

REGULAR SESSION, COMMON COUNCIL, September 12, 2022

Be it Remembered that the Common Council of the City of Plymouth, Indiana, met in regular session on September 12, 2022. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers, on the second floor of the City Building, 124 N. Michigan St., Plymouth, Indiana and was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tempore Ecker led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered prayer.

Mayor Pro Tempore Don Ecker Jr. presided for Council members Duane Culp, Jeff Houin, Robert Listenberger, and Randy Longanecker. Mayor Mark Senter, Council members Greg Compton and Shloh Carothers Milner were absent. City Attorney Surrisi and Clerk-Treasurer Gorski were present. The public was able to see and hear the meeting through Microsoft Teams.

Council Members Longanecker and Houin moved and seconded to approve the minutes of both the regular session of the Common Council on August 22, 2022 and the Special Session of the Common Council on August 29, 2022 as presented. The motion carried.

Council Members Houin and Longanecker moved and seconded to open the Public Hearing for the 2023 Proposed Budget as advertised on Gateway. The motion carried.

Houin wished to state that he knows that it is Lynn Gorski's first year as Clerk-Treasurer and she had a lot to learn. He wished to state that he was really happy with the way the process has gone this year and he knows that it has been challenging. He went on the thank her for all her hard work.

Ecker agrees with what Houin stated. He explains that having the information broken down the way that it was made it a lot easier for them follow and ask the questions that they needed to ask. He adds that post meeting wise to be able to still ask questions with her was very beneficial.

Houin wished to add to that. He states that it made him feel good about the financial position the city is in. He states that he believes they are still in a strong position and it makes him feel good about next year with what will be accomplished by the city.

Kathy Bottorff asked what the bottom line is for the budget.

Ecker responds by stating the advertised rate is going to be slightly less than it was advertised last year. He states that currently it is too early to tell. He states that a lot of work had went in by the Department Heads, Mayor, Clerk-Treasurer, and City Attorney.

Houin states that he is going to defer to Gorski as when he reads this, he is not sure if he can give a bottom line because the bottom line, they have which is \$22.9 million also includes several grants that are being appropriated for spending in 2023. He states that it is money that they already have that is coming from grant sources that they already have or will be getting. He provides examples such as the Laporte Street Footbridge Grant, Rees Theatre, River Park Square Phase 2,

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Hoosier Old Wheels, Hoham Drive, and even TIF Districts. He explains that there is a lot of items that have to be backed out of the budget to provide a true bottom line for the tax budget.

Gorski lists that the approximate budgets are, General Fund is \$9,315,000, MVH is \$2,154,000, Park is \$1,309,000, Cemetery is \$502,000, and Aviation is \$264,000.

Council Members Houin and Longanecker moved and seconded to close the Public Hearing for the 2023 Proposed Budget as advertised on Gateway. The motion carried.

City Attorney Surrisi presented Ordinance No. 2022-2198, An Ordinance Redistricting the City of Plymouth on second reading.

Surrisi states that they are only asking for second reading today as there is a statutory requirement that notice of the proposed adoption be sent to the County Clerk at least ten days prior to final adoption. He states that was sent out last week so in order to meet that timeline they are going to ask for second reading today and then third reading at their next meeting. He states that the version of the ordinance they are presented with in the packet this time now has the ordinary descriptions of each of the districts. He states before final adoption they are going to make one more change which is the district map. He explains that the one that they have currently has the hatched in area that shows the part of District Two that goes into District One just so people can get a sense of the change that has been made. He states that they will erase that hatching for the final version so it just shows the updated districts. He states that he would be happy to answer any questions.

Council Members Longanecker and Listenberger moved and seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-2198, An Ordinance Redistricting the City of Plymouth on second reading. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Councilman in Favor: Culp, Ecker, Houin, Listenberger, Longanecker

Councilman Opposed: N/A

Councilman Absent: Compton, Milner

City Attorney Surrisi presented Ordinance No. 2022-2201, An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Plymouth Concerning Adoption of Personnel Policy by Reference on second reading.

Surrisi states that this adds the new lateral transfer policy as well as the cell phone policy.

Council Members Houin and Longanecker moved and seconded to adopt Ordinance No.

