



**City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, August 15, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.**  
**In the library meeting room at Five Points, 360 N. Wilmor Road, Washington, Illinois**

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| <b>Call to Order</b> | Mayor Manier called the regular meeting of Monday, August 15, 2022 to order at 6:31 p.m. with a quorum present.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Roll Call</b>     | Present: Alderpersons Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Also Present</b>  | Mayor Manier, City Administrator Jim Snider, City Engineer Dennis Carr, Planning and Development Director Jon Oliphant, Public Works Director Brian Rittenhouse, Finance Director Joanie Baxter, Police Chief Mike McCoy, City Clerk Valeri Brod, City Attorney Brittany Miller and Press |

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| <b>Pledge of Allegiance</b> | All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Manier. |
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| <b>Citizens Wishing to be Heard</b> | <p>Greg Butler from 108 High Street was present to comment regarding the possible purchase of 109 N. High Street for parking. He stated that the premise of our downtown is expandable for events that happen at the commercial core and residents enjoy having the grid intact. He remarked on the safety of street parking and stated that the current structure encourages alternative transportation modes like walking and biking. Mr. Butler expressed that he is not in favor of a parking lot on the property.</p> <p>A resident from 110 N. High agreed with Mr. Butler's comments.</p> |
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| <b>Review Agenda for Deletions or Additions</b> | The agenda stood as presented. |
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| <b>Consent Agenda</b> | <p>Mayor Manier presented the Consent Agenda for approval of the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Approve Minutes of August 1, 2022 Regular City Council Meeting</li><li>B. Accept Financial Reports for the Period Ended June 30, 2022</li><li>C. Bills and Payroll</li><li>D. Kern Road Stormwater Emergency Repair Ratification</li><li>E. TIF Pay Request #4 - Jake Webber, Country Financial, 105 Washington Square</li></ul> |
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Aldersperson Brownfield motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, Aldersperson Dingledine seconded.

Motion carried by roll call vote:

Ayes: 8 Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Dingledine, Schone, Stevens and Yoder

Nays: 0

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| <b>Announcements and Proclamations</b> | None at this time. |
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| <b>Finance &amp; Personnel Committee</b> | Finance and Personnel Committee Chairman Butler shared that there are no business items to bring forward at this time. |
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| <b>Public Safety Committee</b> | <p>Public Safety Committee Chairman Adams introduced Police Chief McCoy who shared that he sent out his report to Council and received no questions. Aldersperson Blundy stated that he noticed the motorcycles were not in use last month and wondered if weather may have been a factor. Chief McCoy shared that primary reason for lack of riders was short staff due to vacations. Aldersperson Blundy asked if the motorcycles will be used for the St. Jude Rides event and Chief McCoy confirmed that they will. It was clarified that they will likely be used in the Homecoming Parade if they are asked to do so.</p> <p>Aldersperson Stevens asked about training and Chief McCoy shared that there are three officers that are trained now. Chief McCoy noted that covering calls affects the use of the motorcycles.</p> |
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| <b>Public Works Committee</b> | <p>Public Works Committee Chairman Brownfield shared that there are no action items and introduced Public Works Director Brian Rittenhouse to share updates. Mr. Rittenhouse shared an update on the water leak on BUS RT24. He shared that Distributions found the leak quickly and put a clamp on it. He shared that they also found a valve that didn't have a box or stem so they fixed it. Mr. Rittenhouse also shared that the Street Department will paint after completing chip seal and they will do hydrant painting soon. He shared that they are cleaning the sludge storer and the treatment plant will be worked on September 6th or sooner.</p> |
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City Engineer Dennis Carr shared that the Hilldale project services are switching over and they will be installing the storm sewer. He also shared that Robinson has completed the smoking testing and they are working on the report. Mr. Carr shared that he met with C&G to discuss curb and gutter work and they will focus on Bellaire. He also shared that they will do work on Shellbark and Pinetree, work on the Safe Routes to School project information and noted that IDOT has finally approved the environmental and waste portion of Freedom Parkway. He shared that their letter states that they will likely not start until April 2023.

