

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL  
FEBRUARY 19, 2008  
111 EAST JEFFERSON STREET  
GOSHEN, INDIANA**

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The Common Council of the City of Goshen, Indiana, met in the Council Chambers for a regular session on February 19, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. Presiding Officer was Mayor Kauffman with members of the Council present as follows:

PRESENT: COUNCILMAN LANTZ, RIEGSECKER, STUMP, THOMAS  
COUNCILWOMAN GAUTSCHE, ROBINSON

ABSENT: COUNCILMAN STUTSMAN

**PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR**

There were no items presented under privilege of the floor.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Council President Stump moved to accept the Minutes of the Council meeting of February 5, 2008 as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Lantz and motion carried unanimously.

**ELKHART COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION UPDATE**

Dorinda Heiden, ECEDC President, presented the Council and Mayor with a Goshen City Council Report with sections entitled; Prospect Activity, Project Update and Existing Industry Issues. The following topics were discussed:

- The City of Goshen donates approximately \$30,000 a year to the ECEDC from the Economic Development Income Tax Fund;
- Prospect Activity – Companies seeking development sites in communities. Project Gordon is one project where Elkhart County has made the short list of the company and the representatives toured one building in Goshen as a possible location. The ECEDC has received inquiries from call center businesses, plastic companies and food companies.
- Project Update – Details of the existing businesses that the ECEDC is currently assisting with on projects and requested incentives. Conroy Composites is one that is located in the former Johnson Controls building and currently employs 20 employees with a goal to reach 50 within six months.
- Existing Industry Issues – A concern specific to Goshen listed and has been mentioned to Ms. Heiden is that a water tower located on the north side of Goshen needs to be painted.
- The resolution the City of Goshen has requiring companies that have applied for a Tax Phase In to verify the number of exemptions employees claim on a W-4 withholding form can be perceived as a negative step to the business. The less bureaucracy involved the better to aid the employer to invest in a community in Elkhart County. The City could be trying to attract a company with high paying jobs

but then distract them with hoops to jump through such as the required verification. Councilman Thomas explained the requirement is only for businesses that have voluntarily applied for a tax phase in from the City and the Council is asking the business for assistance in capturing the tax dollars the community is losing. The resolution was passed by the Council after being informed by the Elkhart County Commissioners that an estimated 2 to 6 million in tax dollars is lost due to employees claiming far more exemptions on a W-4 form than they actually have.

- The ECEDC has not received many inquiries requesting technology infrastructure such as fiber optic options or broadband, usually the essentials are questioned such as roadways and utilities.

#### **RESOLUTION NUMBER 2008-04**

Council President Stump introduced Resolution Number 2008-04 entitled “APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GOSHEN, INDIANA AND THE STATE OF INDIANA FOR A WATER/WASTEWATER MUTUAL AID PROGRAM”

Council President Stump asked the Clerk-Treasurer to read the Resolution by title only and moved its passage. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Robinson.

Mayor Kauffman stated the mutual aid agreement is promoted by IACT and he believes most of the cities in the area have signed the agreement for their community.

By 6-0 vote of the Council, Resolution Number 2008-04 was passed

#### **RESOLUTION NUMBER 2008-05**

Council President Stump introduced Resolution Number 2008-05 entitled “AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS.”

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

Chief Paramedic Kit Castetter explained the transfer of funds is due to the fact that money was encumbered from the 2007 budget into the 2008 budget into a capital purchase account line. Since the purchases do not meet the requirement in 2008 that any purchase in a capital line must be a purchase of \$5,000 or more, it is necessary to transfer the funds.

By 7-0 unanimous vote of the Council, Resolution Number 2008-05 was passed.

The Council roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: GAUTSCHE: LANTZ: RIEGSECKER: ROBINSON: STUMP: THOMAS

NAYS: NONE

#### **Council Discussion**

Police Adjutant Joseph Brown explained that from now on the representative from the Police Department that attends the Council meeting will be armed.

Councilman Thomas suggested the officer also be in uniform as officer presence is the first line in the force continuum.

Councilman Thomas moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Councilman Riegsecker and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.