

September 10, 2018

The Common Council met with Mayor William McKean for a regular meeting on Monday, September 10, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall according to the posted notice. Councilmen Gregg Sprunger, Curtis Wurster, and Philip Provost were present, along with City Attorney Dave Baumgartner and Clerk-Treasurer Gwen Maller. Councilmen Ron Dull and Mark Wynn were absent.

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

Citizens Comments

Wendy Lehman, resident of 717 W. High Street, was present to ask the Mayor and Council when the area in her backyard was going to be repaired from work the City of Berne did to fix a water leak earlier this summer. Mayor McKean advised Ms. Lehman that he has asked Mark Donaghy Landscaping to repair and reseed her yard. Mayor McKean stated that it's better to plant grass late August and September, but we have also had a lot of rain and it is too wet right now.

Minutes

On a motion by Gregg Sprunger and a second by Phil Provost, the minutes of the August 27, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved.

Claims

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

Ordinance # 710 Establishing a "Buy Money" program

Ordinance #710 was presented for Council review. This ordinance establishes a "Buy Money" Program in accordance with the Indiana Dept. of Local Government Finance. A line item in the General Fund budget will allow officers authorized by the Chief of Police to draw on the appropriation in order that a check can be issued and cashed, with the cash being used as buy money to pay informants and in making drug and other related purchases. A claim will be submitted at the beginning of the year and once approved, the City of Berne Police Department will have all authority and discretion in the expenditure of said buy money. Gregg Sprunger made a motion to introduce Ordinance #710 on its first reading. Curtis Wurster made the second and the motion was unanimously passed. Gregg Sprunger made a motion to waive and suspend the rules and procedures in order to adopt an ordinance at the meeting it was introduced. Phil Provost made the second and the motion was unanimously passed. Curtis Wurster made the motion to adopt Ordinance #710 by short title. Gregg Sprunger made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

Request to Support Indiana Main Street application

Mayor McKean reported that he was approached by the Downtown Merchants who were asking for the City's support of their group to be involved in the Indiana Main

Street program. By being a member of this program, they could be eligible for certain grants. Dave Baumgartner stated that at one time, the Berne Community Development Corporation was involved with the Main Street program. He thinks it is a good idea.

Gregg Sprunger made a motion to show support to the Downtown Merchants for the Indiana Main Street program. Phil Provost made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

BZA Hearing

Mayor McKean reported that a variance was given to Smith Brothers to put a non-lit Smith Brothers of Berne sign on the north side of their building that will be larger than our sign ordinance allows. The variance was unanimously approved by the BZA.

Attorney Comments

Attorney Baumgartner reported that he was working on two separate utility easements. The first easement is on Jay Yager's property and will loop water service from Rose Lane to Dearborn Street. The second easement will complete a loop from Berne Street to Main Street to give better water pressure to the east side and especially to the Eastview Apartment complex. Dave reported that he will also need signed easements from Kerry Jones, Zane Martens and Jerry Bauer. All have verbally committed to signing the easements.

Clerk-Treasurer Comments

Gwen Maller reported that she and Street Superintendent Gary Nussbaum are continuing to work on the Community Crossings grant.

Councilmen Comments

Councilman Curtis Wurster asked what the problem was with the lines on the new pavement on US 27. No one had an answer.

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

William F. McKean, Mayor

ATTEST:

Gwen Maller, Clerk-Treasurer