**MEETING OF THE CITY OF RUSHVILLE, INDIANA**

**COMMON COUNCIL**

**FEBRUARY 7, 2023**

**6:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Common Council of the City of Rushville met on the above date and time at 330 North Main Street Suite 200 Rushville, Indiana. Mayor Pavey called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:** The Pledge to the Flag was recited by those present.

**PRAYER:** Council President Berkemeier led those present in prayer.

**ROLL CALL:** Bob Bridges, Brad Berkemeier, Elton Marzon, Mike Daubenspeck, Aaron Gurley, and Eli Bridges answered roll call. Also present was City Attorney, Julie Newhouse.

**MINUTES:** Daubenspeck moved to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2023 meeting as presented. Bridges seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**MAYOR’S REPORT:**  Mayor Pavey gave the following report:

1. We gave a presentation for rural federal aid projects. They were on 200 North – the east side of the highway and riverside park trail.
2. Received a report back from SJCA on the Morgan Street improvement project
3. Project ECl traffic signal modification report.
4. We are waiting on the grain bid removal schedule.
5. The Redevelopment Commission received the donation of the old Jr. High School property.
6. The Board of Works approved 2 change orders on the Fire department project.
7. The next phase for the new apartments will have a ground breaking on May 1st.
8. The visitation for Steve Johnson will be this Sunday at the high school gym from 2:00-6:00 p.m. The funeral will be Monday at 10:00 a.m. at the gym.
9. We have a meeting related to parking and code enforcement scheduled for Monday.

**CLERK-TREASURER’S REPORT:** None.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** None.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

* **READi Designation –**

Community Center – The building is currently being used for storage. It will be vacated in March so construction can begin.

Diamond Pet Foods – This will be the largest dog food facility in the U. S.

* **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council** – Councilman Marzon said he has been talking with members of the community. They won’t be putting anything out for black history month. However, they continue to gather ideas and hope to have something to present by summer.
* Sandra Chapman left pictures and a diploma of Carol Jenkins Davis for the City to display.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**Street** – Commissioner Land reported that the residential handicap parking survey is wrapping up. They received 34 applications for renewal.

They are repairing concrete floors at the utilities north well.

They continue to clean up the brush at the old rail near Trane.

**Fire** - Chief Justice said they received 23 applications. Testing will be this Saturday. They will then proceed with interviews toward the end of the month.

We were notified that our department was nominated as the “best fire department” in Rush County.

In the past few weeks we have received 5 compliments regarding out department.

Presented the resignation of Jacob Hempstead to the Board of Works.

Mayor Pavey was contacted by Richmond’s mayor and wanted to know if he could invite Chief Justice to sit in with their committee on their hiring process. Pavey agreed.

**Police** – Chief Tucker reported that they received the new body camera equipment, but won’t be able to receive training until May 8 unless there is a cancellation.

One of the 2 new cars has arrived.

Hiring – The application period closed yesterday. They received 10 applications. The agility testing will be February 18. They should be ready to hire sometime in April.

**Park** – Mayor Pavey introduced Michael Shaw, the new Park Director.

Shaw said he has been learning the many aspects of the job. They will be hiring a full-time laborer.

He is preparing a policy & procedure manual for the department. He is also checking on needed maintenance of equipment. One of the first things on his list is to make repairs to some of the playground equipment. There are still some repairs needed from storm damage.

He met with the pool manager to discuss this year’s pool season.

**Animal** – Director Hanna reported they had a Pan Leukemia outbreak. She is working with Buck Creek to find out where the contact started. Several cats have been in contact with this animal. She has contacted the owners to make them aware of the sickness. Hanna said this is something new to he and is 10 times worse than parvo.

She has received 9 applications for an assistant director. The application process will close on 16th.

**CITIZEN CONCERNS/COMMENTS:** None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **INDOT/CCMG Update**

* Main Street South of 4th Street – Not completed.
* CCMG
* 2021-2 8th Street Phase III – Will complete this spring.
* 2022-1 Hunt Road Culvert – The material has not been received.
* 2022-2- 15th Street and Sexton – This was awarded tonight to Crim & Sons.
* 2022-2 Willow Street Mill and Resurface – Not yet bid.

1. **Fiber Easement** – Path to Commerce Park and Diamond Infrastructure – Newhouse is working through this. Making one property owner adjustment.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Police Department**

* **911 Interlocal Agreement** – Bridges moved to approve the 911 Interlocal Agreement with the County in the amount of $136,968.00 for the City’s share. Gurley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

1. **Fire Rescue Department**

* **Interview Schedule** - The department will interview 10-12 applicants. Then pick 3 or 4 for the Board of Works to interview.
* **Baby Box** - Chief Justice said he was approached by the high school concerning hosting a baby box. He was also approached by a county council member. This would consist of a 5-year annual lease of $11,000.00. They are working on a contract to be approved. The surrounding communities of Shelbyville, Greensburg, Connersville, and New Castle all have one.
* **Chase Vehicle – Additional Appropriation** - Justice said he found a vehicle that he would like to purchase that meets the needs of the department. It is a ¾ ton truck that we will be able to put on a plow for quick response if needed. This is a 2018 Ford diesel with 47,000 miles at a cost of $47,500.00. The vehicle would be purchased with money from the County EMS Fund. We will need an additional appropriation. Bridges moved to approve the purchase of the truck and an additional appropriation in the amount of $55.000 for purchase of the truck and necessary equipment. Marzon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

1. **North Washington – Russell Brown** – Mayor Pavey said they have had conversations with the Fair Board. Adjustments are being made regarding the fencing height. Berkemeier made a motion to move forward with the land swap. Daubenspeck seconded the motion. Motion carried.
2. **Voluntary Annexation – Howell Property Resolution 2023-4 Introduction of Fiscal Plan** – Berkemeier made a motion to accept the introduction of the fiscal plan. Bridges seconded the motion. Motion carried with Councilman Gurley abstaining from the vote.

**GENERAL**

1. **Transfer Resolution 2023-3 Police & BTW** – Berkemeier moved to approve Transfer Resolution 2023-3. Bridges seconded the motion. Motion carried.
2. **Resolution 2023-5 Adoption of Rush County Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan** – Chuck Kemker informed Council that this needs to be updated every 5 years in order to get funding in an emergency situation. Berkemeier made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-5. Daubenspeck seconded the motion. Motion carried.
3. **Parking Ordinance Update** –Being prepared.

**CLAIMS AND DECEMBER 2022 BANK RECONCILIATION** – Berkemeier moved to approve the claims and the December 2022 bank reconciliation as presented. Marzon seconded the motion. Motion carried with Councilman Gurley abstaining from the vote.

**ITEMS NOT KNOWN IN ADVANCE:** Brian Sheehan came before Council to announce his resignation as Director of Special Projects. Sheehan said he is excited for the new opportunity, but at the same time his heart is extremely heavy to be leaving his position with the City. He said he has enjoyed working with everyone. Sheehan said he will remain living in Rushville.

**ADJOURN:** There was no further business to come before Council; Berkemeier moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.