

BROOKVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
February 17, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Brookville City Council was called to order by Mayor Seagraves at 7:30 p.m. on February 17, 2015 in the Brookville Council Chambers. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members Apgar, Cantrell, Duncan, Garber, Kirklin and Letner; Fire Chief Fletcher, Law Director Stephan, Manager Wright and Deputy Clerk Duncan were present. Police Chief Jerome and Assistant Manager/Finance Director/Clerk Keaton were absent.

Motion by Duncan, second by Apgar to accept the Agenda as presented. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Apgar, second by Kirklin to accept the February 3, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. All yeas, motion carried.

Manager Wright stated his report is brief this evening as all we are doing right now is fighting the weather.

Manager Wright announced Council is invited to attend Wright State University's Annual Raider Country Night Out.

Member Garber asked if there have been any recent water main breaks?

Manager Wright reported the Service Department repaired a water main break yesterday and today. Manager Wright advised it was challenging because of snow removal, a double trash route due to the holiday, and several Service Department members on sick leave, but they were able to get it done.

Mayor Seagraves announced Assistant Manager/Finance Director/Clerk Keaton is absent and Deputy Clerk Duncan is sitting in for her this evening.

Deputy Clerk Duncan had no report.

Fire Chief Fletcher reported the Brookville Fire Department is participating in the statewide tornado drill and siren test on Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at 9:50 a.m.

Fire Chief Fletcher reported the Fire Department has taken delivery of the new ambulance. It is currently being detailed and should be in service soon.

Member Garber commented that the FAA recently allowed the commercial use of drones and the police department in Richmond, Indiana recently purchased one. Member Garber stated he thinks a drone could be helpful to our Fire Department and stated there are some inexpensive options that he thinks Council could budget for in 2016.

Fire Chief Fletcher agreed that a drone could be an asset and suggested our regional Special Rescue teams may be able to secure grant monies towards the purchase of a drone that could be shared among departments.

Manager Wright advised that Police Chief Jerome is absent this evening. Council should have a copy of his report and he can address any questions they might have.

Law Director Stephan reported as of the February 13, 2015 deadline, Management Partners received 29 applications for the City Manager position. The next step is for Management Partners to review the applications to determine which applicants will be interviewed.

Law Director Stephan requested an Executive Session on a Personnel Matter.

Mayor Seagraves had no report.

Mayor Seagraves announced the Planning Commission Meeting on February 19, 2015 has been cancelled due to lack of items for an agenda.

Motion by Duncan, second by Cantrell to read proposed Resolution No. 15-01. All yeas, motion carried.

Motion by Duncan, second by Apgar to accept the third reading and adopt Resolution No. 15-01 entitled "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO DISPOSE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY EITHER AT A PUBLIC AUCTION, A PRIVATE SALE, OR BY INTERNET AUCTION." All yeas, motion carried.

Under New Business, Member Cantrell commented that our Charter allows us to visit the issue of Council compensation this year to take effect in the year 2016. Member Cantrell stated she has been on Council for 8 years and the \$75 stipend per meeting has not changed. Member Cantrell stated she thinks Council needs to consider increasing the stipend. A recent salary comparison with other cities shows that our Council pay lags behind. Member Cantrell stated she frequently represents Council by participating in other activities that take extra time and expense to get there, and any extra pay would be appreciated. Member Cantrell observed there is a disparity between the roughly \$1,800 per year that Council earns and the salary of our management staff. Member Cantrell stated it looks odd that we are the governing board and our staff is making hundreds of times more than Council. Member Cantrell also stated more people may throw their hat into the ring during a Council election if the pay is increased.

Member Garber agreed that it has been too long since Council had a pay increase. Member Garber stated he wanted to bring up the issue in 2013 but the City's finances would not allow it. Member Garber stated he agrees with all of Member Cantrell's comments, particularly that more people may run for Council if the pay is increased. Member Garber suggested increasing Council pay to \$100 per meeting.

Member Apgar stated the last increase in Council pay was June 19, 2001.

Member Duncan commented that asking for a raise will make us look like the Federal and State governments, asking everyone to pay more taxes and then giving ourselves a raise. Member Duncan stated he does not serve on Council for monetary value, nor did he serve as a volunteer firefighter in the past for the monetary value. Member Duncan stated he does not think it will encourage people to run for Council.

Member Letner agreed, stating he is also not on Council for the monetary value, he is here to serve the community, and to better the community as he and Council as a group sees fit. Member Letner commented he does not think an extra \$25 per meeting will bring anyone else out to run for the position. When someone disagrees with a decision made by Council, that will bring them out to run for Council, not the monetary value, or even the title.

Member Cantrell indicated she does not doubt that none of us are here for the money; however, there are times when she represents the City and Council at various functions, that it would be nice to have the extra money to cover her gas or time. She does not think that a \$100 per meeting is above and beyond, and has had community members express to her their amazement that Council is paid such a small fee. Member Cantrell stated she agrees money is not the issue, but she thinks we should be competitive with surrounding communities, and in light of the fact that we will soon have a new City Manager, we may be busier next year than we have in years past.

Member Apgar stated he agrees with Member Letner's comments and remembers when he was Mayor, Council was paid \$10 per meeting. Member Apgar stated he was surprised when he found out what Council is paid now.

Member Letner commented he does not attend many functions, but when he does it is more of a social gathering to talk to people and get their perspective on things that may help him do a better job in his Council position and even in life. Member Letner stated he does not put a dollar amount on that.

Member Kirklin advised she can appreciate Member Cantrell's point and what she is sharing and thinks there is definitely some value in her points. However, her stand is aligned more with Members Duncan and Letner, she ran for Council because she wanted

to serve the community in which she lives and where her children are growing up. Member Kirklin stated she believes timing is a very important thing as well and this is not the right time. Member Kirklin indicated she is here for the service and feels confident in saying that everyone here is in it for the service as well.

Member Cantrell said she brought it up to see what everyone's thoughts were and asked the Mayor to share his thoughts.

Mayor Seagraves commented he can see both sides to the puzzle and thinks we still have time. Mayor Seagraves stated the focus should be on the income tax but even if that passes there is still time in May and June to revisit the situation if Council feels the timing is right. Mayor Seagraves observed he does not think the community will have a problem with a \$25 raise for the Council Meetings.

Member Cantrell stated majority rules and it is not a problem for her.

Member Duncan commented that Council is always proactive on our zoning and inquired if we should be proactive regarding the possible law changes regarding marijuana stores?

Law Director Stephan replied we can certainly take a look at any petition that is filed for a statewide initiative. If a petition is filed, we need to review the petition and see whether it tries to preclude local zoning or whether it does not preclude it. If it does not preclude it then we may want to look at our zoning code both with respect to stores and also to growing marijuana. Law Director Stephan stated the key is the initiative, which will probably try to address zoning in both personal and business use.

Motion by Duncan, second by Apgar to go into Executive Session on a Personnel Matter as requested by Law Director Stephan. All yeas, motion carried.

Mayor Seagraves called Council back into Regular Session.

Mayor Seagraves set a Special Council Meeting for Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion by Duncan, second by Apgar to adjourn. All yeas, motion carried.



Kimberly Duncan, Deputy Clerk



David E. Seagraves, Mayor