

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF ELWOOD, MADISON COUNTY, INDIANA
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
AUGUST 4, 2014 7:00PM**

Meeting called to order by Mayor Ron Arnold, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer. Members present: Brent Boston, Kim Everson, Adrian Heim, Todd Jones, Eric Reese, Pat Rice, and Tim Roby. City attorney, Jim Wilson was present for the meeting.

Minutes from the July 7, 2014 regular meeting were presented to the council for approval. Jones made a motion to approve the minutes as written; seconded by Boston. All in favor.

Jones stated the recycle department's new truck was purchased and at the department in operation.

Clerk-Treasurer, Allison Atwood stated the insurance committee met and had a great renewal meeting.

Police Chief, Phil Caldwell approached the council regarding the replacement of a damaged vehicle. Insurance will reimburse \$12,000.00 for the vehicle. Caldwell would like the council to consider appropriating some of the monies received from the school for the SRO to use in conjunction with the insurance money toward a vehicle purchase. Jones made a motion to allow the publishing of the additional appropriation; seconded by Everson. All in favor.

Caldwell also asked the council to consider allowing the officers to be able to use their police vehicles up to forty-five miles outside the city for personal use. Wilson stated this would need to be changed in the take home care policy and brought to the council for a vote.

Jones made a motion to suspend the meeting and open the public hearing; seconded by Boston. All in favor.

Public hearing on Forest Hills annexation:

Randy Simmons, 9164 West 1050 North, presented a petition of signatures against the annexation to the council.

Wilson stated there had been two appraisals on Cattails and the city can only purchase for the average of the two. An offer has been given to the owners for consideration. Jones questioned if there was a financing plan. Wilson stated not at this time.

Marge Cotton, 9280 W. Forest Drive, questioned who put in the article that if the properties were not annexed the value of the property would decrease by forty percent.

Tom Cassidy, 1002 S. Anderson, questioned if there was a business plan developed for if the city does own a golf course. Wilson stated current fiscal plan is no utilities and mostly non-capital assets. There will be no hard plan till purchase. Jones questioned if the purchase would be park property. Wilson stated he believed it should belong to the ERC.

Burl Tyner, 1111 Main Street, stated in Alexandria the homes are on the golf course and value based on that. The homes here are around but not on the course and that could cause some depreciation.

Julia Whitson, 9225 W. Lake Dr., questioned if the annexation would take place before the golf course purchase. Wilson stated the purchase should happen at roughly the same time as the annexation. Whitson also questioned the zoning of the golf course. Wilson explained it originally was zoned park/recreation and was changed to residential to limit possible agriculture use.

Roby asked the citizens by show of hands if the golf course was not purchased would they not be in favor of annexation. Majority of hands not in favor.

Jones questioned if the golf course was not purchased will there be some type of out clause. Wilson stated the citizens would have ninety days following annexation to remonstrate.

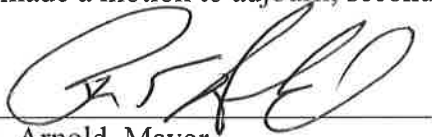
Landon Wetsel, 901 Main Street, questioned the motivation to buy when there seems to be no clear plan and other areas of the city need attention such as the cemeteries. Arnold stated the city does not maintain the cemeteries.

Chris McCormick, 9449 West 1050 North, stated why annex if there is not going to be a golf course.

David Beeman, 9181 W. Lake Dr., reconfirmed with Wilson that there will be no utilities and the purchase of the golf course would be prior to the annexation.

Jones made a motion to close the public hearing and reconvene the meeting; seconded by Boston. All in favor.

Jones made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Boston. All in favor; meeting adjourned.

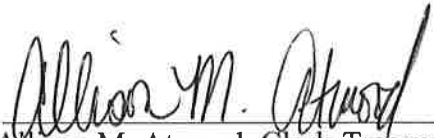


Ron E. Arnold, Mayor



Council President/President Pro-Tem

ATTEST:



Allison M. Atwood, Clerk-Treasurer