

REGULAR “HYBRID/ZOOM” MEETING

May 4, 2022

The Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, met in Regular session on Tuesday evening, May 4, 2022, at the hour of 6:30 p.m., Hosted by “Hybrid/Zoom” and streamed live on “My Michigan City” Facebook Page.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Council President Angie Nelson Deutch.

President Deutch introduced our new Deputy Clerk Ms. Stacy Dudley.

Roll call was authorized, and the following were noted present and/or absent.

PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS Bryant Dabney, Sean Fitzpatrick, Michael Mack, Angie Nelson Deutch, Paul Przybylinski, Gene Simmons, Dalia Zygas, (7).

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS Don Przybylinski and Tracie Tillman (2).

President Deutch advised that she received notice from both Councilwoman Tillman and Councilman Przybylinski that they were unable to attend this evenings meeting and are excused.

A QUORUM WAS NOTED PRESENT

ALSO, PRESENT: Council Attorney Jewel Harris, Gale Neulieb City Clerk and Stacy Dudley Asst. Deputy Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Deutch inquired whether there were any deletions, additions or corrections to the “Hybrid Zoom” meeting held on April 5, 2022, and April 19, 2022 that will be approved this evening, there was no response.

Councilman Fitzpatrick made a motion to approve the minutes of the “Hybrid/Zoom” meetings held on April 5, 2022, and April 19, 2022, a second was made by Councilwoman Zygas.

President Deutch asked if there were any comments, there was no response

The April 5, 2022 and the April 19, 2022 Council meeting minutes were approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Zygas, P. Przybylinski, Dabney, Fitzpatrick, Mack, Deutch, and Simmons (7) **NAYS:** None (0)

REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES

President Deutch asked if there were any reports of standing committees.

Councilman P. Przybylinski wanted to remind the public that the Tree Board will be giving out free trees at the Michigan City’s Farmers Market this Saturday May 7, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

President Deutch asked if there were any other standing committees, there was no response.

FINANCE REPORT

Council P. Przybylinski advised that Councilwoman Tillman scheduled a Finance Committee on Monday May 2nd which he or Councilman Fitzpatrick were able to attend and didn't have a quorum to discuss or approve the claims being proposed.

President Deutch stated that she spoke with Councilwoman Tillman advising her that Ms. Beutner was present at that meeting to talk about the Michigan City Scholarship applications.

CLAIMS DOCKET

Councilman P. Przybylinski made a motion to approve the May 4, 2022 Riverboat/Boyd Claim Docket Fund #2042 Riverboat in the amount of \$32,824.00, second by Councilman Fitzpatrick

May 4, 2022		
Riverboat/Boyd Claim Docket		
Fund #2042 – Riverboat – Claims	\$	32,824.00
EFT	\$	00.00
Fund #2031 – Boyd – Claims-	\$	00.00
TOTAL CLAIMS	\$	32,824.00

President Deutch asked if there were any comments or questions from the Council, there was no response.

The May 4, 2022, Riverboat Fund #2042 in the amount of \$32,824.00 was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members P. Przybylinski, Dabney, Fitzpatrick, Mack, Deutch, Simmons, and Zygas (7) **NAYS:** None (0)

REPORTS OF SPECIAL or SELECT COMMITTEES

President Deutch asked if there were any reports of Special or Select Committees, there was no response.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR OR OTHER CITY OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENTS

President Deutch asked if there were any reports from the mayor or other City Officers and Departments.

Janet Beutner, Michigan City Promise Scholarship Director reminded everyone that the applications for this year's promise scholarship are due on Friday June 3, 2022 and that she has met with most of the students during the month of March and that she has extended her office hours starting this week on every Wednesday until 6:00 p.m. for the students to drop their completed applications off through the month of May.

PETITIONS

President Deutch asked Clerk Neulieb if there were any petitions this evening.

Clerk Neulieb stated that the Clerk's office didn't receive any petitions.

COMMUNICATIONS

President Deutch asked if there was any correspondence received in the Clerk's Office.