2022-2201, An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Plymouth Concerning Adoption of Personnel Policy by Reference on second reading. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Councilman in Favor: Culp, Ecker, Houin, Listenberger, Longanecker

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Councilman Opposed: N/A

Councilman Absent: Compton, Milner

Council Members Culp and Longanecker moved and seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-

2201, An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Plymouth Concerning

Adoption of Personnel Policy by Reference on third reading. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Councilman in Favor: Culp, Ecker, Houin, Listenberger, Longanecker

Councilman Opposed: N/A

Councilman Absent: Compton, Milner

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-2201

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND
THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH
CONCERNING
ADOPTION OF PERSONNEL POLICY BY REFERENCEStatement of Purpose and Intent

The purpose and intent of this ordinance is to effectuate the proposed additions and deletions to the City Code adopting the newly revised Personnel Policy, which incorporates revisions to the recruitment and electronic communications provisions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of Plymouth, Indiana as follows:

Section 1. Title III, entitled Administration, Chapter 35 entitled Personnel Policies, in the Code of Ordinances of the City of Plymouth shall be amended by making the following additions and deletions to §35.01 ADOPTION OF PERSONNEL POLICY BY REFERENCE:

(A) The Personnel Policy, as attached to Ordinance No. 2021-2192 2022-2201, passed April 11-2022 September 12, 2022, is hereby adopted as the Personnel Policy Manual for the city.

(B) All department heads and city employees are hereby directed to implement the policies as contained in the Personnel Policy Manual. All employment relations are to be managed in accordance with the Personnel Policy Manual, with the exceptions as noted in said manual.

(C) All directives, executive orders, and ordinances heretofore in effect on any subject mentioned in any prior Personnel Policy Manual are hereby superseded by the Personnel Policy Manual, attached to Ord. No. 2021-2192 2022-2201, passed April 11, 2022 September 12, 2022. Any ordinance, directive, or employee rule in conflict with the provisions of the Personnel Policy Manual are hereby repealed, revoked, rescinded and held for naught. Any additions, modification, or deletions to this Personnel Policy Manual shall be done by an ordinance to amend the Personnel Policy Manual and therefore shall require Common Council approval by majority vote.

Section 2. A copy of the Personnel Policy Manual entitled "City of Plymouth Employee Handbook," which is adopted by Section 1 above, is attached hereto. For ease of reference, the newly amended sections are highlighted throughout.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall take full force and effect upon passage, due attestation and publication if required by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 12th day of September, 2022.

Mark Senter
Mark Senter, Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

Aryn M. Gorski
Aryn M. Gorski, Clerk-Treasurer

Presented by me to the Mayor of the City of Plymouth, Indiana on the 12th day of September, 2022, at 7:00 o'clock p. m.

Aryn M. Gorski
Aryn M. Gorski, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved and signed by me this 12th day of September, 2022.

Mark Senter
Mark Senter, Mayor

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City Attorney Surrisi presented Ordinance No. 2022-2202, An Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax rates for 2023 on first reading.

City Attorney Surrisi presented Ordinance No. 2022-2203, An Ordinance Establishing Various Fees and Parking Regulations Regarding City-Owned Electric Vehicles Charging Stations on first reading.

City Attorney Surrisi presented Ordinance No. 2022-2204, An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance No. 2021-2182, The 2022 Salary Ordinance on first reading.

Surrisi states that this is one he requests the suspension of rules to vote on all three readings tonight. He states that the intent behind that would be that this would allow Fire Chief Holm to proceed with hiring a potential employee more quickly by having this position in place. He adds that this Civilian EMT-B position was just approved by the Board of Public Works and Safety.

Council Members Houin and Longanecker moved and seconded to suspend the rules to pass Ordinance No. 2022-2204, An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance No. 2021-2182, The 2022 Salary Ordinance on all three readings. The motion carried by roll call vote.

Councilman in Favor: Culp, Ecker, Houin, Listenberger, Longanecker

Councilman Opposed: N/A

Councilman Absent: Compton, Milner

Council Members Houin and Longanecker moved and seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-2204, An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance No. 2021-2182, The 2022 Salary Ordinance on second reading. The motion carried by roll call vote.

Councilman in Favor: Culp, Ecker, Houin, Listenberger, Longanecker

Councilman Opposed: N/A

Councilman Absent: Compton, Milner

Council Members Longanecker and Houin moved and seconded to adopt Ordinance No.

