COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
July 29th, 2019

The Common Council of the City of Kokomo, Indiana met Monday July 29th, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

The meeting was called to order by President Hayes.

President Hayes states, those who wish to stand may stand, or you may remain seated.

Invocation was offered by Pastor Jerry Van Auken, from First Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

Pledge:

Present: Wyant, Cameron, Young, Haworth, Kennedy, Hayes, Johnson, Sanders, Miklik

Absent: None

The minutes of the Council Meeting July 8th, 2019 were declared approved as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS: President Hayes states, we have a Petition for Vacation of a Right-of-way by the Rail Minor LLC; has been filed with the Common Council. A Petition for Vacation of the Street Right-of-way. It is a street address or common description of adjacent 807 S. Reed Road. I am introducing that tonight on July 29th. We will have first reading on August 12th, 2019. Public Hearing, and second reading on August 26th, 2019. That is Ordinance #6935.

There were no committee reports given at this regular meeting.
ORDINANCE 6936: Rezoning: R4 to M1
Location: 602 & 600 Williamsburg Dr. & 507 S. Webster St.
Petitioner: Clinton Scruggs
First reading

Ordinance 6936 was read by the Clerk by title only. Councilwoman Young moved for suspension of the rules, and pass ordinance #6936 on first, and second reading; seconded by Councilman Cameron.

Vote for suspension of the rules:
Aye: All
Nay: None
The vote was 9 to 0 for suspension of the rules.

Councilwoman Young moved for passage on ordinance #6936 on second reading; seconded by Councilman Wyant.

Councilwoman Young states, Clinton Scruggs is requesting a change in zone classification from R4 (Medium Density Urban Residential) to M1 (Low Density Multifamily Residential) for property located at 602, and 600 Williamsburg Dr., and 5007 S. Webster Street. This property is going to be used for assistant living. Director Greg Sheline from the Plan Commission is in the audience if anyone has any questions.

Plan Commission Director Greg Sheline states, this is 3 lots. They were zoned residential last year. They want to put a residential assistant living facility there. It is actually a home with about 3000 square feet. There is going to be 8 to 9 rooms in that home. There will be staff available at the home.

Vote for passage follows:
Aye:
Nay:
The vote was 9 to 0 for passage on first, and second reading.
ORDINANCE 6938: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #6279, AS AMENDED, NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KOKOMO, INDIANA, that Ordinance No. 6279, as amended with all subsequent amendments, be and is hereby further amended as follows:

First reading

Ordinance 6938 was read by the Clerk by title only. Councilwoman Young moved for passage on ordinance #6938 on first reading; seconded by Councilman Wyant.

Councilwoman Young states, this ordinance was passed by the Planning Commission to this Common Council. It is an ordinance amending 6279. This ordinance is expanding 931, and State Road 31 Overlay Sub-districts. It encompasses the nine properties for the Sports Complex being built on State Road 31; for a high end mixed use Commercial Development. Director Greg Sheline from the Plan Commission is in the audience if anyone has any questions.

Jennifer Goad 3411 Judson Road Kokomo, Ind. states, give this a little more consideration before making your motion, and green lining this project 100%. The problem that we have is: what is going to happen to our current little leagues? There are a lot of rumors. We need answers. There are a lot of questions surrounding this. I ask, and urge you to do more research on this project; to make sure the kids, and the City of Kokomo will be best served by this project.

David Tharp, Deputy Mayor 1027 West Walnut City of Kokomo, Ind. states, this project does not consolidate or force or deny anything involving Youth Sports in our Community.
Cont. Ordinance #6938.
It helps facilitate the Development of a $86 Million Dollar historic investment $77 Million Dollars in which is private that funds the creation of these ball-fields. It is our intention as a City as we drive this project forward; to make sure that is the place that our kids get to call home field. I would urge Council to pass this.

Chuck Sosbe 1715 S. Courtland Ave. Kokomo, Ind. states, my concerns are like Jennifer’s. I think we need to look at what we can do for our own kids; and not worry about what we can do for Grand Park.

Jeff Ely 520 S. Goyer Road Kokomo, Ind. states, it has been my privilege to live next to this park for the last fifteen years. I will say that for me it was a blind-side; because living adjacent to the park, apparently I was not subject to mandatory notification for the rezoning of the property that is on the other side of the park. Had I known about the Planning Meeting; I would of ask about traffic on Goyer; so much is unknown. I want to know more; and I want to have a voice. I want to be in the loop.

