

MINUTES
MUNCIE COMMON COUNCIL
300 NORTH HIGH STREET
MUNCIE, INDIANA 47305

DECEMBER 3, 2018

REGULAR MEETING: 7:30 P.M., 1ST FLOOR CITY HALL AUDITORIUM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Adam Combs from Boy Scouts Troop #77. He is working on his Citizenship and Community badge today.

INVOCATION: Given by Major Mark Lutheran from The Salvation Army.

A moment of silence is followed due to the passing of former President George H.W. Bush, former Judge Williams Bruns, former Community Leader Jack Donati, and fellow Councilperson Alison Quirks mother, Ann Broadwater.

After the Invocation, Major Lutheran thanks the Council for the opportunity to speak. For almost 130 years, the Salvation Army has served people in need in Muncie and Delaware County with a food pantry, financial assistance, financial counseling and emergency disaster services. This is also on top of their offering of spiritual services. On November 17th, Mayor Tyler, 100 student musicians from Mount Olive Church, Eaton and Albany Elementary Schools and Muncie Central Pep Band gathered at the mall to kick off the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign. There were over 500 onlookers there. This is the 127th year. This campaign is one of the largest and busiest fundraisers for the Salvation Army. It not only provides for the Christmas assistance given out later this month but also makes sure that they are able to keep their doors open and serving those in need in Muncie and Delaware County in the upcoming year. He encourages the members of the Council and the community in general to make a holiday tradition of ringing the bell for the Salvation Army. It is really easy to do. The steps are going to registertoring.com and chose the time, location and the date you would like to ring. They would love to see people make it a holiday tradition for themselves and their families. Last year, they served over 9,000 people in need of Muncie and Delaware County. This is a busy and important campaign to the Salvation Army.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION: Councilperson Gregory had no trouble deciding on someone to recognize for this month's award. She met Steve Bassett through Muncie Rotary Club and as you may know, their motto is "Service Above Self." Steve certainly is a model for that because he's one of those persons who quietly works behind the scenes making good things happen. Steve Bassett is a second-generation Dealer Principal with two franchised truck dealership locations – Muncie, IN and Toledo, OH. The franchise here includes Volvo Truck and Isuzu Commercial Truck and they employ about 70 people.

Steve started in the commercial truck business working at his father's GMC Truck dealership in Muncie during summer vacations rotating through the various departments over the years. This continued throughout his high school and college years resulting in full-time employment after graduating from Indiana University with a BS degree in Management and later the GM Dealership Management Development Program.

He became President, Dealer Principal, and owner of General Truck Sales in 1990 after various sales and management roles within the dealership. In 1995 Steve started General Truck Leasing which currently operates 190 full-service lease, rental trucks and trailers.

Current and past industry and community activities include serving on the Indiana Motor Truck Association board of directors the last 15 years, 20 Group participations since 1989, Muncie Rotary Club President, ECI Junior Achievement Chairman, Muncie Jaycees President, and Muncie Club board member.

Steve recently stepped down as Past Chairman of the Volvo Dealer Council after 15 years of service culminating in two years served as its Chairman. Since 2015 he has represented the Volvo Truck dealer network as Line Representative on the American Truck Dealer's Board of Directors.

Steve and his Muncie location has been selected as Volvo Truck's Dealer of the Year for North America (Volvo Truck's highest honor) three times: 2006, 2010 and 2016. In addition, he has been nominated twice as ATD's Dealer of the Year and has won various Volvo Truck national and regional awards over the last 25 years.

Although he's stepped down from one leadership role, he's now vice-chair of the national American Truck Dealer's group and will serve as its chair in 2021.

Steve has been recognized as a Rotarian Paul Harris Fellow, many times over, for his generous contribution to the Rotary International Foundation. The primary use of those funds has been to virtually eliminate polio world-wide. He and his wife of 35 years, Amy, have recently been honored by Second Harvest Food Bank by having their names on its Leadership Circle because of their support through the years. Join her in congratulating Steve Bassett for his continued leadership and support and for making a difference in Muncie.

Mr. Bassett thanks Gregory and is honored when she asked him to accept this award. On behalf of the Bassett family and the 70 or so employees that they have on N Broadway, they are proud to be part of the Muncie community for well over 60 years. Based on what they see coming up in their business plans and current expansions they believe they will be part of this community for another 60 years. When he and Gregory were discussing contributions, he says that Muncie is an unusual community because it supports its non-profits like no other city. They try to do it through a number of different ways. Small business is difficult because every one of their employees may wear four hats. If they loan out one of their employees to a non-profit, they forgo four people for a day. They have quietly done it through the checkbook over the years and again mentions there are different ways. This community has been an important part of their past and will be an important part of their future. With that, they don't seek recognition but do appreciate it when they see it.

