

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

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2020

SPECIAL MEETING: 5:00 P.M., 1ST FLOOR CITY HALL AUDITORIUM/ZOOM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Council President Polk.

ROLL CALL:	PRESENT	ABSENT
Aaron Clark	X	
Richard Ivy	X	
Troy Ingram	X	
Ralph Smith	X	
Jeff Robinson	X	
Ray Dudley	X	
Brad Polk	X	
Jerry Dishman	X	
Anitra Davis	X	

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS:

JOINT DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION

Mayor Dan Ridenour states one of the reasons this Special Meeting was called was because there was a joint (with the county) Disaster Emergency Declaration. However, more things have transpired since then and as a result, this joint resolution is no longer approved. Today, it was amended by the county, who has full authority to do so, and also by the Governor. The Mayor believes the county is in the process of putting together a resolution that just says they are going to follow whatever the Governor says to and there is no reason for the City to move forward with that.

President Polk asks the Council Attorney if the City needs to withdraw that. Dan Gibson answers that would be correct, to make a motion to withdraw.

A motion is made by Polk and seconded by Ingram to withdraw the Joint Disaster Emergency Declaration. An all-in-favor vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. WITHDRAWN.

ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY INTRODUCED:

ORD. 7-20 AN ORDINANCE FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS. (FIRE DEPT – EMS).

A motion is made by Robinson and seconded by Ivy to Adopt.

Trent Conway, City Controller, along with David Miller, Muncie Fire Chief, state they originally proposed this additional appropriation ordinance just to get a budget for the EMS Department. Obviously, there has been some changes since they put these numbers together and fully anticipate this to change and there being another ordinance, once those figures are put together. There were questions during the last council meeting about what the estimated revenues were for EMS. It is a process to get that figure put together but they have gotten the correcting information (calls from dispatch) and sent that over to the ambulance billing services to put that forecast together for the City. Once we get that number back, there will be a sit down, again, to look back through all the numbers and put that updated budget together. This is just a beginning point for the City so that bills can be paid out of the right expense accounts.

Ivy asks if there is an expectation on when that would be put together. Conway states he knows that Rachel Clark, Muncie Fire EMS Director, got the information from dispatch and has sent that over to the ambulance billing service. He does not know how long it is going to take them to put that forecast together but they have made it clear that this is an urgent matter. He is hoping that here in the next week or two that the City gets those figures back and can sit down go over those numbers again.

Ingram asks if the City has gotten any closer to any ideas on when Rachel Clark's pay will be off of EDIT funds and actually coming out of her budget. He also believes the Mayor would be able to use a lot of that EDIT money, as well, regarding the recent disaster. Conway states that is correct, as soon as this is approved (today) then any future invoices received for Rachel Clark will be billed to Fund #104. Questions called. A roll call vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. ADOPTED.

NEW ORDINANCES:

ORD. 10-20 AN ORDINANCE FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS. (POLICE DEPARTMENT)

A motion is made by to Smith and seconded by Robinson to Suspend the Rules to Consider for Introduction. A roll call vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion is made by Robinson and seconded by Ingram to Introduce.

Nathan Sloan, Muncie Police Chief, along with Chris Deegan, clarifies this is the additional appropriation pertaining to vehicles. Conway confirms. Sloan states the department has identified a need for some new vehicles through the fact there that are several that are not in usable condition, at this point. They have to make changes quickly

and get some of these cars ordered so that they can get them updated well enough to serve the citizens of Muncie. They are hoping to get this done today so that they can make sure they are moving in the right direction (inaudible) despite this crisis. Questions called. An all-in-favor vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. INTRODUCED.

ORD. 11-20 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MUNCIE AUTHORIZING CITY CONTROLLER TO PAY CLAIMS DURING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.

A motion is made by Robinson and seconded by Davis to Suspend the Rules to consider for Introduction. A roll call vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion is made by Ingram and seconded by Robinson to Introduce.

Trent Conway, City Controller, explains that received last Thursday directly from State Board of Accounts (SBOA) was a directive that contained some informative ways on how they can move forward in this situation. They specifically pointed out approval of claims. In their directive, they stated that the fiscal officer with approval from the City Council may pay claims during a Public Health Emergency and that after the Public Health Emergency is done, those claims can be approved at the next board meeting. Originally, they had continued the plan to meet as a Board of Works. He has spoken to Linda Gregory and this ordinance would not allow him just to pay anything. He would still need electronic approval from Linda Gregory and if she is not available then she may appoint somebody to be that electronic observer. This is just the BOW (not Conway) that still allows him to pay claims, as long as he is getting electronic approval from someone on the Board of Works. This will only be in effect during the Public Health Emergency.

Polk asks if this needs a suspension of the rules because it needs to be done tonight to allow him to move forward. Conway answers yes, that is the anticipation. Questions called.

A roll call vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. INTRODUCED.

A motion is made by Smith and seconded by Robinson to Suspend the Rules to Consider for Adoption and to Adopt. A roll call vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. ADOPTED.

RESOLUTIONS:

RES. 9-20 A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT TO PURCHASING EMERGENCY VEHICLES DURING UNPRESEDENTED TIMES.

A motion is made by Davis and seconded by Ingram to Suspend the Rules to consider for approval.

Dan Ridenour, Mayor of Muncie, states the Muncie Fire Department is taking over EMS runs for all of the City of Muncie and that is requiring the purchase of another ambulance. They received a number of bids. The only reason they are doing this is because it was requiring them to do it by April 6th when the City starts the service in the "red zone." The administration brought this forward so that they could have the approval of the Council and for them all to understand that we are in an unprecedented time. A time where we are

having real challenges with companies being open/closed and we need to try and move this forward for the protection of the citizens and to also be prepared for April 6th.

Councilman Ingram asks if there is a command in place if the City should not be able to receive this vehicle in time. Mayor Ridenour answers yes, the City of New Castle has offered to provide assistance as well as Heartland.

Councilman Dishman appreciates everything Mayor Ridenour has done on this ambulance service. He hopes that everything comes out okay and that it is successful. Ridenour replies they intend it to be. Questions called.

A roll call vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. ADOPTED.

RES. 10-20 A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS WITHIN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S BUDGET.

A motion is made by Ingram and seconded by Robinson to Suspend the Rules to consider for approval.

A motion is made by Robinson and seconded by Ingram to Adopt.

Trent Conway, City Controller, explains this is just a resolution to move money around in the budget to purchase this ambulance. They are moving money from Other Services & Charges in Fund #104 to Capitol Equipment.

Councilman Smith asks if this is a brand-new ambulance. Conway states it is a used ambulance that they are requesting from Heartland. It is a 2019 that only has 12,000 miles on it.

Councilman Ingram wishes to let everyone know that he takes Suspending the Rules for any ordinance or resolution very seriously. By these being emergencies, he does not think that any one of the current council members would have done it just to do so.

A roll call vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. ADOPTED.

OTHER BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Robinson and seconded by Davis to Adjourn. A vote by acclamation showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. ADJOURNED.



Brad Polk, President of
the Muncie Common Council



Belinda Munson, Muncie City Clerk of
the Muncie Common Council