

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL  
(MAY 1, 2007)  
111 EAST JEFFERSON STREET  
GOSHEN, INDIANA**

The Common Council of the City of Goshen, Indiana, met in the Council Chambers for a regular session on May 1, 2007 at 7:00 P.M. Presiding Officer was Mayor Kauffman with members of the Council present as follows:

PRESENT: COUNCILMAN BLOSS, GRIMES, PURO, SCOTT, THOMAS  
COUNCILWOMAN GAUTSCHE

ABSENT: COUNCILMAN LANTZ

**PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR**

No items were presented under Privilege of the Floor.

**CHANGES TO AGENDA**

Council President Thomas moved to amend the Agenda by adding Ordinance number 4426 as item number 5. Motion seconded by Councilman Scott and motion passed unanimously.

**'IF I WERE MAYOR...' ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS**

Mayor Kauffman stated he read approximately 300 essays with a lot of good ideas for Goshen as part of the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns Essay Contest for 6<sup>th</sup> Graders. This year he narrowed the essays down to 12 and then asked for opinions from a few others and found the three winners. Mayor Kauffman shared some of the remarks written in the essays with the Council and audience.

Mayor Kauffman introduced students and teachers from Goshen Middle School and Bethany Christian Middle School for the following three "If I were Mayor..." essays.

- Mila Vallejos was the 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner and wrote her essay with the main topics being the downtown becoming a pedestrian and bicycles only area, the environment, increasing recycling efforts and graffiti. Miss Vallejos was unable to attend and her essay was read by Mayor Kauffman;
- Melinda Sherer who was the 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner read her essay with the main topics being banning smoking in public places, fixing pot holes, encouraging alternate forms of transportation, planting more trees, recycling, encouragement to businesses to move into abandoned buildings, more bike paths and converting Fiddler's Pond into a recreation area.
- Tierney Frey who was the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner read her essay with one of the main topics being increasing the interesting things to do in the city such as a sports center, museums and places where there could be community concerts. Other topics in the essay are tearing down or renovating old factories, continue adding and repairing sidewalks, adding train overpasses, adding more recycling stations, encourage residents to plant new trees and conduct regular neighborhood clean up days where the City could provide a special trash pick up.

Mayor Kauffman presented the students with certificates and a City of Goshen pin and mug. First place winner, Tierney Frey, also received passes to an amusement park from Farm Bureau Credit Union and a \$25.00 gift certificate from the Goshen Chamber of Commerce. As part of winning the contest, Miss Frey will be Mayor for a day including being the presiding officer at a Goshen Board of Public Works and Safety meeting.

**ORDINANCE NUMBER 4424**

Council President Thomas introduced Ordinance Number 4424 entitled "ANNEXATION OF REAL ESTATE INTO THE CITY OF GOSHEN, INDIANA IDENTIFIED AS THE LMA-HUF DEVELOPMENT ANNEXATION AREA."

Council President Thomas asked the Clerk-Treasurer to read the Ordinance by title only for second and final reading and moved its passage by roll call vote. Motion seconded by Councilman Bloss.

Councilman Bloss questioned if the house on the property is currently being rented.

Mr. Fred Ramser confirmed the house is currently rented.

The Council roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: BLOSS: GAUTSCHE: GRIMES: PURO: SCOTT

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: THOMAS

(ORDINANCE 4424 DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF MAY 2007.)

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2007-22**

Council President Thomas introduced Resolution Number 2007-22 entitled "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GOSHEN, INDIANA AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT."

Council President Thomas asked the Clerk-Treasurer to read the Resolution by title only and moved its passage by roll call vote. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Gautsche.

CDBG Administrator Rhonda Yoder explained this is the annual financial plan for the grant as explained at the public hearing held at the April 20, 2007 meeting of the Council. Mrs. Yoder stated the Resolution will authorize the Mayor to sign the grant application.

Councilwoman Gautsche questioned if Mrs. Yoder has been informed of how long the funding will be available for organizations to be eligible to receive the grant funding.

Mrs. Yoder stated this program runs from June 1, 2007 to May 30, 2008 and there is a bill in Congress now which could decide the future of the funding.

Councilwoman Gautsche stated she would be happy to assist in any way such as explaining the many benefits the community receives from the funding.

By 6-0 vote of the Council, Resolution Number 2007-22 was passed.

The Council roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: BLOSS: GAUTSCHE: GRIMES: PURO: SCOTT: THOMAS

NAYS: NONE

**ORDINANCE NUMBER 4427B**

Council President Thomas introduced Ordinance Number 4427B entitled "ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF GOSHEN, INDIANA TO ISSUE ITS "VARIABLE RATE DEMAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2007 (GOSHEN COLLEGE PROJECT."

Council President Thomas asked the Clerk-Treasurer to read the Ordinance by title only for its first reading and moved its passage. Motion seconded by Councilman Grimes.

Attorney Greg Hartzler of 130 N. Main St stated the College previously presented their Inducement Resolution to the Council and now the exact size of the bond issue is known to be \$31,000,000. Attorney Hartzler further stated the Inducement Resolution allowed a bond issue of up to \$33,000,000.

Councilman Scott questioned if this bond issue is the largest the City has assisted with.

Attorney Hartzler stated a previous Greencroft bond issue was for \$54,000,000.

Attorney Larry Barkes introduced a letter from City Planner Joseph Hauflaire for the Council's consideration.

