

REGULAR SESSION, COMMON COUNCIL, May 28, 2024

Be it Remembered that the Common Council of the City of Plymouth, Indiana, met in regular session on May 28, 2024. 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.

Councilman Ecker offered prayer and Mayor Listenberger lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Listenberger presided for Council Members Duane Culp, Don Ecker, Jr., Kayla Krathwohl, Randy Longanecker, Shiloh Carothers Milner, Dave Morrow, and Linda Starr who were physically present. City Attorney Houin and Clerk-Treasurer Gorski were also present. The public was able to see and hear the meeting through Microsoft Teams.

Council Members Ecker and Krathwohl moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the regular session of the Common Council on May 13, 2024, as presented. The motion carried.

Longanecker explained the fiber was still sitting in his yard.

Utility Superintendent Davidson stated he contacted them, but he could not make them move any faster. He stated they would be moving underground to a certain point and then would be connecting the aerials all in one shot without any splices. He explained that they had gotten most of their permits, but did not know why they were not there.

Longanecker stated he appreciated the post from the media regarding the golf carts, but days later there were golf carts being driven down the Greenways Trail again and up Michigan Street. He believed it would be good to get either the information out there, require permits or have some type of ordinance written.

Mayor Listenberger stated that it was interesting because they discussed it on the radio that morning. He stated that another council member also brought it to his attention.

Morrow expressed that he agreed with Longanecker as they have some golf carts in his neighborhood that young teens are driving with even younger children on the back. He explained that none of them could be of age to have a driver's license, and he was afraid they were going to have a catastrophe. He believed it would be best to get together with the Police Department and make ordinances that are both sensible and enforceable. He stated they cannot be the golf cart police, but they have to be able to instill some common sense in those operating golf carts and pass out fines. He stated at first it would be best to give them some leeway as it would be a learning experience if they require registration, but he has seen comments from Accelerate Indiana Municipalities (AIM) where there has been discussion about ordinances for golf carts. He stated he would be willing to help with that.

Mayor Listenberger explained if there was interest from the board to move on something like this, then he would suggest they form a committee to research. He expressed that AIM provides

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good knowledge of ideas for ordinances. Because two council members brought the subject up, he asked if there was anyone who would be interested in heading this.

Morrow stated he would volunteer to be involved.

Houin stated he had started work on a draft of a golf cart registration ordinance and the Clerk-Treasurer very helpfully reminded him that he was working on it, but with other matters, he had not finished the draft yet.

Culp stated that as of right now, the only limit is the state statute they have for Michigan Street and Lake Avenue, as golf carts are not permitted on State Highways.

Houin commented that they do have a city ordinance that limits golf cart usage on city streets, but Culp is correct that we cannot usurp the State's authority, so even under that ordinance, we cannot allow golf carts on Lake Avenue or Michigan Street as that is SR 17.

Mayor Listenberger asked Weir if he would be interested in weighing in on this if a committee were to be formed. Weir Agreed.

Culp expressed interest.

Longanecker expressed interest but stated that for the next two months he would be tied up.

Krathwohl expressed interest.

Houin stated he could meet with the committee, and they could take a look at some examples, review what he is working on, and bring an ordinance back as a recommendation.

Longanecker expressed that he would appreciate that, as golf carts have been a huge concern where his daughter races motorcross. He stated in the camping area for motorcross, they have eliminated the use of golf carts as kids were riding around unlicensed in uninsured vehicles, which had become a big liability concern. He stated there had been several kids and adults that had been hit and that was just in that small community, not including our community.

Ecker stated that he appreciated Morrow and Longanecker bringing this up because he had also seen golf carts in his neighborhood in similar situations with kids on end not secured. He stated it was just not safe.

