

WESTFIELD CITY COUNCIL, MARCH 8, 2010

The Westfield City Council met in regular session Monday March 8, 2010 at the Westfield City Hall. Members present were John Dippel, Steve Hoover, Bob Horkay, Ken Kingshill, Bob Smith, Tom Smith and Rob Stokes. Also present were Mayor Andy Cook, Deputy Mayor Bruce Hauk, and Attorney Brian Zaiger.

Council President Tom Smith called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.

Approval of Minutes:

John Dippel made the motion to accept the February 8, 2010 minutes as presented. Bob Smith seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carried.

Bob Horkay made the motion to accept the February 22, 2010 minutes as presented. Ken Kingshill seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carried.

Guests:

Raquel Merriweather is a student at Westfield Washington Middle School. She wanted to express her opinion that some sort of Public Transit should be a part of the City of Westfield. This could help with job related transportation as well as promote tourism. She has a petition that has approximately 40 signatures. President Smith recommended that she attempt to get more signatures and present it at the next Council meeting.

Mayor Cook explained that there is a movement of promoting Mass Transit out of Indianapolis. Westfield is on the initial plan. He commended Ms. Merriweather's effort and timing. President Smith acknowledged the importance of student's involvement.

Claims:

Bob Smith made the motion to accept the March claims as presented. Ken Kingshill seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carried.

Miscellaneous Business/Special Recognition/Special Presentation:

Mayor Cook announced that Ms. Wilma Warren Sukapdjo has been appointed as Vice President of the Recognition Board of the World Congress of Arts, Sciences and Communications. He then presented Ms. Sukapdjo with a special recognition plaque on her prestigious appointment while being a citizen in Westfield.

Mayor Cook introduced Andrew Bentivoglio who is with Troop 152 out of the St. Maria Goretti Parish. Mr. Bentivoglio introduced fellow Eagle Scouts Hank Brown and Mac Bentivoglio. He explained that his Eagle Scout Project is Wings for West Africa. This is a program that will take computers and computer accessories that can be of benefit to West Africa while protecting our environment in disposing of this equipment. His project will be held Saturday March 20, 2010 from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. at St. Maria Goretti's Parish Hall.

Fire Chief Todd Burtron introduced Brian Rodda with Liberty Mutual Insurance. Mr. Rodda explained that this grant opportunity was put in place with the assistance of Fire Inspector Garry Harling, Westfield Washington Schools and the support of the community. He presented the Westfield Washington Fire Department with a grant award of \$ 10,000.

Chief Burtron described the competition and where Westfield fell in that line up. He also introduced Citizen Jim Ake who really put much effort and persistence in to this. He commended Mr. Ake on exhibiting great citizenship. He presented Mr. Ake with the HOT Award. This award is traditionally reserved for a firefighter that goes beyond the call of duty to be fire safe.

President Smith announced that there will be a change in the order of the agenda and that Washington Township Trustee David Gill will request a fee waiver of \$312.00. This is consistent with other tax based entities and comes to this Council for consent. The Council consented unanimously.

President Smith introduced the President of the Westfield Chamber of Commerce for the second year, Randy Graham. Mr. Graham presented the 2010 goals of the Chamber as well as announcing the upcoming candidate forums and business luncheon. He then introduced the new WWCC Board members.

President Smith invited Dr. Eric Lohe to the podium. The Council agreed unanimously to invite Dr. Lohe to continue his service on the Fire Merit Commission. Dr. Lohe consented.

Mayor Cook invited Westfield Washington Chamber of Commerce Julie Sole to the podium. He invited Ms. Sole to continue her service on the Fire Merit Commission. Ms. Sole consented.

Chief Burtron added that both Dr. Lohe's and Ms. Sole's service to the Fire Merit Commission have been second to none and appreciated the Council and Mayor appointing them to continue.

Parks Director Melody Jones announced that with the cooperation of the school, DWNA and the City of Westfield there are plans to have a 4th of July celebration with fireworks. The plans will show that the event will take place at the North end of Asa Bales Park. Duke Tomato will be the featured band sponsored by Duke Energy. The Safety Sponsor will be Clarion North. There will be a battle of the bands. This will consist of six bands that will be selected to play through an application process in June. She described the various activities that would take place throughout the day and is looking for this Council's support in sponsorship for this event.

There were some questions from the Council on where the fireworks would take place as well as insurance liability. There was a brief explanation by City Attorney Brian Zaiger of a City sponsored event. It was determined that this would be an annual request in which the Council would consider as will be for all City events.

Old Business:

Ordinance 10-03: Amendment to Salary Ordinance

First Reading – February 8, 2010

Second Reading-March 8, 2010

Adoption Consideration-March 8, 2010

Deputy Mayor Bruce Hauk described this amendment and went on to explain that this keeps the salaries in compliance with the State Board of Accounts . These salary amendments have to do with promotions or division changes.

Ken Kingshill made the motion to approve Ordinance 10-03 as presented. Bob Horkay seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carried.

New Business:

Ordinance 10-04: Authorization for Issuance of Bonds:

First Reading-March 8, 2010

Second Reading-April 12, 2010

Adoption Consideration-April 12, 2010

Deputy Mayor Hauk described the issuance of TIF Bonds and that the increment would be increased from 50% to 75%. This would allow for improvements in the TIF area. All parties (City of Westfield, County Council, County Commissioners and County Redevelopment Commission) are all on Board.

Bob Smith made the motion to suspend the rules and consider Ordinance 10-04 on the first reading. John Dippel seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carried.

Steve Hoover made the motion to accept Ordinance 10-04 as presented. Ken Kingshill seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carried.

City Council Comments:

Steve Hoover gave an update of the Advisory Plan Commission in regard to Ordinance 10-02 which reflected amendments from last month's City Council meeting. The Advisory Plan Commission approved Ordinance 10-02 as amended. This will not come back to this Council.

Tom Smith and Steve Hoover had a City team for the Corn Hole for Cancer tournament. They were not at their best game but want to participate in next year's event. This was put on by the Westfield Washington High School's Key Club.

Tom Smith expressed his gratitude to the Public Works Department on this winter's snow removal.

John Dippel gave an update on the Sports Complex committee and the various subcommittees' tasks and progress. They have narrowed the developers down to three. The acreage will range from 200 to 300. The finance subcommittee met last week and will begin the selection process based on financial data. Each of the three developers have a different location that is being considered. John gave a brief description of each location.

Mayor Comments:

Deputy Mayor Hauk recapped the fiscal responsibilities for the Council and public. He explained that the bond ratings have continued to be high ratings. The GO Bond has gone from A to AA rating.

He showed that the Debt Service has excelled. Although the City could have raised debt to eight million it has not been raised.

Mayor Cook encouraged everyone that has not signed up for the "Make it Fit Now" to do so. This is the friendly competition with the City of Carmel.

He also announced that April 1, 2010 the surveys will go out to each of the five areas in Washington Township that do not have the 46074 Zip Code to see where people wish to be. This survey will also go to one affected area in Carmel. These will be returned in 30 days. The reason for determining this is the identity, the public safety and financial aspects.

Mayor Cook explained that the building permits were on the rise and that a group of developers are building 30 spec homes. This should open for a Westfield Home-A-Rama.

He was announced that the first 10 Westfield Youth Assistance Program Mentors were trained last Saturday from 9:00AM until 12:00Noon. There are many more children that need mentors.

Bob Horkay made the motion to adjourn the meeting. John Dippel seconded. It was voted unanimously by a voice vote to adjourn. With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:14P.M.

Clerk-Treasurer

President

