

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

MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2020

PUBLIC HEARING: 7:15 P.M., ZOOM TELECONFERENCE.

| 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 | |

ORD. 10-20 AN ORDINANCE FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS. (POLICE DEPARTMENT - \$99,898.76)

President Polk explains that due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, notice was published to the public that citizens can e-mail in questions to be asked or comments to be read at the Public Hearing regarding Ord. 10-20.

Judy Peterson emailed her comment that states: if the money is already allocated, there should not be a problem. The officers put their lives on the line everyday and the cars they are driving now have a lot of miles racked up on them. The officers deserve to be safe while they protect the city and all the people everywhere within the city. They are on the front line and need something that they can depend on.

A motion is made by Dudley and seconded by Ingram to Adjourn the Public Hearing. A roll call vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. ADJOURNED.

REGULAR MEETING: 7:30 P.M., ZOOM TELECONFERENCE.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Councilman Smith.

| 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 | |

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President Polk explains that pursuant to Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 20-9 and by the suggestion of the Public Access Counselor, the council is limiting tonight's meeting to only those matters that are deemed critical to the operations to the City of Muncie, specifically, the adoption of Ordinance 10-20, an additional appropriation for the purchase of police vehicles. All other Ordinances and Resolutions filed with the City Council will be addressed when the Governor's Emergency Declaration concludes and the council will then resume their normal meeting format.

ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY INTRODUCED:

ORD. 10-20 AN ORDINANCE FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS. (POLICE DEPARTMENT - \$99,898.76)

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

Councilman Robinson confirms with everyone that the only question that President Polk received was the one he read aloud during the Public Hearing. Polk states yes.

Councilman Dudley explains that these cars take a beating, not by the officers but by the nature of the job. The department desperately needs better vehicles. That is a tool for officers in law enforcement (like anything else that they have) to use and is the most important one. That is the tool that will save that officer's life, potentially. It is just much needed. The money is just being transferred and the department needs those funds for these vehicles.

President Polk seconds what Councilman Dudley just said, as he has family members in law enforcement, both on the city and county side. Polk was also a reserve officer for the county and recalls a good, working car is your life-line. It is a necessity and some of the conditions of these cars (that the council has seen photos of) has left them speechless. We need to make sure that our officers are not unsafe, not just for themselves but also for the entire community.

Officer Chris Deegan with the Muncie Police Department telephones in to take a moment to thank all of the councilors that took this into consideration to be considered an emergency circumstance. He is willing to answer any questions anyone may have.

Councilwoman Davis doesn't have a question but has a comment. She wishes to say thank you to Officer Deegan because she saw that he went above and beyond by looking for good quality vehicles that could sustain the city for a longer period of time. She acknowledges that he made some negotiations and some good decisions for the city so it makes their decision as a council a whole lot easier. She appreciates him taking the time and meeting with the council and getting them that information. Officer Deegan responds absolutely and that it was their pleasure. He adds that it is very important for the council to have that information ahead of time, that way, proper decisions can be made.

Councilman Robinson asks if they can recognize the individual or business that really came through for the department and explain what happened and the good will and the community spirit that this individual company has.

Officer Deegan states it is unfortunate because they wanted to do this at a (obviously) public meeting but chooses to take a moment to shed some light on it. The police department works pretty closely with Greg Hubler at Hubler Ford. They have got their new dealership there at McGalliard and Nebo. Through those collaborative efforts and showing them the need, Officer Deegan can say that Mr. Hubler and his dealership are committed to the City of Muncie. With the adoption of this ordinance, the department is going to end up purchasing two (new and under warranty) vehicles from them. Mr. Hubler is then going to donate the third vehicle, a Police Hybrid Explorer package. The department is excited about it and excited that there is going to be another Explorer Hybrid to add to the fleet. The department is also excited about the options that they have and the relationship that is going to be built and developed with Hubler Ford, moving forward. Officer Deegan cannot say enough about what a commitment Hubler has made. Councilman Robinson states kudos to Hubler Ford.

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

NEW ORDINANCES:

RESOLUTIONS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

Councilman Robinson wishes to take this moment to encourage everyone to stay home and continue social distancing and being safe. President Polk totally agrees and states it is only going to work if we stay at home. If you are a necessary employee that has to go to work or out of groceries and need to shop, you can, since that is considered an emergency situation. Though please, stay home and stay safe if you can.

Councilman Ingram thinks they should also thank the citizens for their patience as a lot of the council members are still getting used to using the

teleconference “Zoom” application. They are all doing their best to try and make sure that meetings are presented to the public as best as possible.

Councilman Dudley adds to that, thanking the medical professionals referring to the doctors and nurses that are on the front line right now and also all the EMT’s, firefighters and police officers that are out there jeopardizing their own families’ health and safety.

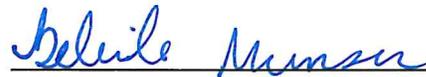
ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Robinson and seconded by Dudley to Adjourn.

A roll call vote 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