

Common Council Minutes

MEETING DATE: October 18, 2023

MEETING PLACE: Madison City Hall - Council Chambers

The Common Council of the City of Madison, Indiana met in regular session at 5:30 P.M. at City Hall, 101 W. Main St.

Before the meeting began, Joel Storm, who was elected by the Precinct Committeemen of Jefferson County Republican Party to serve as the 5th District city councilman, was sworn in by Mayor Bob Courtney.

Mayor Bob Courtney opened the meeting with the Lord's Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present: D. Dattilo, Thevenow, L. Dattilo, Bartlett, Krebs, Schafer, and Storm (7-0).

Minutes: Bartlett moved to approve October 3, 2023, minutes, seconded by Schafer. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

Presentation of petitions, memorials, remonstrances, introduction of motion & guests: **Constitution Week Proclamation:**

Proclamation for National Code Compliance Month: Mayor Courtney read and presented the Proclamation for National Code Compliance Month. Mayor Courtney took time to recognize Duey O'Neal as the city's first full-time Code Enforcement Officer. In the first 18 months, the city's Code Enforcement Officer was involved in 680 cases. The American Association of Code Enforcement recognizes and honors Code Enforcement Officers and Professionals across the United States and brings awareness to the importance of code enforcement.

Resolutions or bills:

Ordinance 2023-17: Zoning Map at 417 State St. (Sp. Thevenow): There has been a recommendation made by the City of Madison Plan Commission to the Common Council of the City of Madison to amend the zoning of the described property in Ordinance 2023-17 be changed from General Business (GB) to Medium Density Residential (R-8). Address 417 State St., parcel No. 39-08-27-442-004.000-007.

Ordinance 2023-18: Creating a Fund to Receive Grant Money from the Bethany Legacy Foundation (Sp. Krebs): The Bethany Legacy Foundation is a non-profit health foundation dedicated to the health and wellness of the residents of Jefferson County. The Bethany Legacy Foundation will be making restricted donations for various health-related initiatives within the City of Madison. The City of Madison wishes to establish a fund to deposit monies donated from the Bethany Legacy Foundation to city initiatives. The monies donated will come as restricted donations for a specified purpose through an agreement for each donation which will specify the accepted use of funds. The fund shall be named the Bethany Legacy Foundation Donation Control Fund. The funds contained in the account shall be expended only for the exclusive purpose detailed in each restricted donation agreement. The council will review and agree to each donation agreement before accepting funds and no further appropriation is required. The express and written approval of the Board of Public Works and Safety shall be obtained before the expenditure of the funds from the account. The fund shall be nonreverting and exist perpetually unless terminated by a

subsequent ordinance enacted by the Common Council. After termination, the remaining balance of the account shall revert to the general budget of the Common Council.

Reports, recommendations, and other business from standing/select committees of City Council: None.

Report of city officials: Approval of Bethany Legacy Donation Agreements – Deputy Mayor, Mindy McGee: The city is setting up a control fund for the monies that the Bethany Legacy Foundation donates to the City of Madison. The foundation has previously supported other initiatives of the city with their funds, along with the restrictions that the monies be used for a purpose. Because these are local dollars, it allows the city to put the money in one fund, but there are restrictions. The fund will be set up and have revenue and expense lines in place for each project. That way, the city can track how the funds are used and report back to the Bethany Legacy Foundation. The agreements the city is already working on with the Bethany Legacy Foundation are studies for Brown Gym, Sunrise Golf Course, and the Rucker Sports Complex totaling \$126,000.00, the Crystal Beach Aquatic Park project totaling \$2,000,000.00 and \$250,000.00 of that is designated to supporting programming and activities for access to the pool for low-income families, and mental health resources for the Madison Police Department totaling \$100,000.00 over three years. Mindy is recommending the council approve the three agreements and let them be executed by the Clerk-Treasurer, and then put the money in the fund once it is established.