2022-2204, An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance No. 2021-2182, The 2022 Salary Ordinance on third reading. The motion carried by roll call vote.

Councilman in Favor: Culp, Ecker, Houin, Listenberger, Longanecker

Councilman Opposed: N/A

Councilman Absent: Compton, Milner

Surrisi clarifies that this ordinance creates the Civilian EMT-B Position which has the same salary as a First-Class Firefighter at \$58,142.88 per year.

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ORDINANCE NO. 2022-2204

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND
ORDINANCE NO. 2021-2182, THE 2022 SALARY ORDINANCE

Statement of Purpose and Intent

The purpose and intent of this ordinance is to effectuate the proposed amendments to Ordinance No. 2021-2182, An Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees, Fire and Police Personnel of the City of Plymouth, Indiana for the Year 2022, in order to create the positions of Civilian EMT-B and Civilian EMT-B – Probation within the Fire Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of Plymouth, Indiana as follows:

Section 1. Within the provisions of Ordinance No. 2021-2182 addressing the FIRE DEPARTMENT, a new line creating the Civilian EMT-B position is now added as follows:

Civilian EMT-B _____ \$ 58,142.88 per yr

Section 2. Within the provisions of Ordinance No. 2021-2182 addressing the FIRE DEPARTMENT, a new line creating the Civilian EMT-B – Probation position is now added as follows:

Civilian EMT-B – Probation _____ \$ 58,142.88 per yr

Section 3. The Civilian EMT-B and Civilian EMT-B – Probation positions are eligible for longevity pay at the same rate afforded to qualified firefighters and are also eligible for compensatory time off.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 12th day of September, 2022.

Mark Senter
Mark Senter, Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

Lynn M. Gorski
Lynn M. Gorski, Clerk-Treasurer

Presented by me to the Mayor of the City of Plymouth, Indiana on the 12th day of September, 2022, at 7:00 o'clock p m.

Lynn M. Gorski
Lynn M. Gorski, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved and signed by me this 12th day of September, 2022.

Mark Senter
Mark Senter, Mayor

City Attorney Surrisi presents Ordinance No. 2022-2205, An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance No. 2022-2199R, The 2023 Salary Ordinance on first reading.

City Attorney Surrisi presents Ordinance No. 2022-2206, An Ordinance Fixing Salaries for the Year 2023 for the Elected Officials of the City of Plymouth, Indiana on first reading.

City Attorney Surrisi states that progress continues to be made at River Park Square for Stellar Communities. He states that they seem to be on schedule and are going to be concluded sometime this Fall. He states that this isn't a Stellar Communities project but the Laporte Street Footbridge right beside River Park Square is moving along nicely. He adds that they have completed the painting on the west side of the bridge last week and it is a very nice red. He states that they are

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sandblasting the east side and this week should be painting that. He lists some of the main components that are still needed are the Handrail, Lighting, and the treads across the decking.

Surrisi states for READI they received news last week that the Regional Development Authority are going to make their decisions on the first round of READI capital projects at their meeting on September 19th. He states that he is planning on attending.

Fire Chief Holm wished to rediscuss their current need for a new ambulance. He states that just recently he has received an updated quote of \$372,867 and that would be a brand-new ambulance on a 2023 RAM Chassis. He states that if they are prepared to order that now, it looks like a delivery date of March of 2024. He states that they are a member of Sourcewell, which is what they did with the Fire Truck. He states that number does not include the cot system but it would come equipped to accept it. He explains that is the system that provides automatic loading of the patient into the ambulance like they have for the other two ambulances. He states that he does have that in his capital assets projection for 2024 if they choose to spend their money out of there for it.

Listenberger asks how much that would be.

Holm responds by stating that right now they are in the \$50,000 range. He states that a couple of years ago about \$25,000-\$30,000. He states that everything seems to keep exponentially increasing. He states that he is bringing this to their attention tonight to see if they want to move forward from here. He adds that they have already sent him a contract and everything.

Ecker asks if there is a down payment required.

Holm responds by stating that there is not. He states that he did find out that the price they gave them is an inflated price. He states that being a year out if there were any price increases on different items that they would send them that information on an itemized list. He states they have provided a little bit of play room in there and if not much has increased over a year and a half by the time it is billed that there will be a deduction from the price that they have quoted to them.

