

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 1, 2004
TIME: 6:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Frank Manus, Helen Gardner, Gary Herbert, Glenn Tebbe, Larry Bower and Ken Dornich.

Minutes were approved.

Doris Sims of the Indiana Department of Commerce gave a presentation and overview on the Economic Development Community Focus Planning Grant and Community Focus Fund. Projects are to benefit 51% of lower/moderate income residents or serve a "limited clientele" population. Applications are submitted on a monthly base and have six months to complete. The maximum amount of grant is \$500,000 with a 10% match by the City. Five percent is the maximum for in-kind contributions.

A workshop is being held April 13th at 7:00 P.M.

Lisa Lang of ARA explained that the DSI had done an expansion in 1993 and is in need of another expansion and will be applying to the Department of Commerce for an Economic Development Community Focus Grant. The ARC has committed \$125,000 for the local match. A public hearing will be held March 18th.

Dales Crites introduced his wife, Sharon, daughter, Carri, Del Moeller and Steve Barth. Dale told that the workforce at the local DSI has doubled from 50 to 110. Plans are to enlarge the current building and acquire more land adjacent to theirs and expand the parking area.

Del Moeller stated they are looking at just under an acre and have already addressed drainage with some of the neighbors.

Glenn Tebbe stated he was very pleased and supportive for the local DSI and questioned the expanding and proper drainage.

They are working with a time line of April 2nd applying for the application. Plans are for the completed project being approximately August 2005.

Letters from the community would be a tremendous help to strengthen the application. They ask for anyone to write a letter in support. Doris Sims of the Department of Commerce stated that the letters would be a BIG help.

Motion by Glenn Tebbe and seconded by Ken Dornich to approve Resolution 2004-1. So passed.

Diane Swank of the Culpepper Insurance Group told the Council that on last Friday at the Board of Works meeting, the City's group term life insurance was presented, changing the group from AUL to Companion Life and raising the employee benefit from \$10,000 to \$15,000. Companion Life Insurance would be a two-year term instead of a yearly and the Board of Works approved the change.

Diane stated that the HIPP law is mandated for all to follow and that IACT will be providing training for this complex law.

Jill Nobbe, Office Manager of Enhanced Telecommunications Corporation gave a presentation, about their new location and what they have to offer to the residents and businesses here in Greensburg. They will be having a grand opening July 22nd. Services will be done in three phases and hope to have all completed by 2005. They have bought the old Sears Building and plan on opening in June.

Jill introduced Dustin Nobbe, Anita Fleddeman and Bridget Boyce who handed out packets to everyone.

Motion by Helen Gardner and seconded by Larry Bower to pass on 2nd reading Ordinance 2004-1, Building Fees. So passed.

Motion by Gary Herbert and seconded by Larry Bower to pass on 3rd reading Ordinance 2004-1. So passed.

Motion by Larry Bower and seconded by Gary Herbert to pass on 2nd reading Ordinance 2004-2, Landfill Fees. So passed.

Motion by Glenn Tebbe and seconded by Ken Dornich to pass on 3rd reading Ordinance 2004-2. So passed.

Kathy Crippen spoke on behalf of the Traffic Control Committee. They had a request from the Home Health Care Group for a designated crosswalk area across Lincoln Street to the Hospital. Kathy stated that they found there already is a designated crosswalk and Ralph Land, Street Commissioner will get it restriped. They may need to erect sign.

Kathy stated that Green Sign Company and Doerflinger Insurance Company requested to have two streetlights put up in this area for safety purposes since it is a dark area. Kathy stated that Cinergy would use existing poles.

Motion by Gary Herbert and seconded by Ken Dornich to approve two streetlights be put up on the extended end of Freeland Road. So passed.

Donna Lecher, Water Office Manager, explained that a change in meter reader was coming up and the current meter reader would work part-time to train a newly hired meter reader.

Motion by Glenn Tebbe and seconded by Ken Dornich to pass Ordinance 2004-3 on first reading. So passed.

The money that the City had given to the YMCA Alternative School had been discussed at the Board of Works and felt the remaining monies should be returned. Council members agreed.

City Attorney, Steve Taylor handed out information on the departments and cellular phones. Steve stated that he has consulted with the State Board of Accounts as well as others at the State level and feels that safety and liability should be included in the policy. Steve is asking for a department head meeting for next week to address this policy.

Steve also addressed the take home vehicles and is waiting to get through to the IRS. Some of the laws have changed he has found out and the police no longer are exempted as they have been in the past. A log must be kept and taxed as a benefit on w-2.

Discussion was held on the tax abatement process for renewals and what needs to be checked on.

Motion by Glenn Tebbe and seconded by Larry Bower to approve Tax Abatement Renewal for: (2) McLean, K-Fab Investments LLP, Bishop, Harpring, Doerflinger, Colonial SD, LLC (Northgate), Witkemper, BP Crossing, Green Sign, (2) Valeo and S&DS Investments LLC. So passed.

Keith Reed, JP Morgan and Washington Twp Assessor Francis Geis came before Council.

Keith owns a mobile home park and the homes 20 years or older were exempted from being taxed and now with the City's Ordinance they are being taxed. Keith would like for this to be exempted.

Francis Geis told the Council the State provides him with the figures. Mobile Homes are suppose to get a moving permit and use to be given a \$500 write off, but when a Mobile Home is in place, then it has a value.

JP Morgan stated that back in 1997 any mobile home 10 years old can not be put back in your owned mobile park, for the City the Ordinance states 20 years old or older. Keith is wanting to replace mobile homes with ones that are 20 years or older and the City Ordinance will not allow him to do so.

Kathy Crippen stated that the City only allows mobile homes in mobile parks and the City's Ordinance was taken word for word after Shelbyville's.

Fire Chief, Scott Chasteen ask the Council to reconsider the safety standards and feels the City's Ordinance is very important.

Larry Bower stated that since mobile homes can only be in mobile parks one possibility would be to rescind the Ordinance.

Glenn Tebbe stated that he would like to consider the request, but would like to have more information and the Plan Commission to have some study on this as well.

The R.E.M.C. annual meeting will be held March 16th at the High School at 7:00 P.M. and Frank would like for any of the Council members to attend if possible.

Don McCrary brought reading material, about the Airport Expansion, for the Council members to look over.

Fire Chief, Scott Chasteen told the Council that they have applied for a firefighters grant in the amount of \$135,000. It would need a 10% local match and they have monies in the Cumulative Fire Fund. The grant would be to upgrade firefighters gear.

Scott also told the Council about a program that City's could get cars for \$1 a vehicle. They have to have advertisement on the sides of the vehicles. Scott would like permission to be able to look into this program without committing to any thing permanently. It is a three-year deal and then the vehicle goes back.

City Attorney, Steve Taylor stated that he would like to have control over the advertisement and City's Logo.

Council didn't see any reason not to look into the program.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 P.M.

Presiding Officer: _____

Council Member

Attest:

Clerk-Treasurer

