

City of Evansville Common Council
Regular Meeting
City Hall, 31 S Madison St, Evansville WI 53536
Tuesday, April 11, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. **Call to order.** *Mayor Duggan called to order at 6:00 p.m.*
2. **Roll call:**

Members	Present/Absent	Others Present
Alderson, Jim Brooks	P	Leah Hurtley, City Clerk
Alderson, Cory Neeley	P	Jason Sergeant, City Administrator
Alderson, Ben Corridon	P	Colette Spranger, Community Development Director
Mayor, Dianne Duggan	P	Megan Kloeckner, Library Director
Alderson, Ben Ladick	P	Kelly Gildner, Evansville Review
Alderson, Susan Becker	P	Jason Grover, Community Member
Alderson, Gene Lewis	P	Ruby & Bill Davis, Community Members
Alderson, Joy Morrison	P	Michelle Frey, Community Member
Alderson, Erika Stuart	P	Eloise Eager, Community Member
		Arlene Larson, Community Member
		Regina Mac Naughton, Union Community Member
		Audrey Shomos, Community Members
		Gil & Diane Skinner, Community Member
		Jason Czerwonka, Community Member
		Ruby & Bill Davis, Community Members

3. **Motion to approve the agenda.** *Brooks made the motion to move item 8A to follow item 6, seconded by Morrison. Motion carried 8-0.*
4. **Motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the March 14, 2023 regular meeting and approve as presented.** *Brooks made the motion, seconded by Stuart.* Corridon had requested grammatical changes to 6B. *Motion carried 8-0.*
5. **Civility reminder.** Duggan noted the City’s commitment to civility and decorum at Council Meetings.
6. **Citizen appearances other than agenda items listed.** **None**
7. **Reports of Committees**
 - A. **Library Board Report.** Kloeckner read from her report which stated: General Updates: We are interviewing for the library clerk position this week, and April 23-29 is National Library Week. Program Updates: We had a very successful 4K open house with over 60 people attending. We will be at Family Fun Night and the High School Career Fair. We are offering a couple simultaneous programs this month (kids & adults): Tomorrow (4/12) and 4/17 – no school day

Neeley inquired on the “Book Donation” which will occur on April 20th and 22nd.
 - B. **Parks and Recreation Board Report.** Lewis reported that the DNR had shocked the lower Creek to get fish for Expos. Lewis continued to report that Lake Leota Park has opened and road repairs are still needed in the park. Boy Scouts’ had cancelled their fishing event due to the lack of ice. There will be some changes to the Aquatic Center pricing to ease some of the cost increase next year.

The minutes are not official until approved by the Common Council at the next regular meeting.

New for this year, lap swim will be discontinued due to the lack of participation, and Veterans' will swim free. Lewis mentioned that seniors, 55 and over, will also get a discount. Neeley asked if pricing for swan decoys had been looked into as previously discussed, to help with the Geese over-crowding. Lewis explained that due to staffing shortages, the decoys had fallen off the radar.

C. Plan Commission Report.

- 1) **Motion to approve a certified survey map to adjust the lot lines between tax parcels 6-27-559.5170 and 6-27-559.5171 finding that the application is in the public interest and meets the objectives contained within Section 110-102(g) of city ordinances, with the following conditions:**
 - i) The applicant submits a joint cross access and maintenance agreement to City staff for review prior to recording.
 - ii) The CSM and joint cross access and maintenance agreement is recorded with the Rock County Register of Deeds.

Motion by Becker, seconded by Neeley. Motion carried 8-0.

D. Finance and Labor Relations Committee Report

- 1) **Motion to accept the March 2023 City bills as presented in the amount of \$4,439,749.76. Brooks made the motion, seconded by Neeley. Motion carried by Roll Call 8-0.**
- 2) **Motion to approve Spyglass Snapshot Audit Agreement to review communication bills for cost savings. Brooks made the motion, seconded by Morrison. Motion carried by Roll Call 8-0.**

Sergeant explained that Spyglass will be going over all of our communication bills to audit to find savings. The first year, the company would get 50-100% of the savings found. After the first year, all savings would remain with the City. Ladick expressed concern about any limited promotional timeframe options and the potential of getting into any long term contracts with TDS coming to town. Sergeant also explained that in order for anything to be re-scanned in the future, we would need to re-hire them again to do so. In addition, Corridon asked about a timeline from when the excess was found and when we need to decide. Sergeant explained that we could get rid of it any time within the 12 months, we would just need to share the savings.