Jeff Robinson, Executive Director of Cornerstone Center for the Arts, 520 East Main Street, is here because he wants to make it aware and also ask for help. On Saturday, December 16th, Cornerstone will be doing a second annual “Christmas Scarol.” It is something unique that they did last year where they turn their haunted house into a Christmas-themed haunted house. Last year it had more than 600 people that attended. What makes this so special is it is Cornerstones opportunity to give back to the Muncie community. The city is so supportive of Cornerstone Center for the Arts. Last year, they collected as admission toys for Toys for Tots as well as canned goods for Second Harvest Food Bank. This year, they are asking for admission to anything that would benefit the Muncie Animal Care and Services Department. He recently had a tour of the shelter and he was amazed at how many animals are there, over 400 cats and 120 dogs. He knows our furry friends needs some help this year. Either a \$5 cash donation that will stay with Cornerstone or kitty litter, wet dog or cat food, etc. that would help out the Shelter. Cornerstone has an entire list of stuff that you can bring on social media. To the people that are not fans of a haunted house, they can still bring donations to drop off at Cornerstone. Please help spread the word on the event which will be held Saturday, December 16th from 7:00 p.m. to Midnight. Hopefully, they will be able to bring a good Christmas to some animals at the shelter.

ROLL CALL:	PRESENT	ABSENT
Alison Quirk		X
Nora Powell	X	
Brad Polk	x	
Julius Anderson	X	
Jerry Dishman	X	
Doug Marshall	X	
Lynn Peters		X
Dan Ridenour	X	
Linda Gregory	X	

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: A motion was made by Powell and seconded by Polk to approve the Minutes from the November 5, 2018 Regular Meeting and the October 24, 2018 Special Meeting as presented. A roll call vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. MINUTES APPROVED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Powell does not have a report from the Finance Committee but does have a request and would like to make a motion. There was an article from the newspaper today pertaining to the termination of the interlocal agreement with the city and the county in regards to 911 services. She was inundated with people seeking answers about the provision of services and what it meant. Unfortunately, she had no answers because she was learning about it at the same time and in the same manner. She feels as elected officials, they have a

responsibility to seek out those answers and should be able to provide those to the people that they represent.

A motion was made by Powell and seconded by Polk to send the issue of the termination of the interlocal agreement to the Public Services Committee. The Public Services Committee pertains to the consideration of all matters considering services provided by the city government directly to the public including but not limited to police and fire protection, emergency ambulances, parks and recreations, cemetery's and public transportation. The chairman is Councilperson Dishman. Doing this will allow them to seek out the answers that are expected and asked of the Council. More importantly, it will allow the public input.

Councilperson Ridenour wants to make sure that they all know when that date is so they can attend if they are not part of the committee.

Councilperson Marshall mentions to Dishman to invite some of the county officials to try to get information from both sides.

Megan Quirk, City Attorney, makes a statement on behalf of the city of Muncie in regards of the termination notice of the 911 interlocal agreement effective December 2019. It is the city's position that this agreement is unfair and a disservice to the tax payers and citizens of Muncie as is the relocation of the jail, courts and other offices that will result in hundreds of people being disenfranchised from the courts and governmental services as well as the downtown area and other parts of Muncie. It will cause significant, irreparable harm to the city of Muncie. They are asking that the Council accepts this statement on behalf of the city from her in regards to the termination of the 911 interlocal agreement.

Powell understands that statement and takes that into consideration but she is receiving questions on how the provision of services will be handled, the safety of our public safety employees and things along those lines, all of which she cannot answer. She thinks the committee meeting would be in order.

M. Quirk adds that in furtherance of that, this is not a simple thing or issue that was taken lightly. There are things that them as Council members might be very educated on and different aspects of the city administration where they would not be very educated on and that is what the Public Service Committee, if allowed, would be able to make that education to folks about the true situation of what is going on within the community. There are not only transportation issues but fundamental rights that people are being disenfranchised from, from being able to not have these types of services that are in place. That is primarily the goal, especially as a city attorney, to prevent any sort of lawsuits or other types of issues that cause a disservice to the taxpayers and the citizens of Muncie. There is no issue with providing that education, and she welcomes any questions on that.

Powell thanks her and hope those questions get answered. She was just disappointed to hear about this through the local newspaper.

M. Quirk does not know what to say about that. She is not sure why the newspaper picked it up. Legally, they have an obligation to send that notice to the County Council or the County Commissioners and that is what happened. She is not quite sure where that communication came down but it was something that was timely and needed to be done to be able to meet

deadlines for things in order to be able to further investigate the issue and find solutions to the issues.

