

The regular meeting of the Hammond Common Council of the City of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana was held on January 23, 2017 in the Hammond City Council Chambers.

Council President Janet Venecz presided.

City Clerk Robert J. Golec facilitated.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by all.

A moment of silence was observed.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Markovich, Spitale, Kalwinski, Torres, Emerson, Woerpel, Rakos, Venecz

ABSENT: Higgs

TOTAL: 8

READING OF THE MINUTES

Councilman Emerson, supported by Councilman Spitale, moved to accept the minutes of January 9, 2017 and place on file. AYES: ALL

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Councilman Markovich, supported by Councilman Woerpel, moved to approve the claims from January 4, 2017 through January 18, 2017. Claim #376 through claim #690, inclusive.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Markovich, Spitale, Kalwinski, Torres, Emerson, Woerpel, Rakos, Venecz

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Higgs

Motion carried 8/0/1 CLAIMS APPROVED

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

COMMUNICATIONS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

ORDINANCE 3RD READING - FINAL PASSAGE

None

RESOLUTIONS cont.

17R-02 Reappointment - Human Relations Commission - Alberto Ochoa

Councilman Rakos, supported by Councilman Spitale, moved for adoption.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Markovich, Spitale, Kalwinski, Torres, Emerson, Woerpel, Rakos, Venecz

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Higgs

Motion carried

8/0/1

RESOLUTION NO. R02 ADOPTED

17R-05 Reappointment - Port Authority - Thomas Puplava

Councilman Kalwinski, supported by Councilman Spitale, moved for adoption.

Councilman Kalwinski - Mr. Puplava has served on the Port Authority for two terms and is here for a reappointment on a third. All board members and director of the marina all hope for his reinstatement and he has served the community and the Port Authority with integrity for the last several decades.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Markovich, Spitale, Kalwinski, Torres, Emerson, Woerpel, Rakos, Venecz

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Higgs

Motion carried

8/0/1

RESOLUTION NO. R05 ADOPTED

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

16-37 NOTICE OF INTENT - Amending Ord. No. 8514, Being: An Ordinance Establishing a Zoning Plan for the City of Hammond for Purposes of Amending Title XXIX Overlay Zoning Districts to Establish New Provisions for Small Cell Facilities to Deliver Wireless Service within the Greater Rights-of-Way Overlay Zoning District (GROW-OL)
Sponsored by Janet Venecz

Councilman Spitale, supported by Councilman Kalwinski, moved for passage.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Markovich, Spitale, Kalwinski, Torres, Emerson, Woerpel, Rakos, Venecz

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Higgs

Motion carried

8/0/1

ORDINANCE NO. 9364 PASSED

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS cont.

Councilman Torres - The last council meeting I made some inappropriate remarks and I (unclear) and I did send a personal letter of apology to (unclear) and in the future I will refrain from use of such language and if I disagree I will use more tactful and diplomatic language in doing so and the apology is sincere (unclear).

Councilman Torres - I also in the past have made some inappropriate remarks to our Mayor and I have too much respect for him and the office, so in the future, again, I will refrain from using such language and if I have anything I disagree on I'll do it appropriately.

Councilman Kalwinski, supported by Councilman Spitale, moved to have a letter from himself sent to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management regarding a public comment pertaining to the Hazardous Waste Remediation Work Plan by Ferro Corporation formerly Keil Chemical Facility, 3000 Sheffield Avenue. I'd like that sent out to I.D.E.M. and I'd like that to be read by the Clerk.

Clerk Golec read letter.

Councilman Kalwinski - I believe Dover was in concert with much of what was just read and the city of Hammond as well, and some neighborhood associations will probably have public comment upon this work plan as well. We're all moving in the same direction, I believe.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Markovich, Spitale, Kalwinski, Torres, Emerson, Woerpel, Rakos, Venecz

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Higgs

Motion carried

8/0/1

MOTION CARRIED

LETTER SENT: JANUARY 24, 2017

Councilman Woerpel - I don't need to send a letter because Dave's here and Dean Button's here, and for the thousands of people that are watching on their computer, the Beech Street Project started. I have to admit... the Beech Street Lighting that I carried over from the previous councilman did start in January and since we're all in love tonight and everybody's giving accolades I wanted to thank Dave for the advise and Dean for inviting me to the preconstruction meeting. I have a tendency to kind of like go off the rails a little bit and I'm kind of anxious about getting stuff done but I just want to thank both of you for keeping me focused on how that stuff works. But we don't need a letter sent because I can look at you both.

Councilwoman Venecz - Upcoming Community & Crime Watch meetings:

- Edison Community Watch; Wed, Feb. 1; Edison School; 6:30 pm
- Edison on the Road; Golden Manor Senior Apartments; Fri., Feb. 3; 1:00 pm
- Irving Community Watch; Irving School; Fri., Feb. 3; 9:15 am
- Jefferson Crime Watch; Wed., Jan 25; Jefferson School; 6:30 pm
- Pulaski Park Neighborhood Assoc.; Mon., Jan. 30; 6:30 pm; American Legion
- Whiting/Robertsdale Crime Watch; Thur., Feb. 9; Calumet College; 6:30 pm

*Prepared by
Robert J. Golec
Hammond City Clerk*

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

George Stoya - After hearing that letter, call me paranoid but that was a wild letter from what I gathered from the narrative in it. What made me a bit paranoid was the situations in Flint, East Chicago and places like that. It sounded like Councilman Kalwinski could not extract a summary or analysis from the information in the form that was presented. Are we at risk? This is Northwest Indiana and we're talking about I.D.E.M. in Indianapolis and a Republican Governor. I know I shouldn't say those things but can we count on him? They have been lax in the past. Can you give me any information on what the risk is right now?

Councilman Woerpel, supported by Councilman Rakos, moved to adjourn

AYES: ALL

Janet Venecz, President
Hammond Common Council

ATTEST:

Robert J. Golec, City Clerk

Minutes approved at the Hammond Common Council Meeting of February 13, 2017.

Time: 6:45 pm
cb