

REGULAR MEETING – MARION COMMON COUNCIL – FEBRUARY 21, 2017 – 7:00 P.M., CITY HALL

The Common Council of the City of Marion, Indiana met in regular session on Tuesday, the 21st day of February, 2017 at the hour of 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

On the call of the roll the following members were shown to be absent or present as follows:

Present: Miller, Homer, Smith, Cain, Henderson, Johnson, Luzadder and Brunner.

Absent: Batchelor.

The minutes of the previous regular meeting of February 7, 2017 were presented. On a motion by Councilman Steve Henderson, 2nd by Councilman Alan Miller, the minutes were approved as presented by the following vote. Aye: Miller, Homer, Smith, Henderson, Johnson, Luzadder and Brunner. Nay: None. Abstain: Cain.

Council President Jim Brunner told the Council, before they go to Committee Reports, he has some good news. He spoke with Mr. Batchelor earlier today and he said he definitely will be here at the next meeting. He's doing a lot better and thanks everyone for their concern and their comments and their prayers. Certainly looking forward to having Councilman Batchelor back at their next meeting. He said he'll be here in two weeks so we certainly look forward to that, Brunner said.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Councilman Dave Homer reported that they did have an Ordinance Committee meeting today to discuss the Property Maintenance Ordinance. It was a lively discussion but he thinks they, at the end of the meeting, kind of decided to do a little research, a little further research and perhaps they'll reconvene in the future. He thinks the consensus among the three committee members is that we really need the ordinance but we're going to take our time, research, perhaps get together and then call on the City Administration or people that would be affected by that to ask questions and then proceed from there. So, he'll keep the Council updated when we do that and let them know, Homer said. Council President Brunner said, we had a nice turnout today of Councilmen so he knows we all feel very strongly about this so thank you, Mr. Homer, and just keep us posted.

Councilman Alan Miller said, not really a committee report. He just wanted the Council members to know that, on their behalf, he expressed our appreciation last week to the Utility Board. He did not realize that there was a rather large, \$250,000, he thinks, sewer project involved with the General Cable expansion. That they moved a whole lot quicker than they would normally move, even though it was something they eventually were going to have to do anyhow. So, he thinks they're waiting for INDOT approval because it cuts across an INDOT line or something. But apparently they moved and made it happen, that one of the pieces that had to happen for them to decide to come to Marion. So, they will have it in place. He thinks they said the plant would be up and operating in October so really a short turnaround. Also he might remind people that the Mayor's State of the City Address is at noon tomorrow at Ivy Tech. It's probably too late to sign up for lunch but WBAT will be airing it live, will be on the air at 12:30 so you can hear it.

Council President Brunner told Mr. Persinger, nice to have him here with us. Everything alright with Mr. Stephenson? He understands he had to get a little early start on the road so thanks for being with us here this evening. Marion attorney Kyle Persinger told Brunner, thank you, glad to be here.

Mr. Brunner told the Council he does have something he wants to run down. He's not going to ask the ladies to write these down as he reads them off, he'll give them the copy, but he thinks they've finally, they had a few people who wanted to move around on some of our committees and so he now has this pretty much that everyone has agreed to the following committees: The Rules Committee will be chaired by Brad Luzadder and on that committee will be Deb Cain and Don Batchelor; Development Committee will be chaired by Don Batchelor and Alan Miller and Brad Luzadder will serve on that committee; Public Safety will be chaired by Dave Homer and he'll (Brunner) be, along with Steve Henderson, on that committee; Public Works Committee will be chaired by Henry Smith with Lynn Johnson and Steve Henderson serving on Public Works; Finance and Budget, Alan Miller will be our chair and he'll be assisted by Deb Cain and Henry Smith; Code Enforcement will be chaired by Dave Homer, Lynn Johnson and Deb

Cain will serve on that committee; Our Compliance Committee will be chaired by Steve Henderson, Lynn Johnson and Dave Homer will serve on that committee. The liaisons, we have the various boards around the community – Aviation Board will be Deb Cain, Board of Works will be Steve Henderson, serving on the Economic Growth Council will be Dave Homer, our Housing Authority member will be Henry Smith, Main Street Marion will be Dave Homer, he (Brunner) will be serving on the Park Board, Lynn Johnson will work with the Senior Center, Don Batchelor will work with the Traffic Commission, Utility Board will be Alan Miller and Redevelopment Commission will be Steve Henderson. He thinks we're now all set on those so he wants to be sure everybody was comfortable with those.

Councilman Dave Homer told the Council, you may have gotten a notice about a program tomorrow evening. It is Washington's birthday but a celebration of the rebirth of Washington Street and SOS, in conjunction with the Quilter's Hall of Fame, are having a program and you are all invited. We hope you can attend if you're not busy tomorrow evening but from 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm, you can actually go in and see what progress has been made at the old railroad station which will be renovated back to its historic state by the Quilter's Hall of Fame folks. And then the program will start at 5:45 pm until 7:00 pm at God's House at the church there. He thinks we have the Convention and Visitors Bureau, John Lightle will speak. Quilter's Hall of Fame President Deb Devine, who is from Kansas, her husband will also present a program about the economics and what the quilters bring to the community. So, they hope you're able to share tomorrow evening with them. Again, that'll be at God's House and it's kind of a cool thing, things that are going on, some of the projects and things that are taking place on Washington Street. The old Webb's (inaudible) building downtown on the west side has been sold. It's been purchased by a gentleman who is retired from the military who has come back, wants to do some things. He was hopeful and glad Friday, the Mayor and Mike Flynn went, made a trip to Michigan City with a group of them from Main Street, Quilters and we went up and took a look at a project in Michigan City by a group called Art Space out of Minneapolis, Minnesota where they took a seven-story building and made that into affordable housing art space. It's for artists only and it was a cool building. They did a remarkable job of refurbishing that building. So we're looking at ideas and things for the Regions Bank Building as we move forward so that that doesn't sit before we find ways to get possible use out of that. We had good discussion with the folks in Michigan City and he thinks we'll have further discussions here soon as we move forward with the folks there at the Regions Bank Building, Homer said.

Being no further business to come before the Council, on a motion by Cain, 2nd by Smith, the meeting adjourned. Time being 7:10 p.m.