Marshall confirms that the committee being referenced is the Public Services Committee and its chairman is Dishman along fellow Council members, Anderson and Polk. Questions called. A roll call vote showed 7 yeas, 0 nays and 2 absent (A. Quirk and Peters). MOTION CARRIED.

Polk thanks the students from Mrs. Sniders Muncie Central Government classes. Those individual's standup to be recognized. He knows that she offers extra credit for attending these City Council meetings and he offers to take a picture with the students to make sure they get their extra credit. He hopes the students pick something up from tonights meeting that they can go back to class and have a discussion on.

ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY INTRODUCED:

A motion was made by Powell and seconded by Gregory to Bring Ord. 28-18 Off the Table. A roll call vote showed 7 yeas, 0 nays and 2 absent (A. Quirk and Peters). MOTION CARRIED.

ORD. 28-18 AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE. (ANIMAL SHELTER)

A motion was made by Powell and seconded by Polk to Adopt.

Melissa Blair, Muncie Animal Care and Services, is here to answer any questions.

Polk explains that they received the numbers from Kevin Nemyer, City Controller, and questions what time period this covers for. He asks if it is the end of the year, in which Nemyer confirms. It was from January 1st to now. Nemyer explains it is the accounts that are in the red right now that they need to make even again before the end of the year.

Ridenour asks to clarify that this appropriation is to cover 2018. Nemyer confirms. Ridenour asks if these are expenses that have already been incurred. Nemyer explains that FICA and Medicare will take care of it through the end of the year. This will make everything good through the end of the year. Ridenour asks if the invoices are ones that have already been received. Nemyer confirms. The \$5,000 budgeted for 2019 for Building Repair and Maintenance will be enough to take care of the broken dryers. He recently toured the facility the last week of October and at the time two of the four dryers were broken and now three of the four are broken. It is a little embarrassing and he wants to make sure it was budgeted and that the facility is maintained in a proper way. One example is if they owe \$18,253 on the electric bill, to clear out the rest of the year, they only budgeted for \$15,000 for all of next year. He thinks they are setting themselves up over and over and over again if they don't maintain and handle things in a proper way.

Nemyer mentions to his own comment at a few meetings ago where the Animal Shelter was underfunded for quite a while. He thinks a more realistic budget would have been in order. Ridenour does not like invoices not being paid so he feels like they have to take care of that. It doesn't look like they are solving issues for the future.

Nemyer refers to the electric bill and explains that for some reason the old facility on Gharkey St is still open but not being used. He does not know how much electricity that uses.

Powell commented that one reason they are spending so much on utilities this year is they were still maintaining two facilities. She believes they will be getting rid of that other facility soon. Those utility bills will go down next year. There won't be quite as much expense. Nemyer adds that there is also electricity provided to a mobile home at the Riggins St property. Those are two drains on the budget that won't be seen next year. Questions called. A roll call vote showed 7 yeas, 0 nays and 2 absent (A. Quirk and Peters). ADOPTED.

ORD. 37-18 AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE. (BUILDING COMMISSIONER)

A motion was made by Powell and seconded by Polk to Adopt.

Sarah Beach, Personnel Director for the city of Muncie, is here to answer any questions. She addresses a question from Gregory last month, where she asked if this additional appropriation for the Building Commissioners Office would require some amendments to the 2019 salary ordinance. Beach confirms it does not. The salary ordinance establishes a maximum pay rate for an employee. The budget is what establishes how much is allowed to be spent that year. Because they had employees leave employment in that office, they had to pay out their accrued time which is not part of the budget. That is why they had to ask for an additional appropriation. Questions called.

A roll call vote showed 7 yeas, 0 nays and 2 absent (A. Quirk and Peters). ADOPTED.

NEW ORDINANCES:

RESOLUTIONS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT:

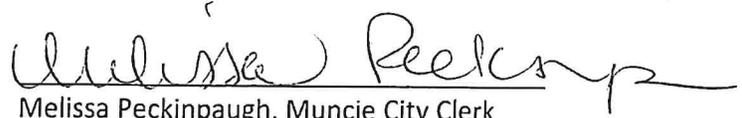
The Toys for Tots Bowling Tournament will be on December 8th at 1:00 PM at Munsee Lanes. Jason Chafin believes there is still some team availability. Everyone is invited and has become one of their biggest fundraisers. Kevin Gibson is the Toys for Tots chairman and he can be reached at 765-729-3029 if anyone has any questions.

A motion was made by Powell and seconded by Polk to Adjourn.

A vote by acclamation showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. ADJOURNED.



Doug Marshall, President of
The Muncie Common Council



Melissa Peckinpaugh, Muncie City Clerk
of the Muncie Common Council