

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 4, 2007
TIME: 6:00 P.M.

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

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes were approved.

Lisa Westenberger of ARA stated this was an open public hearing on a Micro Loan Grant up to \$75,000 program. The Grant requires no local match of funds. Applications will be submitted for a minimum of \$5,000 up to \$20,000 for small businesses. This grant program is for small businesses with five employees or fewer, within the city limits and who cannot go to a conventional bank for a loan. The business owner does not put up collateral and fees are paid to ARA from the grant funds. There is no cost to the City.

There will be a noon public hearing on September 20th at City Hall regarding this program.

Vicki Kellerman EDC Director spoke highly in favor of support of this MicroLoan program.

Lisa declared the public hearing closed after no other discussion.

Motion by Ken Dornich and seconded by Helen Garner to pass Resolution 2007-12 Micro Loan Grant program. All ayes. So passed.

Peter Fritz, Associate of Ratio Architects, Inc. gave an update on the \$50,000 Downtown Planning Grant Study. He spoke of a steering committee and meeting with merchants. He designated having streetscape guidelines, program ideas, preparing a draft document and having a 2-3 day work shop. They would need State approval as well as Council approval and this would be a 7-9 month process.

Ken Dornich stated he is in favor of the program but he has been contacted by several downtown people that have expressed their concerns.

Tax Abatement for Ridgecrest was discussed and a question came up about the remaining years for this abatement that will need to be looked into before next year.

Motion by Ken Dornich and seconded by Larry Bower to approve the renewal tax abatement for Ridgecrest. All ayes. So passed.

Julie Schafer representing Catch-A-Ride came before Council requesting \$6,000 funding from the City. She has approached the County and requested \$8,000 funding. The remainder of needed funding is made up from fares and grants from INDOT. The State is telling them that 10%-15% funding should come from the community.

The Council requested that Julie provide them with more funding information at the next meeting.

David Fry and Vicki Kellerman of the EDC came before Council requesting a \$10,000 increase in the funds that the City provides from the EDIT monies. David handed out a budget that included the proposed 2008 budget. They included a \$10,000 increase from the County and City from the EDIT funds. David stated the reason for the increase is because they would like to provide some assistance for 2008 to the EDC Director. As it is right now, whenever Vicki is meeting with potential developers, she has to close the office and there has been a big increase in interest from different industrial and commercial interests.

Council discussed the request and commented the increase looks like a lot but with the work that has increased in the last year, the request is reasonable. Questioned if there is usage for the money the EDC has in the bank. With so much going on it is important to keep Vicki out there working. Council told the Mayor they can support the request of EDC.

Mayor Manus stated he appreciates the Council and their comments and would not over rule the Council and will give the EDC \$60,000 from the EDIT fund in 2008.

Vicki Kellerman provided an update of projects she is working on and one of those being a Regional Auto Expo.

Jon Dooley of the Airport Board provided Council with an update. They are still crunching numbers, but have come to an agreement with the Airport Corporation.

They have had an accountant to review the Airport Corporation and the Airport can pay its own way. They have talked with Mike Pence about receiving funding faster and as of right now they are not ready to make any recommendations to the City and Council yet. They can receive 95% to 97 ½ % from the FAA program.

Motion by Ken Dornich and seconded by Glenn Tebbe to pass on 1st reading Ordinance 2007-07-23 Water Utility Rules and Regulations for the City of Greensburg. All ayes. So passed.

Motion by Ken Dornich and seconded by Glenn Tebbe to pass on 1st reading Ordinance 2007-09-25 amending 2001-28 Establishing a customer application and deposit policy and procedure and priority for the receipt and application for the City of Greensburg Municipal Water Works and the City of Greensburg Municipal Wastewater Works. All ayes. So passed.

Discussion was held concerning salary raises at 3% plus longevity.

Motion by Glenn Tebbe and seconded by Larry Bower to pass on 3rd reading Ordinance 2007-07-14 salaries for employees as amended to reflect a 3% raise. All ayes. So passed.

Motion by Ken Dornich and seconded by Glenn Tebbe to pass on 3rd reading Ordinance 2007-07-15 salaries for elected officials. All ayes. So passed.

Motion by Ken Dornich and seconded by Helen Gardner to pass on 3rd reading Ordinance 2007-07-16 salaries for municipal employees as amended to reflect a 3% raise. All ayes. So passed.

Motion by Larry Bower and seconded by Ken Dornich to pass on 3rd reading Ordinance 2007-07-17 salaries for elected officials. All ayes. So passed.

Motion by Glenn Tebbe and seconded by Ken Dornich to open public hearing for 2008 Budget Ordinance 2007-08-24 for comments. All ayes. So passed.

There were no comments from the public in attendance.

Motion by Gary Herbert and seconded by Helen to close the public hearing. All ayes. So passed.

Council set September 10th at 6:00 P.M. for a budget work session.

Bryan Robbins, HottCity Executive gave an update of the fitness path and they are requesting someone from the City on the steering committee. They also are requesting the City to help financially with the engineering expense. The funds would need to be channeled through the Park and Recreation Department. He reported a meeting would be held this month on the Sesqui-Centennial.

The topic of crossing arms was brought up for all railroad crossings.

Kathy Reynolds has checked into the procedure and the applications will become available in October and the City is on the list. Fire Chief Scott Chasteen advised that there is an organization Safe Government and he has been dealing with the office in Washington, D.C. because the official in the Indiana office retired and the position has not been filled yet.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER:

Attest:

Clerk-Treasurer

