

Westfield City Council June 26, 2023

The Westfield City Council held a meeting on June 26, 2023 at Westfield City Hall. Present were Mike Johns, Scott Willis, Cindy Spoljaric, Scott Frei, Troy Patton, and Joe Edwards. Kim Strang, Anne Poindexter, and Manny Herceg were also in attendance. Jake Gilbert attended virtually.

Mayor Cook called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Changes to the Agenda

None

Approval of Minutes:

Cindy Spoljaric made the motion to approve the June 12, 2023 minutes as presented. Scott Frei seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carries.

Claims:

Troy Patton made the motion to approve the claims. Scott Willis seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carries.

Miscellaneous Business/Special Presentation

Food pantry/Lisa and Mark Hall asking Council permission to install a food pantry on the property of City Hall. – Mark and Lisa Hall stated that Hannah Semler, who had originally started the food donation stand at City Hall in 2019, had reached out to them to ask for help in creating a more stable, maintained food donation source. The Hall's founded Feedteam.org, a feeding team organization which provides access to non-perishable meals for those in need. Currently they have 51 outdoor pantries, mostly throughout Hamilton County. Each pantry is insured and volunteers manage the food which is placed in the pantries. The location of the pantry was discussed and was it was agreed upon to place the pantry in the back of city hall between city hall and the storage barn.

Troy Patton made a motion to approve the food pantry. Scott Frei seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carries.

Report on all money spent at Grand Park in 2023 YTD and details of any consulting fees paid to Legacy sports Group and any contracts they may have. Matt Trnian reported on the current revenue and sponsorships to date. Sponsorships are significantly down YTD. The contract with Legacy Sports expires at the end of this year. Six-week notification is required if the city would choose to not extend their contract. There was council discussion.

Old Business:

Ordinance 23-08: Establishing a Department of Parks and Recreation and Board

Council Introduction: May 8, 2023

Adoption Consideration: June 12, 2023/continued

Adoption Consideration: June 26, 2023

Chris McConnell stated that the development and implementation of a parks department & parks board would not only help guide the efforts to provide quality amenities for the municipality as it grows but would open an immense number of doors for new funding sources at federal and state levels that require that these be in place. Cindy Spoljaric voiced her concerns about the board appointments and suggested that the newly implemented resident form (on city website) showing those interested in serving on a city board be considered. Troy Patton stated that we are coming into budget season and he feels that a parks department is not needed at this time and suggested this be revisited again after we have a budget, stating this does not preclude us having a Parks board and seeking money from the state. Jeremy Lollar stated that the CT office and Manny Herceg are currently working on appropriation numbers and that no new employees nor additional dollars would be added to the budget if a Parks Department was created.

Scott Willis made the motion to approve Ordinance 23-08 as presented. Cindy Spoljaric seconded. Vote: Yes-3; No-4 (J. Edwards, S. Frei, M. Johns, T. Patton) Motion fails.

Ordinance 23-11: Investment Policy of the City of Westfield

Council Introduction: June 12, 2023

Adoption Consideration: June 26, 2023

Mike Johns presented stating this ordinance authorizes the clerk-treasurer to invest/re-invest city funds according to state law and adopts an investment policy. There was council discussion concerning the maximum time of an investment. Manny Herceg confirmed that this ordinance gives the authority for a two-year investment but clerk may come to council with an ordinance on a specific investment, requesting to extend up to five years.

Cindy Spoljaric made the motion to approve Ordinance 23-11 as written. Scott Frei seconded. Vote: Yes-7; No-0. Motion carries.

New Business:

Ordinance 23-13: Prohibiting the Use of Public Records for Commercial Purposes

Council Introduction: June 26, 2023

Adoption Consideration: July 10, 2023

Mike Johns introduced the ordinance, stating that the clerk-treasurer's office is purposing the ordinance, that follows basic statute and has been adopted by many of other cities (following Indiana code 5-14-3-3). Mr. Herceg stated the ordinance would permit the city to reject and prohibit records requests solely for data knowledge in regards to commercial purposes.

Guests:

None

Clerk-Treasurer Comments

Kim Strang stated the link on the city website regarding resident interest on serving on a city board has received lots of applications and encourages residents to consider submitting forms for participation in a future Parks Board Committee.

City Council Comments:

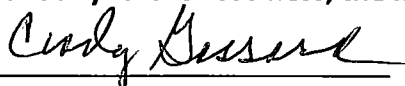
Troy Patton- There will be a Finance meeting after the numbers are finalized for June. Mr. Patton requested the numbers for the last six months of 2022 be pulled together separately from the actual budget and the numbers year to date be pulled so that the budgeting process within the finance meeting could be started.

Cindy Spoljaric- bought up the request to have Council and the RDC meet together to discuss a project list/capital projects that are forthcoming. All agreed it was a good idea and to look into dates for this meeting.

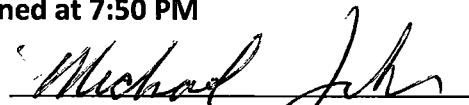
Mayor Comments:

None

Without any further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM



Clerk-Treasurer



President