MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA May 22, 2024

A regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Jasper, Indiana, was held on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 610 Main Street, Jasper, Indiana.

Call to Order. Presiding Officer Mayor Dean Vonderheide called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call. Clerk Treasurer Kiersten Knies called the roll.

	In Person	Video	Absent
Mayor Dean Vonderheide	X		
Council members:			
John Schroeder	X		
Chad Lueken	X		
Vince Helming	X		
Paul Lorey	X		
Kevin Manley	X		
Nancy Eckerle	X		
Philip Mundy	X		
City Attorney Renee Kabrick	X		
Clerk-Treasurer Kiersten Knies	X		

Street Commissioner Jeff Thiesing, Jasper Community Arts Director Kyle Rupert and Incoming Utilities Manager Rob Young were also present at the meeting.

Knies announced that in order to have a quorum for the meeting, a majority of the council members must be in attendance. All of the council members were in attendance at the beginning of the meeting, which is a majority; therefore, there was a quorum for the meeting.

Moment of Personal Reflection. Mayor Vonderheide asked that all present take a moment for personal reflection.

Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Vonderheide invited all those present to join him in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Minutes. The minutes from Regular Council Meeting April 17, 2024, were distributed to and examined by the Council. A motion was made by Council member Kevin Manley and seconded by Council member Vince Helming to approve the minutes from April 17, 2024, without corrections. Motion carried 7-0.

Introduction. Mayor Vonderheide introduced the new General Manager of Utilities, Rob Young, who will start at the beginning of June to replace Bud Hauersperger who is retiring at the end of June. Young has an MBA from Ball State University, a background in business and has proven himself over and over again in continuous improvement, innovation, and effectiveness. Young and his wife are lifelong residents of Jasper and have been heavily involved in the community over the years.

Department Presentation. Street Commissioner Jeff Theising gave an update on the Street Department

Heart of Jasper Presentation. Kate Schwenk and Ruger Kerstiens of Heart of Jasper gave a presentation of the designs of the proposed Courtyard at the corner of 7th Street and Main Street. This was strictly informational to share the designs and the concept. They were not seeking any sort of approvals at this time.

Downtown Social District Change. Whitney Lubbers, Executive Director of the Dubois County Visitors Center, on behalf of DC Multisport requested to change the Jasper Downtown Social District Hours for the Heartland Half Marathon on Saturday, September 21, 2024, at 9:00 am. Thereafter a motion was made by Paul Lorey and seconded by Kevin Manley to adjust the DORA start time to 9:00 am on September 21, 2024, for one day only. Motion carried 5-2, with Nancy Eckerle and Phil Mundy opposed.

Regional Wellness Center RFPQ. City Attorney Renee Kabrick requested approval to begin the RFPQ Process for the Regional Wellness Center. Thereafter a motion was made by Kevin Manley and seconded by John Schroeder to approve the RFPQ process for the Regional Wellness Center. Motion carried 7-0.

Ordinance No. 2024-5

An Ordinance Establishing Fees for Rental and Associated Costs of the Jasper Arts Center and Fees for the Participation in Jasper Arts Center Program (Amends Jasper Municipal Code §1.57.010).

A motion was made by Paul Lorey and seconded by Chad Lueken to read the ordinance by title only on the second reading. Motion carried 7-0.

City Attorney Renee Kabrick so read Ordinance No. 2024-5 by title only.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Kevin Manley and seconded by Phil Mundy to approve Ordinance No. 2024-5 on the second reading. Jasper Community Arts Director Kyle Rupert explained the proposed changes. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Nancy Eckerle and seconded by Chad Lueken to read the ordinance by title only on the third and final reading. Motion carried 7-0.

City Attorney Renee Kabrick so read Ordinance No. 2024-5 by title only.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Kevin Manley and seconded by Phil Mundy to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 2024-5 on the third and final reading with the amended language in Section 1.57.025 to include all ticket sales. Motion carried 7-0.

Ordinance No. 2024-6

An Ordinance Changing the Zone Map and Establishing Indiana Desk Planned Unit Development District.

Bill Kaiser from Denton's and Dani Miller from Flaherty & Collins presented the redevelopment of 1224 Mill Street which is the former Indiana Furniture building that Krempp Corporation and Flaherty & Collons are working together on.

A motion was made by John Schroeder and seconded by Paul Lorey to read the ordinance by title only on the first reading. Motion carried 7-0.

City Attorney Renee Kabrick so read Ordinance No. 2024-6 by title only.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Paul Lorey and seconded by Kevin Manley to approve Ordinance No. 2024-6 on the first reading. City Attorney Kabrick noted that she changed the title to be more in line with titles the city uses. Motion carried 7-0.

Ordinance No. 2024-7

An Ordinance Appropriating Additional Money for the Remainder of the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024.

A motion was made by Paul Lorey and seconded by Vince Helming to consider Ordinance No. 2024-7 for one reading only. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Chad Lueken and seconded by Vince Helming to read the ordinance by title only on the first and only reading. Motion carried 7-0.

City Attorney Renee Kabrick so read Ordinance No. 2024-7 by title only.

Mayor Vonderheide then opened the matter up for a public hearing. There being no one in the public who appeared on this matter, a motion was made by Paul Lorey and seconded by Kevin Manley to close the public hearing. Motion carried 7-0.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Nancy Eckerle and seconded by Phil Mundy to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 2024-7. Motion carried 7-0.

Resolution No. 2024-5

A Resolution to Acquire Property from the Greater Jasper Consolidated School Corporation (Site for the Regional Wellness Center).

A motion was made Vince Helming and seconded by Chad Lueken to read the resolution by title only on the first and only reading. Motion carried 7-0.

City Attorney Renee Kabrick so read Resolution No. 2024-5 by title only.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Paul Lorey and seconded by Nancy Eckerle to approve Resolution No. 2024-5 on the first and only reading. Motion carried 7-0.

Tax Abatement Compliance Forms. Council members noted that for SB-1 Compliance an informed representative from the company MUST appear in order for the companies to be considered in compliance with the terms of their tax abatements. Companies will be held to this requirement going forward.

Community Alert System. Discussion continued around a city-wide alert system. No decision has been made at this time; however, the council members will continue to research the best system and the best way to implement a system.

Introductions. City Attorney Renee Kabrick introduced the Legal Intern, Kaelinn Sabline. Director of Community Development and Planning Josh Gunselman introduced the Planning Intern, Kevin Dominguez. Both interns presented the council with information regarding their background and what led them to intern for the City of Jasper.

Public Safety Tax. Discussion continued around the public safety tax and the presentation given by the IU Kelley School of Business students. It was noted that seventy-nine out of ninety-two counties in Indiana have implemented a public safety tax. There needs to be follow-up at the county level. No decisions have been made to move forward.

Adjournment. There being no further business, a motion was made by Council member Kevin Manley and seconded by Council member John Schroeder to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 7-0 and the meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

The minutes were hereby approved ____ with ___ without corrections or clarification this 18th day of June 2024.

Mayor Dean Vonderheide, Presiding Officer

Attest: _

Kiersten Knies, Clerk-Treasurer