**Mayor** Mayor Manier noted that school is starting back up and asked everyone to be safe around schools and buses.

**City Administrator**

**Adopt Resolution:** None at this time.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading Ordinance:** City Administrator Jim Snider provided the following ordinance: An ordinance approving the purchase of the real estate commonly known as 109 N. High Street for a purchase price of \$44,000.  
*Purchase of Property Agreement- 109 N. High Street*

Mr. Snider shared that he reported on this idea on July 28<sup>th</sup> and discussed it during the August 1<sup>st</sup> executive session meeting. He noted that the property had an extensive fire, the current garage will be removed, the appraisal was \$44,000, it will provide 34 parking spaces and the owner has accepted the verbal offer from the City should this be approved. Alderperson Blundy asked for an explanation on why we need additional parking spaces. Mayor Manier noted that it would be for future parking. Alderperson Blundy expressed his concerns about the lack of needed parking and referred to a report provided by Mr. Snider stating a need for additional parking for the brewpub. Alderperson Blundy shared his concern for using \$200,000 and feels this will not solve the problem. Alderperson Adams shared that living on that side of town, he doesn't think there is an issue, but he has heard from others that there is an issue. He shared that he doesn't see a need to rush to build the parking lot but he wouldn't mind having it in our back pocket for our use later. The number of spots in the proposed parking lot and current parking issues were discussed. Alderperson Blundy stated that spending \$200,000 won't solve the problem. Alderperson Stevens stated that this wasn't discussed as a group, and this is unbudgeted. She asked to look at what is already available and shared that post office employees park in the city lot. She also wondered about pursuing hourly restrictions for parking. Alderperson Stevens shared that the Boley parking lot is in the TIF district, Heartland Bank could provide valet parking and Corpo Bello can make arrangements for evening parking. She noted that this lot is not in the TIF district and comes out of the general fund. She does not support it. Alderperson Butler shared that this is a potential asset and shared that there may be a value for the businesses next to it. He expressed that he is not in favor of turning it into a parking lot at this point, but he is in favor of buying it to use later. Alderperson Blundy asked about negotiating a lower price. Mr. Oliphant shared that being at or near the appraised value is normal. Alderperson Blundy felt that the price was high. Alderperson Brownfield noted that they came down from \$55,000. Alderperson Stevens made a statement to which Mayor Manier responded that we cannot discuss what was shared in executive session. A brief exchange took place. Alderperson Brownfield confirmed the approximate number of spaces in the Herbst lot is 22. Alderperson Adams stated that he agrees with Alderperson Butler that this could be a future opportunity. His hope is that the area around the square continues to boom and if it doesn't, we can sell it. Alderperson Stevens stated that we don't have a good track record of this and referenced property that was sold back for more near the Bierce lot. Alderperson Adams noted that the City sold that property for a profit. Alderperson Stevens noted complaints about the lack of parking that is available. Alderperson Schone stated, in reference to not fixing the problem, people will still park on the street and in the lot and there are times we spend unbudgeted money and money available for miscellaneous items that are anticipated. He felt that this is good to have this available for future use. Alderperson Stevens restated her previous concerns.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading Ordinance:** City Administrator Jim Snider provided the following ordinance: An ordinance approving an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Washington and Washington Community High School District #308 to establish and continue a School Resource Officer Program.  
*Renewal of SRO Agreement with Washington High School*

**Alderperson's Comments** Alderperson Blundy proposed two separate motions to add items to the September Committee of the Whole Agenda.

Alderperson Blundy made a motion to address Rules of Procedure, Section 6.7, pertaining to the majority vote required, Alderperson Stevens seconded.

Motion carried by roll call vote:  
Ayes: 7 Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Schone, Stevens and Yoder  
Nays: 1 Dingledine

Alderperson Blundy said he gets asked about golf cart usage in the City. Alderperson Blundy made a motion to add a golf cart ordinance for discussion at the September Committee of the Whole meeting, Alderperson Stevens seconded.

Aldersperson Adams noted that this was discussed with Council prior to Aldersperson Blundy.

Motion failed by roll call vote:

Ayes: 4 Adams, Blundy, Stevens and Yoder

Nays: 5 Brownfield, Butler, Dingleline, Schone, Mayor Manier

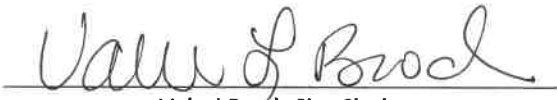
*Mayor Manier voted to break the tie vote.*

Aldersperson Butler wanted to note, regarding the Comprehensive Plan, he is not sure how multi-family residential sketches were proposed for Freedom Parkway and the 223 area. He expressed that he doesn't feel we had sufficient discussion and doesn't see how this helps economic development. Mr. Butler also shared that we can't zone a contractor to follow the sketches in the plan. Mr. Oliphant shared that the residential issues on Freedom have relayed to the development team and noted that IDOT has extended the plan to March of 2023 so we shouldn't feel rushed. Mr. Oliphant stated that the intention wasn't for residential on Freedom and 223.

Aldersperson Stevens stated that when she asked Jim if there has been any concern with the gentlemen who came to Council about a sidewalk issue, she is pleased that these will come to the Public Works Committee.

**Adjournment** At 7:10 p.m. Aldersperson Brownfield moved and Aldersperson Stevens seconded to adjourn.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

  
Valeri Brod, City Clerk