

COMMON COUNCIL

April 3, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting was called to order by President Peckinpaugh

ROLL CALL:

Mike Guffey	Present
Jeff Hancock	Present
Jerry Walden	Present
Aaron Dicken	Absent
Mark Koger	Present
Lynn Perdue	Present
Rex Peckinpaugh	Present

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- Vice President Hancock moved to accept the minutes from the former meeting.
Councilman Walden seconded. Motion carried 5-1.

Mike Guffey	Jeff Hancock	Jerry Walden	Aaron Dicken	Mark Koger	Lynn Perdue	Rex Peckinpaugh
Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Abstained	Yes	Yes

PUBLIC HEARING:

- No Public Hearing

PROCLAMATIONS:

- No Proclamations

RESOLUTIONS:

- No Resolutions

ORDINANCES:

- #3902 AMENDING PRIOR ORDINANCES REGARDING THE SCHEDULE OF CHARGES FOR THE EMERGENCY AMBULANCE AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICE. Failed for lack of Motion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Guffey: Noted;

- Thanked everyone for getting the Morton Street cut fixed.
- Also wanted to Congratulate Mikenley Brown for moving forward on American Idol. She is representing New Castle and doing an amazing job of it.

Vice-President Hancock: Noted;

- Inquired about the pickleball courts. Superintendent Bergum stated they were finishing up with them and working on getting some lighting.

Councilman Walden: Noted;

- Informed everyone about the amazing work that is being done on 16th street. Councilman Walden stated if you go up and talk to the people working, they are more than happy to give you updates.

Councilman Dicken: Noted;

- Absent

Councilman Koger: Noted;

- Nothing

Councilman Perdue: Noted;

- Asked Finance Committee to look into the city losing labor force. It is not just here but labor is a priority and there seems to be a revolving door.
- Gave another update on Trojan Lane. Dirt and Flowers are going in and they were hoping to do lighting at the same time but the cost has already went up about \$15,000.00.

President Peckinpugh: Noted;

- Thanked Councilmen Guffey and Walden, along with Superintendent Walker for all the truck signage on 25th street.
- Asked Attorney Harvey to write up \$75,000.00 for the lighting project on Trojan Lane.
- Bollards were placed at Fitzgerald Trail and they look great.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- Chief Schofield stated the open house for the police department will be May 6th.
- Chief Schofield advised the Mayor and Council that the dept is going to be in a crisis situation again with Officers. We are currently 3 officers short and we have 2 more that will be leaving before long.
- Chief Moore advised everyone that today was Mark Boatright Jr last day as a Firefighter. There will be an open house in his honor coming soon.
- Annual Report was given by Chief Moore and Investigator McCartt.
- Chief Moore stated there has been no signed contract yet with the Henry Township Trustee. Lee Walker speaking as a Board Member for Henry Township Trustee stated the Board passed the contract and there would be a meeting tomorrow afternoon at 3pm if anyone from the public would like to attend.
- Superintendent Denney stated the cement is poured and the Caliburuim should be ready for cremains in May. 96 spots will be available in May and there will be a total of 192 when the whole project is complete. No prices have been determined yet as far as cost to a family.
- Clerk Treasurer Grider invited everyone to attend the City Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday April 8th from 12-2pm at Baker Park.
- Mayor York thanked Carrie Barrett, Rex Peckinpaugh and Aaron Dicken for going to Boston for the National Mainstreet Conference. Everyone did a great job presenting and made New Castle look great.
- Thanked Superintendent Phipps and his employees for working hard to get all the water main breaks taken care of.
- Thanked Superintendent Walker for is department working all night after the storms clearing trees out of the road.

CITIZENS APPEARING BEFORE THE COUNCIL:

- Clay Morgan questions regarding EMS. Does 100% of EMS funds go into the non-reverting fund Clerk Treasurer Grider stated yes it does. Councilman Koger thought it was a percentage. Is EMS non reverting fund in the same bank account at the cities general fund. Clerk Treasurer Grider stated yes. Mayor York stated it has its own line item with in the General Fund. Councilman Peckinpaugh added that was by State Board of Accounts request. Does the city borrow money from the EMS non reverting fund for the general fund anytime during the year. Clerk Treasurer Grider stated no we do not.
- Carrie Barrett, Mainstreet asking for funding for a feasibility study for second story housing. LWC out of Cambridge City is willing to do the study for 8 buildings downtown at the cost of \$18,750.00. She has contacted building owners and they stated they would be interested in participating. Mayor York asked if there was any Mainstreet money available for that. Carrie stated she would look into that. Councilman Guffey asked if any of the building owners were willing to contribute. Carrie stated she was not sure if they would or not. Councilman Guffey stated they need to have some skin in the game. President Peckinpaugh asked Carrie to see if

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there is grant money available and talk to the building owners and see where their participation could look like and get back with Council. Councilman Guffey asked if we feel confident that some of the buildings would pass something like that. LWC does not look for problems in the building.

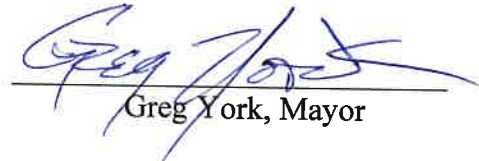
Meeting Adjourned Councilman Walden


Presiding Officer of the Common Council

ATTEST:


Brenda Grider, Clerk Treasurer

Approved by me this 3rd Day of April 2023.


Greg York, Mayor

ATTEST:


Brenda Grider, Clerk Treasurer