

The regular meeting of the Hammond Common Council of the City of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana was held on August 26, 2019 in the Hammond City Council Chambers.

Council President Robert A Markovich presided.

City Clerk Robert J. Golec facilitated.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by all.

Invocation by Councilman Higgs.

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: None

TOTAL: 9

READING OF THE MINUTES

Councilman Spitale, supported by Councilman Emerson, moved to accept the minutes of August 12, 2019 and place on file. AYES: ALL

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Councilman Woerpel, supported by Councilman Rakos, moved to accept the claims from August 20, 2019 through August 21, 2019. Claim #4475 through Claim #4815, inclusive.

Councilman Woerpel, supported by Councilman Spitale, moved to amend in claim:

#4816	Challenger Learning Center	Mayor's Gaming Fund	1,000.00
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ROLL CALL VOTE (amendment)

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Higgs

Motion carried 8/0/1 CLAIMS AMENDED

ROLL CALL VOTE (as amended)

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Higgs

Motion carried 8/0/1 CLAIMS APPROVED
(as amended)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Rakos- On Thursday, August 29th, HC3, a group of business owners and citizens whose goal is to beautify and improve Hessville neighborhood, have also acquired the Hansen Branch Library located at Martha and Alabama located in the City of Hammond. HC3 needs help with funding to restore the original windows in the building. The building will be recognized locally and nationally. Please help support with this Five Guys Fundraiser. Remember to say that you are here for the HC3 fundraiser that's at 8231 Calumet Ave in Munster, at the Five Guys Burgers. 20% of all fundraiser sales and a dollar for each milkshake.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community and Crime Watch Committee- Councilwoman Venecz- Upcoming meetings:
Wed., Sept 11th ; Edison Community Watch; Edison School; 6:30p.m.
Tues., Sept 3rd ; Harrison Park Crime Watch; VFW Hohman Ave; 6:30 p.m.
Fri., Sept 6th; Irving Community Watch; Irving School; 9:15 a.m.

ORDINANCE 3RD READING FINAL PASSAGE

None

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

19-18 An Ordinance Amending the Hammond Municipal Code as it relates to Certain Fees and Procedures of the Inspection Department relating to Building Contractors and Permits

Councilwoman Venecz, supported by Councilman Woerpel, moved the proposed ordinance to 1st and 2nd reading by title and referred it to the Council as a Whole Committee. AYES: ALL

Councilwoman Venecz- In Caucus, Attorney Smith gave us a summary of what this ordinance is. In a nutshell what we're doing is tightening things up in the Inspections Department. We're bringing some of the permit cost up to what some of the surrounding communities are charging. It will differentiate between residential and commercial, stop work orders, there's a whole series of things. And background checks have been done in the past, now we're going to do it. That allows us to use the technology that is available to us, not just for the City of Hammond, but for the Country as a whole.

RESOLUTIONS

19R-20 Authorizing the Hammond Police Department to apply for a 2020 Comprehensive Highway Injury Reduction Program (CHIRP) Grant

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

Councilman Spitale - Can Lt. Vicari come up front please?

RESOLUTIONS cont.

Lt Vicari- Good Evening Council, so this particular grant it's a little bit different this year. This originates from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. In years passed we use to have the Master Grant, Operation Pull over Grant, and there were several subsidiary grants that we were able to apply for after we got that Master Grant. This year what they're doing they're taking several subsidiary grants and putting them under one hat called Project CHIRP (Comprehensive Highway Injury Reduction Program). It's the Operation Pullover Grant that we previously applied for. The Summer Impaired Driver Enforcement Program previously applied for and the Pedestrian Bicycle Safety and Crash Reduction Grant that we applied for the total \$ 180,000. This is a reimbursable grant. If you have any questions I'll be happy to answer them.

ROLL CALL VOTE (adoption)

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried

9/0/0

RESOLUTION NO. R20 ADOPTED

19R-21 Authorizing the Hammond Police Department to Apply for a 2020 Lake County Drunk Driving Task Force Grant

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

Councilman Spitale- Can Lt. Vicari come back up?

Lt. Vicari- Good evening Council, this is an annual program that we have been participated in for a number of years, again this an reimbursable grant. Its part of the Lake County Drunk Driving Task Force, its actually administrated by the Hobart Police Dept. and of course we are a member of that task force. If you have any questions I'll be happy to answer them for you?

ROLL CALL VOTE (adoption)

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried

9/0/0

RESOLUTION NO. R21 ADOPTED

19R-22 Recognizing and Honoring the History of Dairy Belle in the City of Hammond and Designating the Block of 171st Street from Calumet Avenue to Jefferson as "Honorary Dairy Belle Street"

Councilman Emerson, supported by Councilman Higgs, moved for adoption .

Councilman Emerson- I see that Mr. Colao is here from Dairy Belle, would he like to speak to the Resolution?