Clerk Neulieb advised that copies of the correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office from Mayor Parry on April 27, 2022 copying the Council regarding the removal of the following Commissioners from the Michigan City Housing Authority: Ms. Carla Mock, Mr. Willie Lee, Ms. Doretha Sanders-Malone and Mr. Milton Malone.

RESOLUTIONS

The Clerk read the following resolution by title only. **ADDING TO THE INITIAL PLAN FOR USE OF A PORTION OF THE CITY'S ALLOTMENT OF LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS THROUGH THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT TO PAY FOR UPGRADES TO THE SECURITY SYSTEM AT CITY HALL, ENTRAL SERVICES, CENTRAL MAINENTANCE, AND TO PAY FOR UPGRADES TO THE CITY'S CYBER SECURITY SYSTEM**

Introduced by: Angie Nelson Deutch
Dalia Zygas
Bryant Dabney

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the sponsors.

Councilman Dabney advised that the monies being requested was initially to do cyber security, but then had a meeting with the ARP committee and decided to add some items onto this regarding the City's Emergency Management volunteers and why this amended is being proposed this evening.

President Deutch advised that everyone should have received the following amendment that Councilman Dabney is proposing by substitution.

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____

ADDING TO THE INITIAL PLAN FOR USE OF A PORTION OF THE CITY'S ALLOTMENT OF LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS THROUGH THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT TO PAY FOR UPGRADES TO THE CITY'S SECURITY AND NECESSARY EQUIPMENT FOR THE CITY'S EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT VOLUNTEERS THROUGH THE MICHIGAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, on September 21, 2021, the Michigan City Common Council enacted and on September 22, 2021 the Mayor signed Resolution #4813 entitled "*Stating the Initial Plan for Uses of a Portion of the First Tranche of the City of Michigan City's Allotment of Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Through the American Rescue Plan Act;*" and

WHEREAS, on December 22, 2021, Resolution #4820 entitled "*Amending Resolution #4813 to Comply with the State Board of Accounts Directive 2021-3 Regarding "Premium Pay" Under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)*" as adopted, which amended Resolution #4813 to comply with State Board of Accounts Directive 2021-3 regarding "premium pay" under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP); and

WHEREAS, it has become necessary for the City to upgrade its cyber security with upgrades and employee training and perform necessary upgrades to security at City Hall, Central Services and Central Maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan City Emergency Management volunteers, through the

Michigan City Police Department, are in need of a 4WD crew-cab pickup truck, a side-by-side UTV and equipment for said vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated cost for these upgrades is two hundred eighty thousand dollars, and the City desires to add this cost to the City's initial plan for use of ARP funds as an "expenditure of lost revenue."

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA COMMON COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

1. The aforementioned "Whereas" sections are incorporated herein as if fully set forth herein.
2. **Expenditure of Lost Revenue.** The Council expresses its intent to expend Two Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$280,000.00) in funding for the aforementioned plan from the ARP funds as an expenditure of lost revenue on governmental services.
3. **Compliance with the American Rescue Plan Act.** The City Administration will ensure compliance with prevailing Federal Guidelines at the time the funds are committed for expenditure.

This Resolution shall be in full force and effect after passage by the Michigan City Common Council and approval by the Mayor.

Councilwoman Zygas made a motion to amend the proposed resolution by substitution, second by Councilman Mack.

President Deutch read the proposed amended resolution in its entirety.

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the public, there was no response.

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the council on the proposed amendment by substitution resolution, there was no response.

The amended resolution by title only was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Simmons, Zygas, P. Przybylinski, Dabney, Fitzpatrick, Mack, Deutch, Simmons (7) **NAYS:** None (0)

President Deutch asked if there were any comments regarding the amended resolution from the public, there was no response,

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the Council.

Councilman P. Przybylinski asked if we council could receive an itemized list of what is being purchased before the next Council meeting on May 17th to make sure we are going out for competitive bidding.

President Deutch asked if we have someone from the administration to address the Council regarding the equipment that they are wanting to order.

Controller Hoffmaster advised that she could distribute quotes that they have received regarding the equipment; stating that most of the equipment is being purchased through the State QPA, which automatically gets the city a better price.

Controller Hoffmaster advised President Deutch that she would distribute a copy of these quotes before our next Council meeting on May 17th.

