

June 24, 2019

The Common Council met with Mayor William McKean for a regular meeting on Monday, June 24, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall according to the posted notice. Councilmen Gregg Sprunger, Curtis Wurster, Ron Dull, Mark Wynn and Philip Provost were present, along with City Attorney Dave Baumgartner and Clerk-Treasurer Gwen Maller.

Councilman Gregg Sprunger opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and Mayor McKean gave the invocation.

Minutes

On a motion by Gregg Sprunger and a second by Mark Wynn, the minutes of the June 10, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved. 5 yeas-0 nays

Claims

On a motion by Curtis Wurster and a second by Ron Dull, the claims were unanimously approved for payment. 5 yeas-0 nays

Discussion of SRO Officer

In starting the discussion, Mayor McKean stated that the Town of Geneva has opted out of having one of their officer's as the School Resource Officer (SRO) at South Adams Schools. Mr. Scott Litwiller, South Adams School Superintendent, acting on behalf of the school has asked the city if we would provide an officer to serve in that capacity. When asked by Gregg Sprunger if there are grants available, Mr. Litwiller stated that yes, there are grants available (Security Safety Grant) and they have to be applied for every year. He stated that with all the security issues schools face, he does not see the grant going away. If the Council approves supplying the School Resource Office, he would be a member of the City police force but serve at the school Monday – Friday. During the summer and vacation time, he would go on the regular City rotation. If approved, the city would submit a monthly bill to South Adams schools for days that the SRO worked and any overtime that was submitted and the school would review and pay on their next claim cycle. The City would also need to provide a vehicle for the SRO to use. Final figures have not been worked out at this time.

On motion by Mark Wynn and a second by Gregg Sprunger, the council unanimously approved receiving applications for a new police officer so that the City could provide an SRO for South Adams Schools. 5 yeas-0 nays

Introduction of the 2020 Salary Ordinances

Ordinance 718: An Ordinance Fixing Salaries, Compensation and Benefit Programs for 2020 of All Appointed Officers and Employees of The City of Berne and Establishing Clothing Allowances for The Police Department, Police Reserves and Fire Department. This ordinance reflects the Mayor's recommendation of a 3.10% pay increase for all non-elected full-time employees for 2020.

Curtis Wurster made a motion to introduce Ordinance 718 as presented. On a second by Mark Wynn, the motion was unanimously approved. 5 yeas-0 nays

Ordinance 719: An Ordinance Fixing Salaries and Benefit Programs for 2020 of All Elected Officials of The City of Berne. This ordinance reflects the Mayor's recommendation of a 3.10% pay increase for all elected officials.

Council member Phil Provost stated that he supports the pay increase for city employees, but voiced his opposition to the elected Councilmen's pay increase.

Gregg Sprunger made a motion to introduce Ordinance 719 as presented. Ron Dull made the second and the motion was passed with 4 yeas - 1 nay by Councilman Provost.

Attorney Comments None

Clerk-Treasurer Comments Gwen reported that she, Mayor McKean, Street Superintendent Gary Nussbaum and Work Force Manager Kurt Dailey will be traveling to INDOT-Fort Wayne District tomorrow to learn more about the next round of funding for the Community Crossings Matching Grant program.

Mayor Comments

Mayor McKean reported on the city 4th of July schedule. Offices and the compost site will be closed Thursday July 4th. The trash route for July 4th and 5th will run on the 5th. The compost route will run on Wednesday and finish on Friday if necessary. Sticks and limbs will run as normal on Friday.

Mayor McKean thanked Attorney Baumgartner, and the council members who participated in the tour of city garage, the water department and the WWTP prior to tonight's meeting. Mayor McKean also thanked the Department Heads and our employees for a great job maintaining equipment and the facilities.

Mayor McKean reported on his Mayors Roundtable held on June 14th and hosted at Smith Brothers of Berne. Twelve Mayors attended the roundtable and they had a productive discussion in the mayors only meeting of their experiences in their community with SRO officers. The city hosted approximately 56 guests at the luncheon which also included a tour of Smith Brothers.

The Mayor reported on the last Board of Public Works and Safety meeting. The 2020 salt quotes were opened and read aloud. Subject to review by the appropriate department heads, the Board of Public Works and Safety unanimously approved the two lowest bids; Cargill for softener salt at \$ 119 a ton delivered and Compass Mineral for road salt at \$89.19 a ton delivered. Department heads reviewed the bids and found no problem with the two lowest bids. The board also heard and approved a change order request from Wired Communications LLC for the Police Department communications, security system and internet wiring project at a cost of \$ 7,926.17

Council Comments Ron Dull congratulated South Adams Senior Grant Besser for being named to the North All Star baseball team and also being named Northeast Indiana Baseball Association player of the year.

There being no other business to come before the Council and upon a motion duly made to adjourn by Ron Dull and seconded by Phil Provost, adjournment followed.

William F. McKean, Mayor

ATTEST:

Gwen Maller, Clerk-Treasurer