Mr. Colao - Hello, I'm Nick Colao from Dairy Belle, my family has owned it for the past 26 years. I started there when I was 13 years old, my grandparents taught me everything I know. It's been apart of my life a long time. I can't wait to see what the future holds for us. We continue to expand and we love the City of Hammond.

*Prepared by
Robert J. Golec
Hammond City Clerk*

RESOLUTION cont

Mr. Colao cont. - it's always gonna have a place in my heart it's my second home. I grew up in Tinley Park. I was in Hammond for a long part of my life learning every aspect of the business. For this to be passed is amazing. I couldn't ask for anything more, so thank you very much.

Councilwoman Venecz- I would like to say that my family and I have immensely enjoyed taking the grand kids to Dairy Belle, and introducing them to one of the flavors of the region and it's just a real treat for us. Every year you know that April 1st Dairy Belle opens. Thank you to you and your family.

Councilman Emerson- I had a lot to say but Mr. Colao summed it up I just want to wish them continued success in Hammond. I've been going there for a number of years and had to switch to yogurt a short time back, but that's another story

Council President Markovich- When my family is in the car and we're going down Calumet Ave., "Are we stopping at Dairy Belle, dad?" It's hard to say no when you're out voted in the car.

City Clerk Golec- On the second page, Councilman Emerson, the blank "Whereas designated the blank block of blank street"?

Councilman Emerson - It should read designated the 700 block of 171st .

ROLL CALL VOTE (adoption)

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Higgs

Motion carried

8/0/1

RESOLUTION NO. R22 ADOPTED

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilman Woerpel - I'm making a motion that the Resolution we passed on June 24, 2019, 19R-17, for our appointment to the Lake County Convention and Visitors Bureau, be rescinded for several reasons. One of them being for Cause, and under Code 6923 sub section J of the Indiana Code, we can remove board appointees for Cause, and I make that motion .

Councilman Spitale second the motion.

Councilman Woerpel- On the September 9 meeting we will be making the official appointment.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS cont

ROLL CALL VOTE (Rescind Resolution No. R17)

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Higgs

Motion carried

8/0/1

MOTION CARRIED

Councilman Emerson- I received an email from Matt Reardon and I'll just read it to you briefly. To all, congratulations to the Hammond Park Board of the City of Hammond, Indiana Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects. Recognizes outstanding projects completed by individuals and organizations, in the State of Indiana. These awards are given in an effort to raise standards of excellence, heighten public appreciation of quality landscape architecture and expand public awareness. Entries to the INASLA awards program are juried by peers of the landscape architecture profession from outside the State of Indiana. This years program was juried by members of the St. Louis Chapter of the ASLA, and the category was design constructed works over One Million Dollars, and the winners were, No. 1, Edison Park Hammond, Indiana. HWC Engineering and Matt Reardon, who is affiliated with them Jacobsville Complete Streets, revitalization North Main St, Evansville Indiana, Roth Industries, Indianapolis, Indiana, Landstory Inc, and the Joyce Center Green Roof Notre Dame, Indiana. Anderson and Bolander LLC. There is an event in September, and I have the date for you all. There is a ceremony at 502 E Event Center, 502 E Carmel Drive, Carmel Indiana, Friday September 27th 11:30 a.m. there is lunch till 1 p.m. with the awards included, that's Indianapolis time, they're an hour head of us so you would have to leave early. Congratulations to Matt Reardon and HWC Engineering for this honor. The park, by the has been utilized way beyond what it was 2 years ago. So good job to everyone that was involved. Thank you.

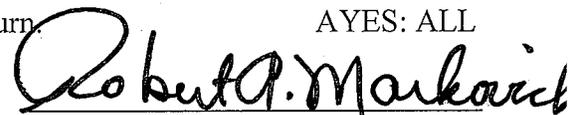
PUBLIC EXPRESSION

Michael Boyer- I would like to refer back to the petition that came before this Council on June 9th, 2019, which was brought by Nathan Holleck from Mobile Specialties . The two way alley is getting out of control. Some people were under the impression that we were going to get speed bumps in Hammond. Nathan had told folks that speed bumps were possible, which to me doesn't sound right when reflecting this petition.

George Stoya- I'm stunned by the announcement that we rescinded the appointment to the Tourism Board, it seems artificial. That issue was closed with the appointment of Raymundo. My issue is are we getting enough bang for our buck? We have the Casino, and the Marina. What is the Tourism board doing for us?

Councilman Spitale , supported by Councilman Woerpel, moved to adjourn.

AYES: ALL



Robert A. Markovich, President
Hammond Common Council

ATTEST:


Robert J. Golec, City Clerk

Time: 6:45 p.m.

dw

Prepared by

Robert J. Golec

Hammond City Clerk

Minutes approved at the Common Council meeting of September 9, 2019.