- 3) Closed Session: **Motion to convene in closed session pursuant to section 19.85 (1) (e) of the Wisconsin statutes to deliberate or negotiate the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session and where discussion in open session would negatively impact the city's competitive or bargaining position. Brooks made the motion at 6:42 p.m., seconded by Morrison. Motion carried by Roll Call 8-0.** Upon completion, Council will reconvene in open session.

Council reconvened at 7:14 p.m.

- 4) **Motion to approve Amendment #1 to Development Agreement for Development of Lot 2 – Mixed Use Property for parcel 6-27-958.091A1. Brooks made the motion, seconded by Becker. Motion carried by Roll Call 8-0.**
- 5) **Motion to Approve City of Evansville Predevelopment Agreement. Brooks made the motion, seconded by Neeley. Motion carried by Roll Call 8-0.**
- 6) **Motion to approve Resolution 2023-10 Interfund Loan to TID 9 from the Sewer utility fund. Brooks made the motion, seconded by Morrison. Motion carried by Roll Call 8-0.**
- 7) **Motion to approve an agreement with Ehlers for a Stormwater User Rate Study. Brooks made the motion, seconded by Morrison. Motion carried by Roll Call 8-0.**

E. **Public Safety Committee Report**

- 1) **Motion to approve an agreement with Rock County Public Health Department - Memorandum of Understanding to provide Hope Kits to first responders. Stuart made the motion, seconded by Becker. Motion carried by 8-0.**

Stuart explained that Chief Kleisch had received a grant and that these kits had been given to EMS and Police. These are life-saving kits that could be given to families that would include Narcan nasal spray. After Neeley inquired how it would be determined whom would receive the Kits, it was explained that they would be given to homes that had been visited recently for such matters, but would also include training when receiving a Kit.

Other Safety items that came up were that Chief Reese has asked third shift to spend more time in the neighborhoods due to groups of kids coming from Madison to do some car shopping at the expense of Community members.

- F. **Municipal Services Report** Brooks reported the end of winter moratorium is approaching and this would be the first big disconnection in a few years due to the Covid protocols that were in place. AMI meter replacement are down to 31 meters, with 23 on schedule. Sergeant explained that most of the remaining meters are due to plumbing issues not because they are resistant to the meters. Neeley had asked if there was educating done with the new meters to help clear up some of the misinformation that was occurring on Facebook.
- G. **Economic Development Committee** Ladick disclosed that there was continued discussion for the Business Summit with the Chamber of Commerce.
- H. **Youth Center Advisory Board Report** Corridon reported that there was discussion on planning for concessions and corporate support for the May kickball event occurring on May 21st. In addition, there was discussion for fundraising and planning strategies for the remainder of the year, including the budget and fundraising for the Duck Derby.
- I. **Historic Preservation Commission** Lewis reported that the meeting occurred at 224 W Church Street. Properties that were discussed included 30 Railroad Street, whom will be adding a garage to property. In addition, 20 Mill Street has been experiencing an economic hardship. The new owner has been caring for, and fixing up the house. The HPC has been working with him to receive help for new windows, roof, and siding. Discussion for solar panels in Historic District revealed that they are accepted, as long as they are not placed on the street side of the house.
- J. **Fire District Report** Brooks reported that the Fire District building has been paid off. Short term fundraising has been taking place to help with the cash reserves.
- K. **Police Commission Report** Did Not Meet
- L. **Energy Independence Team Report** Brooks reported that they will meet May 3rd
- M. **Board of Appeals Report:** Did Not Meet

8. **Unfinished Business**

- A. **Second Reading and motion to approve Ordinance 2023-03, Amending Chapter 14 – Animals, was ready by Stuart, seconded by Becker. Motion passes 7-1, with Becker in opposition, by Roll Call.**

- 1) **Bill Davis**-Davis offered comment on how City Council has worked to better the City by trying to better the streets, increase population, create a dog park, and now offering a new Westside Park. Davis has concerns over having special rules. No action was taken.

- 2) **Arlene Larson**-read from a written statement in opposition to the proposed changes to the Municipal Code-Animals. Larson would like discussion to continue among various committees instead of approving the Ordinance at this time. No action was taken.
- 3) **Jason Grover**-Grover commented that he would like to know how many complaints have actually occurred. No action was taken.
- 4) **Jason Czerwonka**-Czerwonka offered comment in regards to the hardship that the changes to the Ordinance would occur for him as a disabled person having to retrain his dog to be on a leash. No action was taken.

