

July 23, 2012

The Common Council met with Mayor William McKean for a regular meeting on Monday, July 23, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall according to the posted notice. Councilmen Gregg Sprunger, Curtis Wurster, Ron Dull, and Philip Provost were present along with Attorney James Beitler, Jr. and Clerk-Treasurer Gwen Maller. Councilman Mark Wynn was absent.

Mayor Bill McKean opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and Mayor McKean observed a moment of silence in honor of Nicolas Taylor, killed in Afghanistan, before giving the invocation.

On a motion by Ron Dull and a second by Phil Provost, the minutes of the July 9, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved.

On a motion by Gregg Sprunger and a second by Curtis Wurster, the claims were unanimously approved for payment.

Council on Aging

Sharon Tester Adams County Council on Aging came before Council requesting permission for \$3,000 to be included in the 2013 budget to help with transportation expenses. They provided 1251 trips for 36 Berne residents. Their total transportation costs have gone from 10,000-12,000 to \$19,000. Ron Dull made a motion to approve the request of \$3,000 for transportation expenses to be included in the 2013 budget. Phil Provost made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

Township Fire Contracts

It was reported that the six townships that have fire contracts with the City of Berne came to the Board of Works meeting to inform the Board that they cannot accept the proposed 3.5% increase for 2013. They stated that their budgets are tight and they are having trouble paying for fire protection. The three townships to the South also contract with Geneva and the three to the north contract with Monroe. They stated that they would be willing to pay the same amount as they did in 2012 or they might have to look to contract somewhere else. The Board stated that they might be willing to go to 2.8% which is the growth quotient set by the State. No official action was taken as the townships are also going to talk with Monroe and Geneva.

Swiss Village 5K Race Route

Representatives from Swiss Village came before the Board of Works requesting permission to close a portion of C.R. 150 W. and Emmental Drive on April 13, 2013 for a 5K race celebrating the 45th anniversary of Swiss Village. They plan to make this an annual event in conjunction with the Adams County Challenge. The Board of Works recommends to Council that permission be granted to close the streets. Gregg Sprunger made a motion to approve the request. Ron Dull made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

Ordinance #632

Ordinance # 632 was presented to Council for its first reading. This ordinance enacts and adopts a supplement for 2012 to the code of ordinances for the City of Berne and declares an emergency. Curtis Wurster made a motion to introduce Ordinance #632 on its first reading. Gregg Sprunger made the second and the motion was unanimously passed. Gregg

Sprunger made a motion to waive the rules and regulations for the second reading of Ordinance #632. Ron Dull made the second and the motion was unanimously passed. Phil Provost made a motion to adopt Ordinance #632 on its final reading on an emergency basis. Ron Dull made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

Ordinance # 633

Ordinance # 633 was presented to Council for its first reading. This establishes a special bereavement day for City Employees for July 31, 2012. Ron Dull made a motion to introduce Ordinance #633 on its first reading. Gregg Sprunger made the second and the motion was unanimously passed. Curtis Wurster made a motion to waive the rules and regulations for the second reading of Ordinance #633. Ron Dull made the second and the motion was unanimously passed. Phil Provost made a motion to adopt Ordinance #633 on its final reading. Gregg Sprunger made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

2012 Water Rate Study

Steve Carter, H.J. Umbaugh representative, was present to discuss the results of the water rate study. He stated that there weren't any surprises in this study and it verified the fact that there is a declining cash position in the water utility fund. The balance in the water utility is around \$550,000 which is sufficient right now, but would not be in a couple of years. He reported that receipts are staying steady at around \$373,000 and expenses are around \$500,000. Proposed water rates for a 5/8" meter at 4,000 gallons would be increased by about \$8.42 to \$11.28 depending on what the Council would like to do with the hydrant rentals. Another .60-.62 cents would be added to the bill if Council chose to have the utility make a "payment in lieu of taxes" to the General Fund. Steve stated that more communities are opting to move the public hydrant rentals to the customers' bills in order to accommodate the tight General Fund budgets. No official action was taken.

Resolution 2012-7-1

Resolution No. 2012-7-1 honoring United States Army Specialist Nicholas A. Taylor was presented to Council. Ron Dull made a motion to adopt Resolution 2012-7-1. Curtis Wurster made the second and the motion was unanimously passed. Council President Gregg Sprunger read it as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-7-1 A RESOLUTION HONORING UNITED STATES ARMY SPECIALIST NICHOLAS A. TAYLOR

WHEREAS, Spec. NICHOLAS A. TAYLOR, 20, was a 2010 graduate of South Adams High School where he was a standout athlete in football, wrestling and track, excelled academically and lived his life with faith and values shared by his church and community; and

WHEREAS, Spec. NICHOLAS A. TAYLOR was the beloved son of City of Berne Police Chief Timothy and Stephania Taylor and brother of Drew and sisters Holly and Sophia; and

WHEREAS, Spec. NICHOLAS A. TAYLOR enlisted with the Indiana National Guard, was assigned to the 81st Troop Command, Indiana National Guard, Terre Haute, Indiana, represented the “Always Ready Always There”, Indiana National Guard and had planned to attend college to study criminal justice; and

WHEREAS, Spec. NICHOLAS A. TAYLOR was stationed in Afghanistan with the Valparaiso-based 713th Engineer Company (Sapper) of the Indiana National Guard; and

WHEREAS, Spec. NICHOLAS A. TAYLOR, made the ultimate sacrifice for his country when he died from injuries sustained from a rocket-propelled grenade and small-arms fire attack while he was on a bomb route clearance patrol mission in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan on Monday, July 16, 2012.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BERNE, INDIANA, that:

- 1) The City of Berne, Indiana hereby honors the service and sacrifice of **Spec. NICHOLAS A. TAYLOR** of the Indiana National Guard and his family; and
- 2) The citizens of the City of Berne, Indiana are encouraged to recognize and remember the valor, heroism, and dedication exhibited by **Spec. NICHOLAS A. TAYLOR**, who fought bravely for the liberty and freedom of each and every American; and
- 3) The Clerk-Treasurer of the City of Berne shall spread this Resolution of record in the official public records of the City of Berne, Indiana.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Berne this 23rd day of July, 2012.

COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BERNE

Gregg A. Sprunger, President
Philip E. Provost
Mark D. Wynn

Ronald N. Dull
Curtis L. Wurster

Approved and Signed by me, Mayor of the City of Berne, Indiana, this 23rd day of July, 2012.

William F. McKean, Mayor
ATTEST: Gwen Maller, Clerk-Treasurer

Mayor Comments

Mayor McKean stated that it has been a rough week for everybody. He also stated “As a veteran of the Vietnam War I’ve experience some of this on the other side of the pond, and it’s not very pleasant from either side. Our hearts are with the Taylor family.”

Councilmen Comments

Ron Dull stated that “Nick and also his son are serving their country and doing things that are very difficult. If it was easy, anyone could do it. It will be a difficult week for city residents. It’s going to be a challenge, but we’ll get through this, because we’re a strong community.”

Gregg Sprunger stated that “it has been especially tough on our police department, and we need to keep them in our prayers this week.”

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

William F. McKean, Mayor

ATTEST:

Gwen Maller, Clerk-Treasurer