Houin asks if that quote is a guaranteed price.

Holm responds by stating that he would be foolish to state that it is a maximum price because they do not know where prices are going to go over the next year and a half but it is an inflated price so it is over and above.

Listenberger asks because they have a contract right now if they would honor that contract.

Holm responds by stating that he would have to contact them as he was going through his Assistant Chief with this. He states that he told him it was the inflated price that they would work up to but anytime there is any type of price increase not just past this amount but anything more than

what it is currently they would let them know with an itemized listing of all the items and what the increase is.

Culp asks if there is no set amount if they look in now like with what they did with the Fire Truck.

Holm responds by stating that what they did with the Fire Truck was that they got it in a day before they did a price increase so that was their savings. He states that is a locked in price while with this he believes they will be really safe but he is going to stop short of guaranteeing that would be the final price.

Ecker asks if there is any room for conversation to throw a "not to exceed" on the pricing as of today on this ambulance.

Holm responds by stating that he is sure there is a little bit to talk about before they do anything.

Ecker asks if they can say regardless of the material increase is going to be that it will not exceed their set amount.

Houin responds by stating that it depends on the supplier.

Ecker asks in regards to the cot system if they are the same company that would provide the cot system as well or are they only in charge of the ambulance.

Holm responds by stating that the cot system comes from Stryker but they do prepare the Ambulance to accept it. He explains that they would do the install but we would have to purchase the cot separately.

Ecker asks what Holm's recommendation is.

Holm responds by stating that his recommendation would be to go with this ambulance as it is one of the top ambulances on the market and they are very well proven. He states that the dealership they have used for years out of Middlebury goes with two different ambulance sources and they are both very comparable but this PL Customs is who they would ultimately go with.

Ecker asks what would be done with the existing ambulances.

Holm responds by stating that the two main ambulances that they use right now would continue to be used. He states that he would he move the new one into a rotation of all three ambulances being used. He adds that right now Medic One is their reserve ambulance. He explains that it can be used on a daily basis but it is only ever out if the first two are already out or they have one being serviced and they have to use it. He states that is the one that was in an accident a number of years ago and because of that they cannot get it remounted which is what they did with Medic

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Two and Medic Three. He states that is a cost savings because you basically get a new chassis and reuse the same box. He restates due to Medic One being in an accident they cannot remount it.

Culp asks if they would make Medic Four or if they would get rid of Medic One.

Holm responds by stating that Medic One would go away and he states that when they discussed taking it in on trade, they said there was nothing they could do with it as it is such an old ambulance and it isn't worth anything to them. He adds that especially with it being in an accident that it isn't worth anything and the best we could do is put it up for auction.

Culp asks what are his thoughts for tonight moving forward.

Holm responds by stating that he needs whatever they need. He states that his highest hope is that they say yes to doing this so they can sign and get it in line to start the process. He states he would be just as happy if they wanted to table it and go further in discussion with more information. He states that he is fine with however they want to do it.

Houin states that his feeling is that they need it and it is already going to take a year and a half at best to get it and the prices are already going to go up from here. He asks Fire Chief Holm since he and the Assistant Chief have been working on this and if they are confident this is the best option for the city to meet their needs at the best price that is available.

Holm responds by stating that he has had all of his medics who would be spending most of their working hours in this sit down with the rep and help design it over and above their two units now. He states that they discussed what they liked, what they don't like, and how they want this designed for how to best suit their requirements for the best possible work.

Ecker states that they have talked for years about providing the best possible safety for their citizens and surrounding area and this has been talked about pre-2017. He states that he is with Houin and everyone here is familiar with his position on this that he would encourage the council to support this request.

Listenberger states that since this will be in 2024 that they could start accruing towards it. Councilman Culp and Listenberger moved and seconded to give Fire Chief Holm the approval, as long as Clerk-Treasurer Gorski and City Attorney Surrisi check it, to move forward with signing a contract. The motion carried.


Council Members Houin and Culp moved and seconded to accept the following communications:

- Minutes of the Board of Public Works and Safety meeting of August 22, 2022
- September 12, 2022 Check Register

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The motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Members Longanecker and Listenberger moved and seconded to adjourn, Mayor Pro Tempore Ecker declared the meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.


Lynn M. Gorski
Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED


Mark Senter, Mayor