

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 7, 2008
TIME: 7:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Gary Herbert, Helen Gardner, Darrell Poling, Jamie Cain, Herb Hunter and Bill Wenning.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken with all present and minutes were approved.

Judy Curd was present to represent the DGDC and Greg Rust and Bryan Robbins was present to represent HOTTCITY.

Rick Fayette of the DGDC is serving with the Tree City/Hottcity on the Abe Lincoln memorial. Greg Rust and Rick Fayette had met for five hours.

In 2004 the Hyatt/Palma plans were adopted for the guidelines for the downtown. Several cities have a MainStreet program and are tax supported.

Darrell Poling questioned how much is funded by other cities and Greg Rust answered around \$25,000 - \$30,000.

Helen stated at last month meeting Council requested both groups DGDC and HOTTCITY to work together. She has had people ask her if the monies are all going into one fund or separate funds. She stated that she knew that Greg and Rick had met. She also told that people have asked her why the DGDC is coming to the City asking for funding when they have money. Helen asked Judy Curd what kind of monies the DGDC has now and asked if the funds they are requesting are to be used for salary.

Mayor Herbert stated that Judy did not have to disclose the amount of monies the DGDC has.

Judy Curd told the DGDC has funds that are invested and they use the interest. She told the DGDC are planning on getting away from the recreation event programs and getting into grants and redevelopment downtown. The funds from the City would be used for salary.

Herb Hunter would like to see this funding included in the budget.

Bill Wenning suggested splitting the requested \$30,000, giving \$15,000 to DGDC and \$15,000 to HOTTCITY and giving each group six months to see what the group could come up with. The people he has talked with would like to see something come together to really improve the downtown.

Jamie Cain remarked we have two groups trying to do the same thing and would like to see the two groups come together before any money is given from the City.

Greg Rust told the Council that HOTTCITY would love to work with the DGDC as one instead of two separate groups, but HOTTCITY has not been approached by DGDC to do this. He noted that HOTTCITY has a director being Bryan Robbins and does not see the need for another. Bryan Robbins stated HOTTCITY is working on obtaining State and Federal Grants and grants take time.

Judy Curd complimented HOTTCITY for what they have accomplished and stated the DGDC could provide a yearly grant and work with HOTTCITY.

Mayor Herbert advised that he did not know if the City could afford \$60,000 a year for the DGDC and HOTTCITY or if the County could afford this as well. He suggested HOTTCITY try to obtain donations from residents.

Don Polston asked HOTTCITY if they have been using any of the Hyatt/Palma plan. Bryan Robbins answered that they are working with the Hyatt/Palma plan and check in regularly with Laura Gibbons of IACT (Indiana Association of Cities and Town).

Police Chief Brian Heaton brought Ordinance 2008-02-2 amending Salary Ordinance 20070-07-14 for first reading. He would like to re-establish the Assistant Chief position and appoint Stacey Heaton to the position. They would need to pay off her comp time and establish a salary for her.

Helen Gardner noted that Stacey would have a dual role as Assistant Chief and head of Detectives. She questioned that at Budget time would this open it up for other departments wanting to make changes and adding more ranks. It has always been noted the budgets are top heavy with ranks. She complimented Stacey on the excellent jobs she does and in no way she is against her for the position.

Jamie Cain told they would be eliminating one captain.

Herb Hunter noted Stacey has done a good job and asked if there is a job description in place.

Bill Wenning's issue is not against giving Stacey the position, but the amount of comp time is being used with making this position.

Stacey Chasteen advised the Council that every third week she would be working as a detective and if she should be called out then she would be working without pay.

Mayor Herbert told the Council that he is not establishing this position because of comp time.

Jamie Cain noted that the Council would be establishing the position and the Mayor would set the salary.

Motion by Jamie Cain and seconded by Bill Wenning to pass on 1st reading Ordinance 2008-02-2 amending salary ordinance 2007-07-14. Ayes Herb Hunter, Darrell Poling, Jamie Cain, Bill Wenning and Helen Gardner. Nays none. So passed.

Lisa Westenberger of ARA noted this meeting as a Public Hearing for a \$50,000 CFF funding Downtown Study Grant. She introduced Kevin Senninger of Ratio Architects. HOTT CITY is applying for a grant through the City of Greensburg and would be supplying the \$6,000 local match.

The City would need to adopt the plan and sign the Resolution that would be sent to the State for approval in applying for some of the Federal grant funds. One of those grants is for up to \$500,000. She suggested approaching the business owners of buildings downtown to contribute a percentage to make up the needed local match.

Lisa Westenberger announced the awarding of \$75,000 Federal Grant Funds to the City for small businesses that cannot receive loans from a bank.

Motion by Jamie Cain and seconded by Darrell Poling to approve tax abatement renewals for: Collection Associates, Greensburg Station/Street Corner Group/, Jerman Housing, Metz-Tewmeyer, Road C Realty, Norman Schlemmer and SDRC. Ayes Herb Hunter, Darrell Poling, Jamie Cain, Bill Wenning and Helen Gardner. Nays none. So passed.

Mayor Herbert announced that he is appointing Judy Curd to the Historic Preservation Board with approval of Council.

Motion by Herb Hunter and seconded by Helen Gardner to approve the appointment of Judy Curd to the Historic Preservation Board. Ayes Herb Hunter, Darrell Poling, Jamie Cain, Bill Wenning and Helen Gardner. Nays none. So passed.

Mayor Herbert announced the City will be taking applications for School Board Appointments.

Motion by Jamie Cain and seconded by Helen Garner to pass on 1st reading Ordinance 2008-04-04 amending personnel policy of the FMLA section to add passed and signed FMLA entitlement legislation by the President George W. Bush on January 28, 2008. Ayes Herb Hunter, Darrell Poling, Jamie Cain, Bill Wenning and Helen Gardner. Nays none. So passed.

Motion by Jamie Cain and seconded by Herb Hunter to suspend the rules and regulations for 2nd and 3rd passage of Ordinance 2008-04-04. Ayes Herb Hunter, Darrell Poling, Jamie Cain, Bill Wenning and Helen Gardner. Nays none. So passed.

Motion by Jamie Cain and seconded by Helen Gardner to pass on 2nd reading Ordinance 2088-04-04. Ayes Herb Hunter, Darrell Poling, Jamie Cain, Bill Wenning and Helen Gardner. Nays none. So passed.

Motion by Jamie Cain and seconded by Darrell Poling to pass on 3rd reading Ordinance 2008-04-04. Ayes Herb Hunter, Darrell Poling, Jamie Cain, Bill Wenning and Helen Gardner. So passed.

Audio and website discussion was tabled.

Jamie Cain stated he would like to change the way Ordinances are numbered and inquired about holding town hall meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER:

Attest:

Clerk-Treasurer

