COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MAY 10, 2021

The Common Council of the City of Kokomo, Indiana met Monday May 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.in City Hall Chambers.

President Grecu called the meeting to order.

Councilwoman Sanders states those who wish to stand may, or you may remain seated.

Pastor Gary Bush, Temple of Faith Church of God in Christ offered invocation.

Pledge.

Present: Acord, Rudolph, T. Stewart, R. Stewart, Collins, Grecu, McKibben, Sanders, Miklik

Absent: none

Minutes for Council Meeting held April 26, 2021 were declared approved.

Communications: Councilwoman McKibben wanted to recognize two Kokomo Firemen who recently retired Ricky Myles and Steve Campbell with 35 years of service each. In addition, the Kokomo Fire Department hired four new recruits listed as follows: William Bass, Michael Osborne, Josh Spencer, and Jason Weaver.

Councilman Miklik stated that Ricky Myles was a student of his, years ago. It has been a pleasure to watch him grow and a job well done. In the future would like to know about these events beforehand.
Councilwoman Sanders stated the National Day of Prayer was wonderful and thankful for everyone involved.

The Clerk read Ordinance #6981 by title only. Councilman Collins moved for passage on Ordinance #6981 on second reading. Seconded by Councilwoman Sanders. Councilman Collins stated there were some changes made. Memorial Day was left in and Veterans Day was added. Also noted in the Ordinance #6981, any person making a noise complaint must provide their name and address to the Kokomo Police Department. If a violation occurs and a citation written, the complainant shall be available as a witness if the citation is disputed and a court hearing necessary.

Jerry Paul Kokomo stated he represents all Veterans in Kokomo. They are not happy with leaving Memorial Day in the Ordinance. Would like to see Memorial Day removed. Councilman Grecu stated many people celebrate events on Memorial Day. Councilman Grecu stated he understands his position. Councilman Tony Stewart states the Council did address his concerns they did look into it. The information was addressed. Councilman Acord stated to Mr. Paul “he heard him” and he would be voting this down. Councilman Collins stated, with respect to all Veterans and statements made here. We are representing all of Kokomo including Veterans and other citizens of Kokomo, and his decision is based on doing the right thing not the popular thing.

Councilman Grecu stated, a big part of why the Council is doing this, is because of the Veterans Groups coming to Council and talking about Veterans with PTSD to control the number of days when fireworks of this nature are being done So Veterans know when to expect that.
Councilman Miklik stated Commander Capshaw did ask to add Veterans Day; it was his desire to have it added.

Deb Smith Kokomo stated two weeks ago Mr. Paul stated we would give you Veterans Day if you remove Memorial Day. If you will not take Memorial Day out do not add Veterans Day.

Steve Long Kokomo stated he feels if a person has to sign an affidavit it will pit people against each other, and the person may take retribution against the person who signed the affidavit.

John Roberts Kokomo wanted to thank the Council for their work on Ordinance #6981. He stated though he does not agree with the “poison pill clause” as he calls it. Mr. Roberts felt it would be placing a target on the complaint back. He is asking the Council to remove that clause.

Diana Bond Kokomo stated she had sent out an email to all Council with her concerns and just wanted to speak on a few of those items that were in the email.

Councilman Acord stated he was not in support of this Ordinance. Last year there were fifty-five calls for fireworks. Of those, eighteen were out of the time frame listed in this Ordinance.

Councilman Rudolph stated having the complaintant sign provides the police with the tools needed to do their job. It makes the people and police work together.

Councilwoman Sanders stated the provision in the Noise Ordinance gives the people lawfully using fireworks the information need. In addition, an understanding that there are penalties if they go outside the guidelines.

Councilman Tony Stewart calls for vote.

The vote follows:
Aye: 6

Nay: 3

The Clerk called roll. The vote was 6-3 for passage on the second reading.

President Grecu states this marks the end of this Council Meeting. Our next meeting will be May 24th, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

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Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

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City Clerk