

# COMMON COUNCIL MEETING

December 1, 2003

TIME: 6:00 P.M.

**Present:** Mayor Gary Bailey , Ed Dwenger, Herb Hunter, Helen Gardner, David Leas and Bruce Tressler.

Minutes were approved.

Kathy Crippen addressed the request for Deed of Dedication to the City from Larry and Cindy McCamment on Vandalia Hills Subdivision. The Utilities and streets have been put in according to City Standard and the street lights are ordered and would like to add street lights in phases.

**Council unanimously approved.**

**Motion by Helen Gardner and seconded by Bruce Tressler to approve passage of Resolution 2003-7 Transfer of funds in Clerk-Treasurer budget. So passed.**

**Motion by Helen Gardner and seconded by Ed Dwenger to pass Resolution 2003-8 Transfer of money (\$16,000) from Insurance to Trash Tipping. So passed.**

Mayor stated that Culpepper Cooper gave an update at the Board of Works on the Insurance and benefits will stay the same, family loss will cap at \$50,000 instead of \$75,000 and the Board of Works approved of staying with Culpepper and Central Benefits and looking at a Piggy back insurance Gateway at \$2.00 per person per month.

**Motion by Helen Gardner and seconded by Ed Dwenger to approve Health Insurance with Culpepper and Central Benefits for year 2004. So passed.**

Mayor stated that they had interviewed 3 good applicants for police officer and the new officer will be Bob Zapfe.

Downtown Renovation Coalition came before Council. Greg Rust addressed the Mayor and Council asking them to adopt the HyettPalma/ IACT program and asking for the City to approve monies for this from Edit funds. The 60% amount needed now would be \$22,500. The balance of \$15,000 would be needed later and they would try to raise as much of the balance as they could.

Mayor stated this has been talked about for 8 months and this is a plan that he would endorse, but his recommendation would be for the incoming Mayor and

Council address this issue. If the incoming Mayor and Council would like to voice their opinion at this Council meeting, they are much welcomed.

Mayor Bailey stated that you are going to get what you pay for and the Ball State and HyettPalma are both good groups.

Ed Dwenger feels that the two groups are further apart than before of the downtown issue.

Hank Martin stated they have tried to reach an agreement with the other group and it is not going to happen.

Bruce Tressler stated that this Council did endorse the IACT program. Downtown Merchants are the ones that are going to benefit and need to be a stake holder. Bruce purposed that the City give \$15,000, Downtown Development give \$15,000 and the other group \$7,500 and put it all together and work together.

David Leas is not sure the Downtown Group does not represent all the merchants downtown.

Helen Gardner feels that not all merchants are members of the Downtown Corporation.

Jennifer McNealy addressed this and stated most merchants are not members. They have 7 people on their Board and no other members, Rick Meadows, Jean Johanningham, Allen Johnston, Bill Hadler, Joe Shields, Jennifer McNeally and John Pratt. They have acquired 258 names on their petition to wait on decision until next year.

The Mayor of Aurora, Rick Ulrich, was present and stated that they went with the IACT/HyettPalma program and it is working. Local Businesses and Economic Development monies funded this. They did the Ball State and Hyett/Palma.

Herb Hunter is disappointed that more members of the Downtown Group did not show up for this meeting.

One Merchant stated there is a bird problem around the square.

He was told that it is the merchants responsibility.

Rick Ulrich told that they had the same bird problem and it is the owners responsibility and he would be glad to talk with this owner afterwards.

Paul Pank stated that he has lived through all that has gone on downtown and if you don't develop economically then the others will take over. Paul was

surprised to learn that he has been paying monies to what he thought made him a member of the Downtown Group only to learn tonight that he is not.

Bruce stated there is a big pile of money there and so what is the big deal.

Mayor Bailey stated the Downtown Development group has said they are going to go ahead with their solution with Ball State.

Helen Gardner feels the City should move on the IACT/HyettPalma.

Mayor Bailey ask Frank Manus, the incoming Mayor if he had any comments or opinion. Frank first stated he had none and a little later he stated that on a radio program he had said that if a decision was not made by the now Mayor and Council tonight then a decision would be made come January. Frank stated he feels that he has enough information to make a decision on, but that the new incoming Council does not have enough. He also feels that the HyettPalma Plan is a good plan. Frank also stated that he does not have a problem with the current Mayor and Council making a decision.

Ken Dornich stated that he likes the HyettPalma Plan, but thinks for this Council to pass this for tonight would not be appropriate.

Gary Herbert wants to know if the merchants are willing to put up dollars.

Glenn Tebbe feels the HyettPalma is a better program and needs people that are going to be committed. Hoping to be able to bring some people together and doesn't know if some Edit monies are already designated.

Mike Casuscelli, from the Daily News, stated to Frank and the new Council members that would like to put these two groups together, "God's Speed". Mike was the arbitrator between at one of the meetings. Mike stated that he feels the IACT program is a nationally endorsed program and strongly encourages endorsing it. At the meeting he was at, the Downtown Development Group pledged \$20,000 to it and the next day pulled out of the pledge.

Helen Gardner and David Leas feels to go ahead with the plan.

Ed Dwenger is frustrated with the whole thing.

Mayor Bailey stated he would take all under advisement and make a decision.

David Leas brought an Ordinance that the City of Indianapolis has adopted for smoke free City wide, restaurants, businesses, Government and any public place.

Mayor Bailey stated he would turn this over to the next administration since this Council did not take action on it.

Mayor Bailey extended his Thanks to the Council and for the opportunity to work with them these four years and congratulations to Helen Gardner on her re-election. He commended the Council on all that has been accomplished these four years.

Clerk-Treasurer expressed her Thanks to the Mayor, Council and City Attorney and handed out plaques of In Appreciation to Ed Dwenger, Bruce Tressler, David Leas and Herb Hunter.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:20 P.M.**

Minutes prepared and presented by: **L. June Ryle, Clerk-Treasurer, City of Greensburg**