

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
VALPARAISO, INDIANA

December 17, 2007

The Common Council of the City of Valparaiso, Indiana, met on Monday, December 17, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall. Mayor Costas called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart called roll. Present were Councilmembers Larr, Howe, McCasland, Dick, Eisenmenger, Bowker and Williams.

MINUTES

Councilmember Dick moved to approve minutes of the December 3, 2007 meeting. Councilmember Eisenmenger seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion to adopt the minutes passed 7-0.

PRESENTATION

Mayor Costas presented four charities with proceeds from the Mayor's Black and White Charity Ball. The four charities were Porter County Reading Foundation, Pines Village Tour of Duty, The Salvation Army of Porter County and the Housing Opportunities. Each recipient addressed the Council and explained their organization. Each organization received a check for \$8,750.00

RESOLUTION NO. 24, 2007

**A RESOLUTION GRANTING APPROVAL FOR A FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT
REIMBURSEMENT GRANT FOR N & R CORPORATION 16 SOUTH FRANKLIN
STREET**

Councilmember Eisenmenger moved that Resolution No. 24, 2007 be read a first time and considered on first reading. Councilmember Dick seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read the Resolution. Councilmember Dick moved to adopt Resolution No. 24, 2007. Councilmember Bowker seconded the motion.

Economic Development Director, Matt Murphy, addressed the Council. He explained the improvements. This Resolution comes to the Council with a favorable recommendation from the Plan Commission.

Councilmember Howe asked if the owners are going to participate in the Economic Improvement District. Matt replied at this time they have not signed up. Mayor Costas further added that in light of the current property tax situation, this issue is on hold for now and might be revised.

Upon roll call vote the motion to adopt Resolution No. 24, 2007 passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 43, 2007

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE ARTICLE VI
REQUIREMENTS FOR STORM DRAINAGE AND FLOODPLAINS**

Councilmember Eisenmenger moved that Ordinance No. 43, 2007 be read a second time by title and a third time in full and be considered for adoption and the opportunity be given for offering amendments to said Ordinance. Councilmember Dick seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read the Ordinance. Councilmember Dick moved to adopt Ordinance No. 43, 2007. Councilmember Bowker seconded the motion.

Craig Phillips addressed the Council. It is the same as was presented to the Council for first reading.

Upon roll call vote the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 43, 2007 passed with a 7-0 vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 50, 2007

AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING ATTORNEYS AND JUDGES TO WEAR LIP GLOSS IN CITY BUILDINGS

Councilmember Eisenmenger deferred to Councilmember McCasland. Councilmember McCasland moved that Ordinance No. 50, 2007 be read a second time by title and a third time in full and be considered for adoption and the opportunity be given for offering amendments to said Ordinance. Councilmember Howe seconded the motion. Councilmember Williams called the question. This requires a vote by the Council. A majority vote means there will be no discussion and a vote will be taken. Upon roll call vote the motion to call the question passed 6-1 with McCasland voting no.

Upon roll call vote the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 50, 2007 failed with a 6-1 vote with McCasland voting yes.

ORDINANCE NO. 51, 2007

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF VALPARAISO, INDIANA TO MAKE EMERGENCY TEMPORARY LOANS TO REFUND THOSE MADE TO MEET CURRENT RUNNING EXPENSES FOR THE USE OF THE GENERAL FUND

Councilmember Eisenmenger moved that Ordinance No. 51, 2007 be read a first time and considered on first reading. Councilmember Dick seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read the Ordinance. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart explained this is a rollover of the current debt which is around \$4.9 Million. The interest will have to be paid December 31st but other than that there is no penalty. By law the County owes the City interest if the settlement does not occur by December 31st. Upon roll call vote the motion to pass on first reading passed with a 7-0 vote.

Councilmember Dick moved to suspend the rules. Councilmember Bowker seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote the motion to suspend the rules passed with a 7-0 vote. Councilmember Dick moved to adopt Ordinance No. 51, 2007 on second reading. Councilmember Bowker seconded the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Swihart read Ordinance No. 51, 2007.

Upon roll call vote the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 51, 2007 under suspension of the rules passed with a 7-0 vote.

2008 STORMWATER BUDGET

Matt Kras presented the Stormwater Budget. Councilmember Bowker moved to adopt the 2008 Stormwater Budget. Councilmember Dick seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote the motion to adopt passed with a 7-0 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Costas presented Councilmembers Howe, McCasland and Williams with plaques for their four years of service on the City Council. Each addressed the Council and expressed their thanks to those they have worked with during this time.

Councilmember Bowker announced the Redevelopment Commission will hold a Public Hearing this Friday at 9:00 a.m. in City Hall. They will have workshop in City Hall on January 12, 2008 from 9:00 to noon.

Discussion was had regarding the property tax assessments and trying to find out how the increases were determined.

AUDIENCE

Dennis Byron addressed the Council and expressed his concerns with TIF districts.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

/s/ Sharon Swihart, Clerk-Treasurer