actually acting on the proposals brought forth. I would like to thank the steering committee, many who are here tonight, for your time, effort, thoughts and conscientious input in the future growth of our city. I would also like to thank Ratio Architects and especially Jackie Turner in helping in this process.

Promotion of the city in these times is essential. Recently, the city launched a new website that is much better than what we had for several years. The site has new pages, photos, links to other agencies and organizations, a city meeting calendar and many more improvements to keep us in the 21st century. Probably the most important change is that each department head can now make changes on his or her site as needed. Thanks to Dan Sammartano and Bob Barcus for assisting us in this process. But my hat goes off to Clerk-Treasurer Toni Hutchings, Angie Birchmeier and Larry Hatcher for getting this off the ground.

The Mayor's Youth Council is stronger than ever and in just a few minutes Council President Karly Gruett will be addressing the council on the state of its organization.

In conclusion, I want to thank the great employees of this city! They all do an outstanding job and I hear nothing but praise while I am out and about. I commend each and every one of you for a job well done and I am confident you will keep up the great work!

City Attorney Sean Surrisi has been with us now for one year. He had big shoes to fill. Nelson Chipman had been in city government for nearly twenty-five years with much experience in working with many different personalities. Sean has done an outstanding job with his conscientious input and excellent writing and investigative talents. The City truly appreciates your skills, counselor!

I want to thank the Common Council for your input, your thoughts and your thorough decisions in making this city go! Mr. Culp, Mr. Delp, Mr. Smith, Mr. Ecker and the newest father among us, Mr. Grobe, need to be commended.

The department heads are beyond reproach and enthusiastically go out of the way to make the city a better place to live and work.

Let me give you an example of teamwork: On March 10th the City of Plymouth suffered arguably the biggest fire of its history near the intersection of Pennsylvania and Liberty Streets. It was Chief Miller's

10th day in office. I was out of state at a funeral so I completely missed it, but was told that every department head except park, cemetery and airport came to the scene to assist in any way they could. That's teamwork, ladies and gentlemen, and it's truly appreciated by the Citizens of Plymouth!

The future of a municipality's finances is always going to be a question mark! But I will give you four words that make me realize that The City of Plymouth will be okay: **Clerk-Treasurer Toni Hutchings**. Again, your financial leadership has put us in great shape for not only this year but many years to come! Municipal finance is like no other and we appreciate your diligent work in keeping Plymouth on the right track!

It is never easy to predict what might come tomorrow or next month or the next decade but planning gives us a chance to stay on the right path. William Arthur Ward once said, "The pessimist complains about the wind...the optimist expects it to change...the realist adjusts the sails!"

We can complain...we can hope...but in 1873 our forefathers adjusted the sails and 140 years later I am encouraged by what we have here in this beautiful city!

Mayor Senter introduced the members of the Mayor's Youth Council.

The Mayor's Youth Council President Karly Gruett will be addressed the council on the state of its organization.

The following legal notices were advertised February 12 and 15, 2013:

**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 p.m., Monday, February 25, 2013 will consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year.

Fund Name:	Park Non-Reverting Capital Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Capital Outlays
Amount:	\$ 70,000.00

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.
Toni L. Hutchings, Clerk-Treasurer
City of Plymouth

February 15, 2013 PN 8193

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

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Fund Name:	FEMA Plum Street Project Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Capital Outlays
Amount:	\$ 253,164.00
Fund Name:	FEMA Garro Street Project Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Capital Outlays
Amount:	\$ 19,379.00
Fund Name:	Redevelopment District Capital Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Capital Outlays
Amount:	\$ 1,878,100.00
Fund Name:	Police Dept Federal Equitable Sharing Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Supplies
Amount:	\$ 4,740.00
Fund Name:	Deferral and Diversion Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Supplies
Amount:	\$ 13,181.00
Fund Name:	Plymouth Greenways Trail Project Fund
Major Budget Classification:	Supplies
Amount:	\$ 10,863.00

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.
Toni L. Hutchings, Clerk-Treasurer

February 12, 2013 PN7881

Councilmen Smith and Ecker moved and seconded to open the public hearing. The motion carried.

Councilman Smith asked if the additional appropriations were in regard to the flood plain project.

Mayor Senter affirmed that some of the appropriations are for the FEMA Plum and Garro Street Projects.

There being no other questions or comments from the councilmen and no questions or comments from the audience, Councilmen Delp and Culp moved and seconded to close the public hearing. The motion carried.

City Attorney Surrisi reviewed the following information with the council:

MEMO

TO: Council
FROM: Sean Surrisi
DATE: 2/20/13
RE: Report on Update to Comprehensive Plan

As you will recall, the Plan Commission is working to update the City's 2003 Comprehensive Plan. Last fall, the City engaged Ratio Architects to lead the update process.

Over the last several months, Ratio's Senior Planner, Jackie Turner, has worked with members of a sixteen member Steering Committee composed by the Mayor and has also solicited public input at a community meeting to gather information and compose the updated plan.

A first draft of the plan will be submitted to the Plan Commission for consideration at its March 5th meeting. Feedback on the draft plan will be received from the Plan Commission at that meeting and over the following month. The Steering Committee is scheduled to meet again on March 7th to further refine the draft plan and a public forum to discuss the draft plan is to be held on March 14th from 6-8 pm (location to be determined).

It is the Steering Committee's and Ratio's intention to have the plan in a final draft by mid-late March. Thereafter, the Plan Commission will hold a public hearing on the plan at its April 2nd meeting and following the hearing will consider approval of the updated plan. If approved, according to the statutory procedures, the Plan Commission will certify the plan to the Council for final approval by resolution. The plan will likely be submitted for your consideration and approval at either the April 15th or 29th Council meeting. Jackie Turner from Ratio will be present at both the public hearing with the Plan Commission and the Council meeting to present the plan and to address any questions.

Councilman Grobe is a member of Steering Committee and Councilmen Delp and Ecker, as Plan Commission members, will have dealt with the plan in advance of it coming before the Council. However, if any of you have questions about the plan or the process, and in particular Councilmen Culp and Smith, please feel free to contact me at any time.

City Attorney Surrisi presented Resolution No. 2013-551R, Additional Appropriation Resolution.

He said that the proposed additional appropriation for the park department was removed from the revised draft of the resolution that was sent to the councilmen in the mail.

Councilmen Smith and Grobe moved and seconded to pass Resolution No. 2013-551R, Additional Appropriation Resolution. It passed by roll call vote.

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

Sender offered the privilege of the floor to members in 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 11, 2013; minutes of the Urban Forestry and Flower Committee meeting of January 16, 2013; minutes of the Plan Commission meeting of February 5, 2013; minutes of the Board of Zoning Appeals meeting of January 2, 2013; minutes of the Redevelopment Commission meeting of January 15, 2013; minutes of the Board of Aviation Commissioners meetings of January 15 and February 12, 2013, and the Clerk-Treasurer's List of Outstanding Unpaid Warrants to be Cancelled. The motion carried.

There being no further business to discuss, Councilmen Ecker and Delp moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried; the meeting was declared adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

S/Toni L. Hutchings, IAMC/CMC/CPFA
Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED

S/Mark Senter, Mayor