Thevenow moved to approve the three Bethany Legacy Foundation grant agreements as presented, seconded by Krebs. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

Bills on third reading:

City Attorney, Joe Jenner, recommended Joel Storm abstain from the votes on ordinances regarding budgets as there is a law that does not allow firefighters to vote on budgets.

Ordinance 2023-13: Notice of Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2024: Roll Call Vote: Thevenow – Y, Krebs – Y, L. Dattilo – Y, Schafer – Y, Bartlett – Y, D. Dattilo – Y, Storm abstained from the vote. All in favor, ordinance passes 6-0-1 (Storm abstained)

Ordinance 2023-14: Fixing Compensation of Elected Officials for 2024: Roll Call Vote: Thevenow – Y, Krebs – Y, L. Dattilo – Y, Schafer – Y, Bartlett – Y, D. Dattilo – Y. Storm abstained from the vote. All in favor, ordinance passes (6-0).

Ordinance 2023-15: Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees for 2024: Roll Call Vote: Thevenow – Y, Krebs – Y, L. Dattilo – Y, Schafer – Y, Bartlett – Y, D. Dattilo – Y. Storm abstained from the vote. All in favor, ordinance passes (6-0).

Ordinance 2023-16: Amending Zoning Map regarding 117 Ferry St. (Sp. Thevenow): Roll Call Vote: Thevenow – Y, Krebs – Y, L. Dattilo – Y, Schafer – Y, Bartlett – Y, D. Dattilo – Y, Storm – Y. All in favor, ordinance passes (7-0).

Bills on second reading: None.

Public comment: Rick Berry, 511 Brentwood Dr., inquired about a FOIA request for financial records from the administration that was submitted by the Democratic Party. Mayor Bob Courtney assured him the request was being handled and should be sent to the requestor in a reasonable amount of time. Financial statements are readily available online, as well as all of the budget information. The budget book has also been available at City Hall since September 9, 2023, for anyone to review.

Debbie Beemon, 709 Walnut St., returned with concerns regarding blight on her street and inher are

Julie Patterson, 714 Walnut St., addressed the council regarding improvements to the council meetings and how to make the website more user-friendly when looking for specific information.

Mike Greco, 1106 East St., wanted confirmation that if he wanted to find out information regarding the budget other than what is posted on the city website, all he would need to do is visit city hall or ask his district councilman.

Randy Bellamy, 409 E 3rd St.,

Derek Hughes, 411 Jefferson St., inquired about the cost of requesting copies from public records and whether or not it was a City Hall policy or a policy of the company that created the report. She explained she was told the copy would be \$1.00 per page and the document was 500 pages. Mayor Courtney informed her that her copy should not cost anything and that she was welcome to come back and pick up a copy of the requested documents.

John Hutchinson, 223 W Hutchinson Ln., wanted to inform everyone that early voting was extended by 11 days, and he hopes everyone understands that now they have more opportunities to vote, and he encourages people to take advantage of that benefit.

Erin Thomas from Lifetime Resources wanted clarification on whether or not the council was able to add anything to the budget for Lifetime Resources. Councilwoman Krebs informed her that the council agreed they would find \$10,000.00 somewhere for Lifetime Resources.

Mayor's comments: Last week, the city had a meeting with the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) about the East End traffic and speeding issues. INDOT and the city are working collaboratively to identify traffic-calming measures that were discussed at the meeting held at the firehouse. Crystal Beach's progress is continuing, and the construction can be viewed at any time using webcams. New signs are posted around town, and the community should be looking out for a groundbreaking announcement regarding the neighborhood market, as well as the park along Vaughn Dr. and Poplar St. There are multiple Parks Department events happening throughout the course of the month. Mad Hop will be Saturday, November 4, 2023, and the City of Madison will be a venue. This week is National Friends of Library Week, and the city recognizes the work that the Jefferson County Library has done for the community.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, November 8, 2023, @ 5:30 pm. *Tuesday is Election Day **Adjourn**: Krebs moved to adjourn, seconded by Schafer. All in favor (7-0).

Attested:

President Pro Tempore

Kathleen M. Rampy, Clerk-Treasur