

THE COMMON COUNCIL

July 26, 2023

6:30 P.M.

THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF CHARLESTOWN WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023, AT 6:30 PM WITH MAYOR TREVA HODGES PRESIDING.

Council members present were BJ Steele, Mark (Bo) Bertram, Ruthie Jackson, JT Cox, and Brian Hester. Also present were Mayor Hodges, Clerk Treasurer Donna Coomer, and City Attorney Perry McCall. Councilwoman Jackson introduced Michael Wilder, who will be filling in for Council Attorney Mike Gillenwater for the next 4-5 months.

Pledge

All

Invocation

Councilman JT Cox

Agenda

Councilman Cox made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Councilman Hester. Approved 5-0.

Public Comments

None

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Hodges welcomed everyone back to the school year.

Council Comments

Councilwoman Jackson stated that National Night Out is August 1st from 6-8 PM at the Family Activities Center. She also mentioned that the residents on Harmony have been asking about the drainage issues. Mayor Hodges explained we are waiting on quotes.

Ordinance 2023-OR-10

This is an ordinance for the issuance of revenue bonds to help fill the gap towards the costs of the WWTP. Sewer Board Attorney Beau Zoeller addressed the council to comment on the

ordinance. There was a major change to the city cash on hand amount from \$5 million to \$3.8 million. This change means that other than the approved rate increase, there will not be a need for another one. Councilman Hester motioned to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Steele. Approved 5-0. Councilwoman Jackson asked who oversees the construction side of the project and Mayor Hodges explained that JTL has a contract with the sewer board and it will be approved through them. Councilman Hester stated that someone has mentioned to him watching the previous meeting and took from it that the council is trying to raise the sewer rates. He wanted to make it clear that the mayor, nor the council or the sewer board, wished to do so.

Ordinance 2023-OR-08

This ordinance establishes rules & regulations for charitable roadblocks. This is a necessary revision of an older ordinance due to safety concerns. Councilwoman Jackson motioned to table the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Hester. Approved 5-0.

Ordinance 2023-OR-11

This ordinance creates a Forest Edge Sinking Fund and General Account in anticipation of closing on the Forest Edge property. This authorizes the creation of the two accounts at First Savings Bank. Councilman Steele motioned to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Cox. Approved 5-0. Mayor Hodges asked to suspend the rules and move to the second reading. Councilman Steele motioned to approve moving to the second reading, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson. Approved 5-0. Mayor Hodges called for the second and final reading, motioned by Councilman Hester, seconded by Councilman Steele. Approved 5-0.

Ordinance 2023-OR-12

This ordinance authorizes the advance payment of certain expenses. The general assembly for the State of Indiana passed new legislation this year allowing municipalities to pay contractors a deposit of up to 50% for work, services or goods. Councilman Hester motioned to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson. Approved 5-0. Mayor Hodges asked to suspend the rules and move to the second reading. Councilwoman Jackson motioned to suspend the rules and move to the second reading, seconded by Councilman Steele. Approved 5-0. Mayor Hodges called for the second and final reading, motioned by Councilman Hester, seconded by Councilwoman Jackson. Approved 5-0.

Adjournment

Councilman Cox made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Steele. Approved 5-0.

Treva Hodges
MAYOR, TREVA HODGES

8-7-2023
DATE

ATTEST:

Donna S. Coomer
CLERK TREASURER, DONNA S. COOMER

8-7-2023
DATE