

**THE COMMON COUNCIL**

**February 6, 2023**

**6:30 P.M.**

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF CHARLESTOWN WAS HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2023, AT 6:30 PM WITH MAYOR TREVA HODGES PRESIDING.**

Council members present were Mark (Bo) Bertram, Ruthie Jackson, BJ Steele (Zoom), Brian Hester and JT Cox. Also present were Mayor Hodges, Clerk Treasurer Donna Coomer, Council Attorney Mike Gillenwater, City Attorney Perry McCall and Sewer Board Attorney Beau Zoeller.

**Pledge**

Stephanie and Delilah

**Invocation**

Ken Wilman from Charlestown First Methodist Church

**Agenda**

Councilman Cox made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Councilman Hester. Roll-call vote: JT Cox – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, Brian Hester – Y, Bo Bertram – Y, BJ Steele – Y. Approved 5-0.

**Minutes, Claims and PR Voucher**

Councilman Hester made a motion to approve the Minutes of 01/04/2023, the Claims, with an additional claim for American Legal Publishing for \$3,689.83 and the PR voucher from 12/26/2022 to 01/22/2023, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

**Public Comments**

Frank Glover, 464 Harrison St. Apt. 3, addressed the Council about housing, development and economics.

**Ethan Biggs Legislative Youth Advisor Report**

Presented information on school events and activities.

### **Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Hodges said that last year the general fund was able to save about \$278,000.00 and is part of the appropriation request for tonight. The funds will be used for improvements at Greenway Park, with the majority going towards the Community Foundation of Southern Indiana grant match for the accessible playground.

### **Council Comments**

None

### **Public Comments**

None

### **Ordinance 2023-OR-01**

Ordinance 2023-OR-01 amends Ordinance 2016-OR-19 Zoning Ordinance.

Councilman Hester motioned to approve the ordinance, seconded by Bo Bertram. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

Mayor Hodges entertained a motion to suspend the rules and move to the second reading. Councilwoman Jackson approved the motion, seconded by Councilman Cox. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

Mayor Hodges called for the second and final reading to approve Ordinance 2023-OR-01, motioned by Councilman Hester, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

### **Ordinance 2023-OR-02**

This ordinance is for checks over 2 years old.

Councilwoman Jackson made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Cox. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

Mayor Hodges entertained a motion to suspend the rules and move to the second reading. Councilman Hester approved the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 4-0. Councilman Steele's connection was interrupted.

Mayor Hodges called for the second and final reading to approve Ordinance 2023-OR-02, motioned by Councilwoman Jackson, seconded by Councilman Hester. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

**Ordinance 2023-OR-03**

This ordinance is for additional appropriations for the following:

<u>General Fund:</u>	Amount Requested	Amount Appropriated
Improvements at Greenway Park	\$278,476.00	\$200,000.00
City Maintenance	\$102,568.10	\$102,568.10
City Vehicle Fleet	\$116,335.77	\$116,335.77
<u>American Rescue Plan Fund</u>		
Wastewater Treatment Plant	\$113,093.00	\$113,093.00
City Services	\$5,419.00	\$5,419.00

Councilman Hester motioned to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson. Councilman Hester motioned to accept the ordinance with an amendment reducing the amount of \$278,476.00 to \$200,000.00, seconded by Councilman Cox. Roll-call vote on amended ordinance: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

Mayor Hodges entertained a motion to suspend the rules and move to the second reading. Councilman Hester approved the motion, seconded by Councilman Bertram. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

Mayor Hodges called for the second and final reading to approve Ordinance 2023-OR-03, motioned by Councilman Hester, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

**Ordinance 2023-OR-04**

This ordinance is an amendment to Ordinance 2022-OR-16 Salary Ordinance. This ordinance adds a supervisor position to the Utility Office.

Councilwoman Jackson motioned to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Hester. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

Mayor Hodges entertained a motion to suspend the rules and move to the second reading. Councilman Hester approved the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

Mayor Hodges called for the second and final reading to approve Ordinance 2023-OR-04, motioned by Councilman Hester, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

**Resolution 2023-R-01**

This resolution accepts the Engineer’s Preliminary Engineering Report.

Councilwoman Jackson made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-R-01, seconded by Councilman Hester. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

**Resolution 2023-R-02**

This resolution approves the authorized representative for the SRLF Program.

Councilman Cox motioned to approve Resolution 2023-R-02, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

**New Business**

Dustin Hawkins and Elizabeth Gregory addressed the Council on behalf of Ellen Kelley with LifeSpring Health Systems to speak about a new program they are launching. This is an outreach program for suicide survivors in Clark County. Also, they are re-launching a suicide prevention coalition for Floyd and Clark Counties.

Mayor Hodges requested that the Council formally approve their Redevelopment Commission appointees, BJ Steele and John Spencer.

Councilwoman Jackson motioned to approve the appointees, seconded by Councilman Hester. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

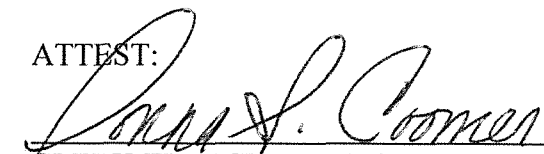
Kelly Scott and the CEO from Rauch, Inc. addressed the Council about adding affordable housing and diversity in Charlestown. They are seeking rezoning of R to R-4 for 2.2 acres on Thompson Street for 5-6 duplexes. The housing will be income restricted with no subsidy. No motion was made. The item fails.

**Adjournment**

Councilman Cox made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Steele. Roll-call vote: Bo Bertram – Y, Ruthie Jackson – Y, BJ Steele – Y, Brian Hester – Y, JT Cox – Y. Approved 5-0.

  
MAYOR, TREVA HODGES

  
DATE

ATTEST:  
  
CLERK TREASURER, DONNA S. COOMER

  
DATE