

MINUTES  
MUNCIE COMMON COUNCIL  
300 NORTH HIGH STREET  
MUNCIE INDIANA

**MARCH 7, 2016**

**REGULAR MEETING:** 7:30 P.M., 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR CITY HALL AUDITORIUM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Councilperson Brad Polk.

**INVOCATION:** Given by Rev. Shoka Griffin from Prayer House.

**CITIZEN RECOGNITION:** Councilperson Quirk recognizes WaTasha Barnes Griffin for Citizen Recognition. WaTasha Barnes Griffin is employed with the YWCA as the Director of Residential Services. Prior to accepting this position, she was employed with A Better Way Services, Inc. as the Prevention Coordinator. In addition to her duties, in the spring of 2015 WaTasha established the Community Coalition against Violence. This coalition brings together agencies from both, the public and private sectors to raise awareness of the damaging societal impact of violence in central Indiana. WaTasha has more than 20 years of experience working in the human services field.

She has worked with non-profit organizations as program Director for homeless population, worked with the disabled population locating employment services. She has also been an independent living skills instructor for abused teens and an outreach coordinator for Love of a Second Chance Outreach Ministries. She is a certified family development specialist from the University Of Iowa School Of Social Work, a crisis-line advocate and a trained suicide interventionist, she is a court-appointed special advocate (CASA) for the Delaware County Court System and she is a mentor to high school students bound for college through the Project Leadership Program. WaTasha is the Muncie Chapter President of the Indiana Black Expo, Inc. Indiana Black Expo, Inc. has been a pillar of the community for nearly 40 years. It has encouraged, uplifted and celebrated the accomplishments and achievements of African Americans throughout Indiana. WaTasha stays involved in many community and philanthropic activities. She is a member of the United Way community solutions and advocacy committee, a local proctor for Columbia Southern University. She sits on the Board of Directors for the Boys & Girls Club of Muncie, Inspire Academy, Delaware County Prevention Council, Community Action Team of Delaware County, and Empowered Community Services, Inc. She is also active with the Indiana Coalition against Domestic Violence, a member of the Delaware County Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) and a member of the Collaborative Committee for Human Trafficking.

In addition she works with the Hearts and Hands project and the Catalyst for Empowering Women Committee. WaTasha stays busy serving in the Elementary School capacity. She is on the PTO for both Northside Middle School and Sutton Elementary school (as Secretary). She also serves on the Public Law 221 for Sutton. She is currently enrolled as a student at Indiana Wesleyan University, where she is pursuing a master's degree in human services and public administration. She is the wife of Elder Shoka J. Griffin and the mother to Shoka II and Sa'Niya Griffin. WaTasha is a lifelong resident of Muncie, Indiana.

<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Doug Marshall	X	
Dan Ridenour	X	
Lynn Peters	X	
Brad Polk	X	
Jerry D. Dishman	X	
Julius J. Anderson	X	
Alison Quirk	X	
Nora Powell	X	
Linda Gregory	X	

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Marshall and seconded by Gregory to approve minutes from February 1, 2016. A roll call vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. MINUTES APPROVED.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** A nomination was made by Quirk and seconded by Powell to appoint Jason Donati to the Bicycle Committee. Question called. A roll call vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED. A nomination was made by Marshall and seconded by Powell to appoint John Quirk to the Muncie Human Rights Commission. Question called. A roll call vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. MOTION CARRIED.

**NEW ORDINANCES:**

ORD. 8-16 AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MUNCIE, INDIANA, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF THE CITY OF MUNCIE, INDIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TAX INCREMENT REVENUE BONDS IN A MAXIMUM AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THREE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,500,000) AND APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING OTHER ACTIONS IN RESPECT THERETO.

A motion was made by Powell and seconded by Anderson to Introduce.

Economic Development Director Todd Donati states this is an introduction and doesn't want to get into a lot of detail. There will be a meeting at the Horizon Convention Center. Donati gives a photo that aligns what the money invested in for infrastructure. Donati states the stop light will be moved. Mr. Gary Danner is present. Anderson states he is excited about the project. Anderson asks how many people will be hired. Danner states 250 people. Dishman asks if there will be local contractors. Danner states yes. Ridenour states Kitselman isn't listed in Indiana. Ridenour states they don't need any more bad publicity. Donati states the bond is

backed by Kitselman and it a public and private project. Quirk asks what the time limit is. Donati states they would start when the dirt dries out. Donati states as early as May or June. It is expected that they would occupy the building in the fall of 2017. This has been twenty years in the making. On March 31<sup>st</sup> there will be a meeting open to the public. Gregory asks if Kitselman is backing the bond than where is it in the ordinance. Donati states this will be in economic level agreement. Agreement still working out details and there are several steps. Question called. A vote by acclamation showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. INTRODUCED.

ORD. 9-16 AN ORDINANCE DECLARING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TARGET AREA FOR GREATER MUNCIE INDIANA HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, INC. (REAL ESTATE-SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE-401, 403 AND 405 EAST 9<sup>TH</sup> STREETS).

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

Economic Development Director Todd Donati states this will be occupied by an applicant through Habitat for Humanity. Gregory asks if the square feet of the house 4,700? Donati states it's the property and not the house. The President of Habitat for Humanity states the home is 1,200. It is stated that Dawn and Clarence Alexander will be the owners of the home. Councilperson Anderson congratulates the Alexanders. Councilperson Dishman states he is happy for them. Question called. A vote by acclamation showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. INTRODUCED.

#### **RESOLUTIONS:**

RES. 6-16 A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MARCH 12, 2016 TO BE THE SONG DAY IN MUNCIE, INDIANA.

A motion was made by Powell and seconded by Polk to Adopt. Question called. A roll call vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. ADOPTED.

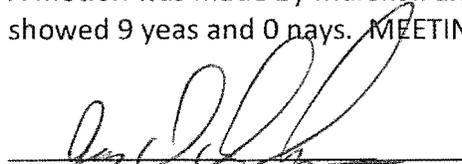
RES. 7-16 A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MUNCIE, INDIANA IN SUPPORT OF AND IN DEFENSE OF RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY, TOLERANCE AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING.

A motion was made by Powell and seconded by Quirk to Adopt. A motion was made by Quirk and seconded by Peters to amend spelling in Section 1 to correct principals to principles. A roll call vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. AMENDED. A motion was made by Quirk and seconded by Polk to Adopt as Amended. Question called. A roll call vote showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. ADOPTED AS AMENDED. Human Rights Director Yvonne Thompson thanks everyone and is happy to hear this resolution came forward. Islamic President states that America is great with diversity and freedom. Powell thanks the Mayor and Quirk for all of their hard work.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

City Council Attorney Joseph Hunter states the email the council received late will be on the Agenda for April.

A motion was made by Marshall and seconded by Powell to Adjourn. A vote by acclamation showed 9 yeas and 0 nays. MEETING ADJOURNED.



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Jerry D. Dishman, President of the  
Muncie Common Council



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Melissa Peckinpugh, Muncie City  
Clerk of the Common Council