Starr stated on a positive note, that she and her husband joined the Mayor and City Attorney last week to tour the Plymouth Water Facility. She wished to express that it was enlightening as they probably did not receive the full experience, but they got close to it. She stated it was very impressive and a lot of people may have the misconception that they dump a lot of stuff into the water and send it back in, but that is not the case. She explained the whole filtration process is done very systematically and ecologically.

Longanecker stated that from the construction side of his job, he works with several communities, and our utilities are one of the best, if not the best. He expressed that all of our departments do a fine job.

City Attorney Houin introduced Executive Order 2024-02, Regarding Tax Abatement Compliance Forms.

Houin explained that they were the last three CF-1's that either came in just before the deadline of May 15<sup>th</sup> or on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Gorski added they came in on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Houin explained that they came in after their last meeting, but came in under the wire. He stated in order to get them forwarded to the County to be processed, he reviewed them and the Mayor approved an Executive Order to approve them. He stated the CF-1's were in their packets and asked the council to ratify them.

Council Members Ecker and Krathwohl moved and seconded to ratify Executive Order 2024-02, Regarding Tax Abatement Compliance Forms. The motion carried.

City Attorney Houin introduced Ordinance No. 2024-2226, An Ordinance Amending the Fee Schedule for the Department of Aviation for the City of Plymouth on first reading.

Houin stated that ONE Marshall County held another board meeting and elected officers. He listed the officers below:

- Gary Neidig, President
- Shawn Peterson, Vice President
- Matthew Selmer, Secretary

He explained that together they form the core of the executive team that will be leading the organization going forward. He expressed that Peterson is incredibly impressive as an attorney with Kreig DeVault, but also works for a non-profit for housing matters. He stated that he was the mastermind behind the new market tax credit for the Aquatics Center and is currently working with the Lifelong Learning Network (LLN) on the Career Innovation Center and their financing. He stated he is an expert in specialty tax credit financing, and he is also very involved with financing issues, so he is chairing the committee for housing with ONE Marshall County. He explained Peterson is also working with the Community Foundation on some of their grant applications focused on housing. He stated that the team is trying to identify and support any potential grant applications for both the Lilly grants and READI 2.0 grants that will be coming up very soon.

Houin stated, regarding the Comprehensive Plan, that Mallory Magee had started as their Americorp Intern in the Mayor's Office and was working on a lot already. He stated that she is primarily focused on some inventory issues related to the Façade Revitalization Grant

Subcommittee. He stated in addition to the subcommittee's group on the actual grant, they are also branching out into creating some inventories on both commercial and residential property, primarily in the downtown area, and evaluating some of the opportunities for improvement to buildings. He expressed that she was working very diligently on those things.

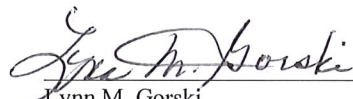
He stated that they may have also noticed in the media that their Marketing Subcommittee had soft launched a new logo for the city. He explained it is not to replace the existing logo, and instead they are calling it an extension of the current branding. He stated they are focused on the letters "Y-O-U" in the word Plymouth with the subline "You Belong." He stated they are finalizing those plans and are looking to make a larger launch sometime in June and create some real excitement for all the efforts ongoing. He stated the rest of the subcommittees are continuing to work and are making great progress on implementing the Comprehensive Plan.

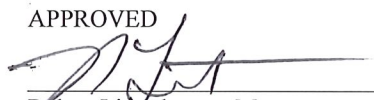
Council Members Ecker and Starr moved and seconded to accept the following communications:

- Minutes of the Board of Public Works and Safety meeting of May 13, 2024
- May 28, 2024, Check Register
- April 2024 Clerk-Treasurer Financial Reports
- May 14, 2024, Technical Review Committee Minutes
- April 9, 2024, Board of Aviation Commissioners Minutes
- April 16, 2024, Redevelopment Commission Minutes

The motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Members Longanecker and Milner moved and seconded to adjourn. Mayor Listenberger declared the meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

  
Lynn M. Gorski  
Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED  
  
Robert Listenberger, Mayor