By a 6-0 vote of the Council the motion passed.

Mayor Kauffman asked for unanimous Council consent to consider the Ordinance for passage during one meeting. As there were no objections, the Mayor declared that the Ordinance would be heard on second reading.

Council President Thomas asked the Clerk-Treasurer to read the Ordinance by title only for second and final reading and moved its passage by roll call vote. Motion seconded by Councilman Grimes.

The Council roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: BLOSS: GAUTSCHE: GRIMES: PURO: SCOTT: THOMAS

NAYS: NONE

(ORDINANCE 4427B DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF MAY 2007.)

#### **RESOLUTION NUMBER 2007-09**

Council President Thomas introduced Resolution Number 2007-09 entitled "AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS."

Council President Thomas asked the Clerk-Treasurer to read the Resolution by title only and moved its passage by roll call vote. Motion seconded by Councilman Scott.

Mayor Kauffman stated the explanation for the transfer comes from the Engineering Department and is for the City's share of the cost of the installation of a new fiber optic loop that will encircle most of the Cities facilities.

Councilman Grimes questioned if the Engineering Department knows when the project will be complete.

Director of Public Works Robert McCoige stated by August and before the next school year starts.

By 6-0 vote of the Council, Resolution Number 2007-09 was passed.

The Council roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: BLOSS: GAUTSCHE: GRIMES: PURO: SCOTT: THOMAS

NAYS: NONE

#### **ORDINANCE NUMBER 4426**

Council President Thomas introduced Ordinance Number 4426 entitled "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 3011, KNOWN AS THE ZONING AND USE REGULATIONS ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GOSHEN, INDIANA, BY REZONING THE AREA OF REAL ESTATE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED FROM AGRICULTURE A-1 (County) TO RESIDENTIAL R-3 WITH A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD) OVERLAY DISTRICT."

Council President Thomas asked the Clerk-Treasurer to read the Ordinance by title only for its first reading and moved its passage. Motion seconded by Councilman Grimes.

City Planner Joseph Hauflaire stated the 24 acres is currently zoned as agriculture and is located immediately west of Clover Trails Subdivision on the south side of Plymouth Avenue. Mr. Hauflaire stated the rezoning request to the Plan Commission was to rezone the acreage to Residential and the request passed to the Council with a favorable recommendation by a vote of 6-0.

Councilwoman Gautsche questioned if the City Landscaping Ordinance applies to the proposed subdivision.

Mr. Hauflaire stated the two parts of the Ordinance that apply are street trees and some partial landscaping in the condo area of the development.

Councilman Bloss stated due to power lines on the property there is three acres that cannot be developed which will allow greenspace in the subdivision.

Mr. Hauflaire informed the Council there was discussion on the street that will extend from S.R. 119 to Greene Road thru the development regarding the street having one name for the length of it or two. Mr. Hauflaire stated the Fire Chief confirmed it would be best to have one name for the street.

Councilwoman Gautsche questioned why the Landscaping Ordinance did not apply further to the new homes than just street trees.

Mr. Hauflaire stated this property is against other residential and the Landscaping Ordinance is designed to require more extensive landscaping for different land use developments.

By a 6-0 vote of the Council the motion passed.

Council President Thomas postponed Ordinance Number 4426 to the June 5, 2007 meeting of the Council. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Gautsche.

After discussion, Council President Thomas moved to amend his motion to postpone the Ordinance to the May 15, 2007 meeting of the Council. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Gautsche and motion passed unanimously.

### **COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

#### **Lincoln Hotel Renovation**

Councilman Scott stated with the renovation of the Lincoln Hotel the windows have single pane glass and he is concerned with the energy that will be used to heat or cool the building. Councilman Scott stated he understands the windows were left like this as historic preservation money was used in the renovation therefore the building is to be restored as originally built.

Mayor Kauffman stated LaCasa is considering placing magnetic storm windows on the inside of the windows.

Councilwoman Gautsche stated LaCasa tried to use energy efficiency every where possible in the building such as the appliances and lighting. Councilwoman Gautsche further stated the parking lot in the back of the building is the first permeable parking lot in Goshen.

Councilman Scott stated the building looks like a nice place now and he has talked with a current resident of the building that is very happy with his living conditions.

#### **Legislative Update**

Mayor Kauffman stated the following;

- Indiana Cities and Towns asked for more Fiscal Flexibility such as a food and beverage or innkeepers tax to help lower property taxes with a disappointing outcome. The only flexibility that came out of the legislation is for County Government to have the ability to raise the Local Income Option Tax;
- The 2% Circuit Breaker legislation is still in place which will apply a 2% break for property owners and 3% for businesses in 2009. The quirk is schools are protected as far as if they lose funding the local municipalities will suffer cuts to make up for the loss: and
- The City received their preliminary budget and the tax rate will increase from 89 cents to 95 cents and because of the rest of the inventory tax coming off approximately \$120,000 will shift from businesses to the property owner. Goshen still has a pretty low tax rate comparable to other Cities of its size.

Councilwoman Gautsche stated the break for home owners does not include rental properties and many landlords are currently selling their properties.

Councilman Bloss questioned why the legislators have not raised the tax on alcohol like they have cigarettes.

Mayor Kauffman stated evidently the alcohol lobby is stronger than tobacco.

Council President Thomas moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Councilman Grimes and the meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.