

The common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session at the Knox City Hall on Tuesday April 22, 2014 at 7:00 PM CST, with the following members present: Mayor, Rick Chambers; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Councilmembers, Don Kring, Greg Matt, Jeff Berg, Linda Berndt, Ron Parker and City Attorney, Dave Matsey.

RE: AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

Mayor Chambers requested the following amendments to the agenda: Item #8 be changed from street paving to street sweeping. Strike item #9 transfer of funds and add as item #9 garbage pick up contract and item #9B burn permit for Starke County Economic Development Foundation.

Linda Berndt made a motion, seconded by Don Kring to make those amendments to the agenda. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting were mailed to the Council prior to the meeting for their review. Jeff Berg made a motion, seconded by Ron Parker to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - SENATOR JIM ARNOLD

Indiana State Senator, Jim Arnold, gave a legislative update to the Council on the recently concluded general assembly session. He highlighted several pieces of legislation that passed including bills dealing with transportation funding, Common Core, pre-kindergarten and a new criminal code.

RE: KLOECKNER DRIVE PROJECT - CHARLIE WEAVER

Starke County Economic Development Foundation President, Charlie Weaver, gave an update on three projects involved with the upgrading of Kloeckner Drive at the entrance to the industrial park.

Bids were opened in March for the re-construction of the intersection of Kloeckner Drive and Highway 8. 50% will be paid for from the Economic Development Administration U.S. Department of Commerce Grant, 40% by the County, and 10% by the Development Foundation. That project will begin July 1st after the fish spawn.

On May 8th the bid will be let by INDOT on the widening and upgrading of the road through the industrial park including the moving of fire hydrants and lowering of a main. that project should see substantial completion this year. The project will begin at Pacific Avenue.

The third project involves removing timber in all three industrial parks in the County. The land would then be leveled to make each site "shovel ready" for a project. Eventually the Development Foundation would like to put up a shell building on the cleared land in Knox.

RE: BURN PERMIT FOR SCEDE

Charlie Weaver explained the project of removing the timber on Development Foundation property, Salvageable wood has been removed, but to keep costs down. The Foundation would like to burn the left over wood. IDEM approval has already been obtained. The Councilmembers had several questions about the process. Mr. Weaver said that the contractor could have a representative come to the next council meeting and explain the process in more depth. Ton Parker made a motion, seconded by Greg Matt to table the issue until the next meeting on May 13th. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: TOLL BROTHERS TAX ABATEMENT - BRIAN TRAPP

Brian Trapp from Toll Brothers gave an update on present operations at the plant as part of an annual review for compliance for the tax abatements from the City. There are presently 30 employees and they are in the process of hiring 4 more. They also have about 10 temps at the present time. Ron Parker made a motion, seconded by Greg Matt to find toll Brothers in substantial compliance with the statement of benefits for personal property. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

Linda Berndt made a motion, seconded by Jeff Berg to find toll Brothers in substantial compliance with the statement of benefits for real estate. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: STREET SWEEPING AGREEMENT WITH INDOT

Mayor Chambers presented the new agreement between the City and INDOT for the sweeping of Heaton Street (Highway 35). It calls for the State to pay the City \$360.00 per curb mile per year for the sweeping of four miles of road a minimum of twice a year, for a total of \$1,440.00. Greg Matt made a motion, seconded by Ron Parker to approve the Mayor to sign the agreement. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: GARBAGE CONTRACT

Mayor Chambers presented the following agreement between the City and Waste Management.

AMENDMENT TO SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AGREEMENT

This Amendment to the Solid Waste Disposal Agreement is made and entered as of the 22 day of April 2014, by and between Waste Management of Indiana, L.L.C. ("Contractor") and the City of Knox, Indiana ("City").