President Hayes states, I want you to understand that we do not send out notifications. It is not the Council’s responsibility. It is the Plan Commission. I would have some words with him about that. I apologize that you were not notified; even though it is not our responsibility; sorry.

Chris Beatty 716 Lakeside Drive Kokomo, Ind. states, I am the President of UCT Little League. Our board, and myself is in support of the park. I think it will be very good for the City of Kokomo to have this facility as long as the concerns have been shared. The main concern that we have heard is making sure that the Local players are taken care of.
Cont. Ordinance #6938.
I am in chats with all the Local Presidents; and hav’ent really heard anybody push back against it. I think most of us are for even consolidating our leagues. I just wanted you to know I am in-support of it, and UCT as long as our kids are taking care of.

Councilman Cameron states, just a little history at one-time City of Kokomo had All Stars from all leagues; and they did very well.

Councilman Kennedy states, I don’t know of any of us unless we have grand kids involved probably don’t know a whole lot about what is going on at all the Little League Parks right now. I think a Committee, or a group needs to get together to meet with all the Presidents of the Leagues, to understand all their concerns; and see if everybody is on the same page. I think we need as a Council should have more information on what’s going on with these Leagues.

Councilman Miklik states, we have a standing Department within the City that manages, and integrated into Youth Baseball. The Park Department maintains a lot of the parks. The discussion that Councilman Kennedy suggested should fall to the Parks Department to help as a place to centralize that kind of discussion. My suggestion would be the Parks Department take that on to gather input; and then they can come-back, and tell us what they found out.

Councilwoman Sanders states, one of my concerns is what is the cost going to be to the kids, and to the families? I want to make sure that every kid can play ball some-place.

President Hayes states, I want to remind everybody what were here to do tonight is to vote on this Over-lay. I like the idea of the Park Department.
Cont. Ordinance #6938.
I think that is a good start. I think we are here tonight to move this project forward of voting on the Over-lay.

Councilman Cameron ask, isn’t it true that there is room to expand more out in there?

David Tharp, Deputy Mayor states, I have had conversations that I can share with the Developer Steve Henke. He actually purchased most this land from adjacent land-owners; letting them know I am going to build a large Commercial Recreational Facility here. Hinkee has received word from property owners to the North that they would be interest in selling more land.

President Hayes states, it is my understanding that Mr. Henke is going to put some infrastructure roads going in there?

David Tharp, Deputy Mayor states, yes. The infrastructure is actually supported by the tax investment from the private developer thru a Tiff District. This project has been in the works for years.

Vote for passage:
Aye: All
Nay: None
The vote was 9 to 0 for passage on first reading.
RESOLUTION 2731: Resolution authorizing the filing of applications with the Federal Transit Administration, an operating administration of the United States Department of Transportation, for Federal transportation assistance Authorized by 49 U.S.C. chapter 53, title 23 United States Code, and other Federal statues administrated by the Federal Transit Administration.

Resolution 2731 was read by the Clerk by title only. Councilman Miklik moved for passage on resolution #2731; seconded by Councilwoman Sanders.
Councilman Miklik states, this resolution is a yearly resolution that authorizes the Mayor on behalf of City of Kokomo to file for grants. He read the resolution.
Vote for passage follows:
Aye: All
Nay: None
The vote was 9 to 0 for passage.

RESOLUTION 2734: A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KOKOMO, INDIANA APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY

Resolution 2734 was read by the Clerk by title only. Councilman Miklik moved for passage on resolution #2734; seconded by Councilwoman Sanders.
Councilman Miklik states, this resolution is authorizing the City to exam due diligence for the purchase of real estate on South Main.
Cont. Resolution #2734.
Formerly it was a Power Sub Station; just South of Foxes Trail.
He reads the resolution.
Vote for passage follows:
Aye: All
Nay: None
The vote was 9 to 0 for passage.

President Hayes states, this marks the end of this Council Meeting. Our next Council Meeting will be August 12th, 2019; with an Informational Meeting at 5:30 P.M. in the Louks Room; and Council Meeting at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

ATTEST: __________________________

Presiding Officer

City Clerk

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City Clerk