

MEETING OF THE CITY OF RUSHVILLE, INDIANA COMMON COUNCIL

JULY 7, 2015

6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: The Common Council of the City of Rushville met on the above date and time at 270 West 15th Street, Rushville, Indiana. Mayor Pavey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: The Pledge to the Flag was recited by those present.

PRAYER: Councilman Berkemeier led those present in prayer.

ROLL CALL: Council members, Bob Bridges, Brian Conner, Craig Smith, and Brad Berkemeier answered roll call. Councilman, Brian Sheehan was not present. Also present was City Attorney, Julie Newhouse, and Kate Thurston, *Rushville Republican*.

MINUTES: Bridges made a motion to approve the June 16, 2015 minutes as presented. Conner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Pavey reported the following:

1. On the 18th we met with the County regarding the APC/BZA.
2. The Rush County Fair was the week of June 21st.
3. Met on the 23rd regarding the park master plan. We had a follow-up meeting today.
4. Met with Nine Star on the fiber certification program that has been offered by the State.
5. Made application for SET, which is the regional economic development. It was very encouraging.
6. July 1st we had a meeting with Brian Solerno from the Rush Mobile Home Park.
7. On the 3rd we had the benefit at the Princess Theater. The attendance was very good.
8. On the 4th of July we had the parade, car show, and fireworks.
9. This week is the park summer camp.
10. Tomorrow we will start the Duke Energy program with the Jordan building.
11. There will be a marketing meeting on the 9th
12. There will be a concert this Saturday.
13. Councilman Bridges and Park Board President Gurley will attend a meeting at the Boys & Girls Club to discuss partnering with the City.
14. On the 20th we will have a meeting regarding the downtown TIF and a spec building.
15. The Flatrock retention pond is in the final stages of construction.
16. Most of the signatures have been obtained for the Rush Mobile Home Park. We need a letter from Solerno to go on the property to put in a trench to eliminate the surface water. We will also video the drainage tile to see if it even exists, that is if we can get the water out to run the video. Solerno will also need to give permission for easements if the grant is approved.

17. A letter has been sent to the drainage board regarding the drainage issue with the retention ponds on 16th Street. The west side pond floods and is full of moss. There are septic tanks along the west side of Spencer Street south of the pond that are now filling up with water. The ponds are not transferring from one side to the other and when there is a heavy rain the water flows across the road.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT: Clerk-Treasurer Copley said that she and the Mayor have been working on budgets in preparation for their meeting with the DLGF on the 22nd.

She informed Council that \$9,517.00 has been collected in weed liens.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Council President Bridges informed Council that he met with the Mayor and Bruce Levi to discuss the APC/BZA. Bridges recommended that the City form their own APC/BZA. He said he would like to set a time line for 1/1/16. He said there are still some legal questions that need addressed and he thought all Council members should be in agreement. After Council discussion, Bridges made a motion that the City establish a City planning commission and zoning board with a target date of 1/1/16, and a possibility that the City and County could share staff. Conner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Amphitheater/Park Board** – Concert Saturday.
- **Marketing** – There will be a meet Thursday.
- **APC/BZA Building Code** – Discussed under Council President's report.
- **City Center** – We met last week with our financial advisors. We are waiting to receive their suggestions.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police – Chief Tucker said there were no big problems over the holiday. The only issue reported were concerns on sky lanterns. He said they are not specifically designated as a firework. He will continue to research how those are being handled.

Fire – Chief Jenkins handed out month end and year to date reports.

Animal – Warden Moran handed out a report from Dr. Jackman.

CITIZEN CONCERN/COMMENTS: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Drainage-Trailer Court South of Town** – Discussed under Mayor's report.

2. **Farm Contract Update** – Councilman Smith and Tracy Newhouse have obtained the proper legal descriptions. The Liggett’s have discussed the proper steps to take with the APC Director. Letters have been sent for the rezone. They are hoping to have everything completed in August.
3. **Property Adjacent to Merrill Magee** – This was tabled by the Board of Works for further review.
4. **Vacation of Alley Adjacent to Jail Project** – Mayor Pavey said he would like to have conversations with the County Commissioners for a possibility of a trade for vacation of the alley.
5. **Waggoner Pool Study Follow Up** – The lift has been ordered.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **APC/BZA Restructuring** – Discussed earlier.
2. **Youth Involvement – Leah Noe** – High School Senior, Leah Noe came before Council to discuss her desire to become involved in government. One question Noe asked was what can people my age do to get involved in local government?” Ideas she posed were the internship program, paging, or volunteering. She asked how to go about getting on boards to volunteer? She said we need to get the word out to other young people.

She also asked how can we improve our community and make it a place the young people will want to return to. She said we need to show pride in our community. One suggestion she had was restoring the portraits on some of the shops on Main Street.

Noe said we have a duty to provide a town that is open to opportunities. She said the people her age view the county as a place that is not growing. They are just stuck in this place until they graduate.

Pavey said we are not talking the same language and asked the best way to communicate with her age group. Noe suggested Instagram to communicate.

Bridges agreed that we need to reach out to the young people, but also challenged Noe to help find a way to keep the younger people from tearing up city property.

Berkemeier urged Noe to look at the City’s comprehensive plan.

Pavey said he would consider re-establishing a Mayor’s youth council. He told Noe he would like to keep in touch.

Cherry Street – Larry Lawlor – Lawlor said some of the surveying has been delayed due to the weather. He said the aerial work is complete. They are moving forward with the utility coordination and the environmental documentation.

Softball Little League Lease Agreement will be sent out for review.

Call from Emerson Technologies – Mayor Pavey said he received a call from Emerson Technologies asking the City to get involved in their training and help with financing. The Mayor asked for Council's blessing to see how we can move funds to move forward with assistance. Bridges made a motion to move forward with the Mayor's proposal. Conner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CLAIMS: Bridges made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Berkemeier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ITEMS NOT KNOWN IN ADVANCE: Mayor Pavey congratulated all elected officials on their win for the fall election due to no one being opposed.

Councilman Berkemeier announced that Relay for Life has been rescheduled for Friday, July 24 from 4:00 p.m.-midnight at South Veterans Park.

ADJOURN: There was no further business to come before Council; Smith made a motion to adjourn. Berkemeier seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.