

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL  
VALPARAISO, INDIANA  
January 13, 2020**

The Common Council of the City of Valparaiso, Indiana, met on Monday January 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall. Mayor Murphy called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Clerk-Treasurer Taylor called roll. Present were Councilmembers Reed, Cotton, Schmidt, Pupillo, Anderson, Douglas and Costas.

**REORGANIZATION**

Mayor Murphy presented the name of George Douglas for Council President. Councilmember Schmidt moved to nominate George Douglas for Council President. Councilmember Costas seconded the motion.

Councilmember Cotton asked when protocol had been changed. It was his understanding that the longest serving member was elected to the President slot. Mayor Murphy responded this is what was presented to him as a result of the caucus held by all Councilmembers.

Upon roll call vote the motion for George Douglas to be the new Council President passed with a 6-0 vote. Councilmember Douglas abstained from voting.

Councilmember Douglas presented the name of Diana Reed for Council Vice President. He also presented the following slate of appointments and liaisons:

Appointments

Redevelopment Commission (annual)	George Douglas
Redevelopment Commission (annual)	Evan Costas
Traffic and Safety Commission (annual)	Jack Pupillo
Economic Development Commission (annual)	Tim Warner
Shared Ethics Commission Joint Bd Delegate (annual)	Peter Anderson
Investigation & Reconciliation Committee (annual)	Mike Baird
Fire Territory (4 year term)	Diana Reed
Board of Zoning Appeals (4 year term)	Mike Micka
Planning Commission (4 year term)	Peter Anderson

Liaisons (annual)

Valparaiso Community Schools	Diana Reed
Valparaiso Community Schools	Jack Pupillo
Parks Department	Casey Schmidt
Utilities	Robert Cotton
Engineering & Code Enforcement	Robert Cotton
Public Safety	Jack Pupillo
Public Works	Casey Schmidt

Councilmember Schmidt moved to approve Diana Reed for Council Vice President and the slate of appointments and liaisons as presented. Councilmember Costas seconded the motion.

Upon roll call vote the motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

**MINUTES**

Councilmember Douglas moved to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2019 meeting. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion.

Upon voice vote the motion to approve passed with a 7-0 vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1, 2020**

**A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING FUNDS TO THE RAINY DAY FUND**

Councilmember Douglas moved that Resolution No. 1, 2020 be read a first time and considered for passage. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Taylor read

Resolution No. 1, 2020. Councilmember Douglas moved to adopt Resolution No. 1, 2020. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion.

Clerk-Treasurer Taylor addressed the Council. This is a transfer of \$100,000 to the Rainy Day Fund. The amount transferred this year is not as much as last year due to increasing wages based on the wage study.

Upon roll call vote the motion to adopt Resolution No. 1, 2020 passed with a 7-0 vote.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2, 2020**

#### **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CLERK-TREASURER OF THE CITY OF VALPARAISO TO MAKE TEMPORARY INTERFUND LOANS IN ANTICIPATION OF TAXES TO BE RECEIVED FROM THE RAINY-DAY FUND OF THE CITY OF VALPARAISO**

Councilmember Douglas moved that Resolution No. 2, 2020 be read a first time and considered for passage. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Taylor read Resolution No. 2, 2020. Councilmember Douglas moved to adopt Resolution No. 2, 2020. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion.

Clerk-Treasurer Taylor addressed the Council. This is an annual Resolution. It is done so the Clerk-Treasurer can transfer within funds if a fund runs short before tax payments are received. This will save the City money by avoiding having to pay interest on a loan.

Upon roll call vote the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2, 2020 passed with a 7-0 vote.

### **ORDINANCE NO. 1, 2020**

#### **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS IN THE UNSAFE BUILDING FUND AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE**

Councilmember Douglas moved that Ordinance No. 1, 2020 be read a first time and considered on first reading. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Taylor read Ordinance No. 1, 2020. Councilmember Douglas moved to carry Ordinance No. 1, 2020 to the January 27, 2020 meeting. Councilmember Reed seconded the motion.

Building Commissioner Vicki Thrasher addressed the Council. This is an appropriation of \$86,860 in the Unsafe Building Fund which will be used to cover the cost of demolition of buildings determined to be unsafe. Buildings are ordered to be demolished by Order of the Board of Works.

Councilmember Cotton asked if there will be a remaining balance or will this deplete the Fund. Vicky Thrasher explained she is appropriating the full amount so it is available. She does not know what will happen during the coming year in the way of demolition orders. This allows her to have the funds available if needed.

Upon voice vote the motion to carry Ordinance No. 1, 2020 to the January 27, 2020 meeting passed with a 7-0 vote.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mayor Murphy introduced and thanked his transition team members. He announced that Mike Jessen is the new City Administrator. Brandon Dickinson is the new Redevelopment Commissioner.

### **AUDIENCE**

A citizen stated she has a resolution she would like to have placed on the Council Agenda. She was advised to submit it to the Mayor's office.

Meredith Mulkey- 106 Appletree Lane. Resolution 8, 2015 was the Resolution authorizing the Valparaiso Community Schools tax referendum. She asked Councilmembers Reed and Pupillo how they will work with the School Board to address the reduction of the foreign language programs.

Councilmember Reed replied they will discuss this with the School Board when they have information and decide what is best for the School Corporation as a whole. It is yet to be determined if a plan will be put in place for the restoration of the foreign language programs. She also advised this is a vote by the School Board.

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

/s/ Holly Taylor, Clerk-Treasurer