Morrison explained that the goal in passing the animal ordinance was to try to find the balance in the needs among everyone. Morrison explained that many individuals would rather leave an area instead of offering complaint. Morrison asked the community members present, to spread the word on the requirements of licensing to meet city, county, and state statute. Neeley would like to revisit the idea of a larger dog park. Brooks further explained that rules and laws are not put in place for those that follow the rules and regulations. Brooks asked Sergeant what the ramifications would be if the Ordinance didn't pass as it current states. Sergeant explained that it would leave that there would be no hours or locations that would have availability for off leash, including the dog park. Duggan pointed out to Neeley that the process could be started to make a larger Dog Park. Morrison explained that the cost of the current Dog Park for the fencing was \$15,000 that the City didn't have to start with. The cost of the Park was kept down, due to the property being a City owned already.

9. **Communications and Recommendations of the Administrator**

- A. **Overview of City accounting software upgrade** Sergeant explained that there will be training the will occur over a couple months, with the new software upgrade.
- B. **Evansville Financial Management Plan Executive Summary** Last year there was an approval on a 5 year outlook on the financial outlook. While this is the first time stepping away from the 2-3 year outlook, Department Heads will be able to see the outlooks easier if things remain the same. There are some good and bad things on the outlook.
- C. **Motion to Approve Resolution 2023-09 Evansville Youth Center Committee. Brooks made the motion, seconded by Morrison.** Discussion occurred for corrections to the written Resolution. Amend to change the second item to: **2. Two Committee members shall be appointed by the Mayor for a one-year term, one of which shall be appointed by the Mayor to serve as Chair of the Evansville Youth Center Committee. Brooks made the second motion to include the amendment, seconded by Becker. Motion carried 8-0.**
- D. **Motion to Approve Resolution 2023-11 Municipal Judge Salary. Brooks made the motion, seconded by Stuart. Motion carried by Roll Call 8-0.**
- E. **Motion to Approve Resolution 2023-12 Supporting the Ice Age National Scenic Trail. Brooks made the motion, seconded by Stuart. Motion carried 8-0.**

Sergeant stated that he will be at Cyber Security Conference in May. At City Hall, the painting and new carpet projects have been almost completed. Staff reviews are underway, while continuing to look at options for the Municipal Services Director. Customer Service Assistant Natrop has been updating the City Calendar by looking at other calendars in the city, such as Creekside. We found that it looks a bit crowded so it will be a work in process. A big shout out to Donna, Marisa, Twiggy, and Brad for the extra work that has gone into getting the last of the meters changed out. Also, Sergeant wanted to thank City Clerk Hurltley, Deputy Clerk Klitzman, and Customer Service Assistant Natrop for all of the hard work on the election process. Duggan also wanted to express her thanks from the Council as well, on the latter two items. Brooks brought up security cameras, and Sergeant explained that there have been challenges in coverage areas, and finding a correct interface.

10. **Communications and Recommendations of the Mayor**

Duggan wanted to express condolences to Lewis for the passing of his father. Duggan continued to express her congratulations for those that won re-election and looking forward to welcoming Abbey Barnes in the next week. Duggan asked that any comments or concerns for Sergeant's Performance Appraisal come to her or Brooks as they look to complete it in the next week. Duggan explained that all assignments would be given at next week's Reorganizational meeting on Tuesday. She would like to have any requested adjustments to her by next Thursday, to look at accommodating those requests.

- A. **Acknowledgement for outgoing Alderperson Susan Becker.** Duggan wanted to express her thanks for Becker's continued participation in the Planning Commission as she steps out of the Alder role.
- B. **Motion to approve the citizen appointment of Maria Torres, 6909 N County Rd Lot # 27, for the unexpired three-year term to the Youth Center Advisory Board ending in 2026. Brooks made the motion, seconded by Corridon. Motion carried by Roll Call 8-0.**

11. **New Business** None

12. **Introduction of New Ordinances**

- A. **First reading of Ordinance 2023-04 Amending Chapter 130, Article IV Landscaping Regulations** read by Brooks.
- B. **First reading of Ordinance 2023-05 Rezone Parcel 6-27-559.5170 to B-3** read by Brooks.
- C. **First reading of Ordinance 2023-06 Amending Chapter 6 - Alcohol Beverages** read by Brooks.

13. **Upcoming Meeting Reminder:**

- A. **Special Reorganization Common Council Meeting –Tuesday April 18, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.**
- B. **Regular Common Council Meeting, Tuesday May 9, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.**

14. **Adjourn.** Adjourned at 7:51 p.m.