Councilman Fitzpatrick made a motion to adopt the proposed resolution, second by Councilmen P. Przybylinski and Simmons

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 4842

ADDING TO THE INITIAL PLAN FOR USE OF A PORTION OF THE CITY'S ALLOTMENT OF LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS THROUGH THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT TO PAY FOR UPGRADES TO THE CITY'S SECURITY AND NECESSARY EQUIPMENT FOR THE CITY'S EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT VOLUNTEERS THROUGH THE MICHIGAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, on September 21, 2021, the Michigan City Common Council enacted and on September 22, 2021 the Mayor signed Resolution #4813 entitled "*Stating the Initial Plan for Uses of a Portion of the First Tranche of the City of Michigan City's Allotment of Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Through the American Rescue Plan Act;*" and

WHEREAS, on December 22, 2021, Resolution #4820 entitled "*Amending Resolution #4813 to Comply with the State Board of Accounts Directive 2021-3 Regarding "Premium Pay" Under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)*" as adopted, which amended Resolution #4813 to comply with State Board of Accounts Directive 2021-3 regarding "premium pay" under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP); and

WHEREAS, it has become necessary for the City to upgrade its cyber security with upgrades and employee training and perform necessary upgrades to security at City Hall, Central Services and Central Maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan City Emergency Management volunteers, through the Michigan City Police Department, are in need of a 4WD crew-cab pickup truck, a side-by-side UTV and equipment for said vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated cost for these upgrades is two hundred eighty thousand dollars, and the City desires to add this cost to the City's initial plan for use of ARP funds as an "expenditure of lost revenue."

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA COMMON COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

1. The aforementioned "Whereas" sections are incorporated herein as if fully set forth herein.
2. **Expenditure of Lost Revenue.** The Council expresses its intent to expend Two Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$280,000.00) in funding for the aforementioned plan from the ARP funds as an expenditure of lost revenue on governmental services.
3. **Compliance with the American Rescue Plan Act.** The City Administration will ensure compliance with prevailing Federal Guidelines at the time the funds are committed for expenditure.

This Resolution shall be in full force and effect after passage by the Michigan City Common Council and approval by the Mayor.

INTRODUCED BY: /s/ Angie Nelson Deutch, President

Michigan City Common Council
Dalia Zygas, Member
Michigan City Common Council
Bryant Dabney, Member
Michigan City Common Council

The resolution was adopted by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Zygas, P. Przybylinski, Dabney, Fitzpatrick, Mack, Deutch, and Simmons (7) **NAYS:** None (0)

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on first reading by title only.
AMENDING MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2-461 (B)(3) COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSIONERS IN THE CITY'S ANNUAL SALARY ORDINANCE FOR THEIR SERVICES

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney
Michael Mack
Dalia Zygas

President Deutch asked if the sponsors had anything to add this evening.

Councilwoman Zygas stated that sustainability Commission is probably the most active and involved in grant writing commission of all the commissions we have and that she feels that it's time they get the same amount of compensation that other boards receive.

President Deutch requested to be a Co-sponsor.

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the public at this time, there was no response.

President Deutch asked if the Council had any questions or comments, there was no response; stating that the proposed ordinance will be held over on second reading until the May 17, 2022, Council meeting.

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on first reading by title only.
APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY OF THE GENERAL FUND TO PROVIDE MEMBERS OF THE MICHIGAN CITY SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION WITH A MONTHLY PAYMENT FOR THEIR SERVICE ON THE COMMISSION

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney
Michael Mack
Dalia Zygas

(DECREASE General Fund #1001 Unappropriated balance \$3,900.00 INCREASE ACCOUNT#1001 105 411.015 \$3,900.00 Salaries & Wages – Boards & Commissions)

President Deutch asked if any of the sponsors had anything to add at this time.

Councilman Dabney clarified for the public that the money is coming from the unappropriated balance of the budget and that it isn't coming out of the Riverboat fund.

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the public, there was no response.

President Deutch asked if the Council had any questions or comments.

Councilwoman Zygas advised Councilman Fitzpatrick that each member would receive \$50.00 a month

President Deutch asked to be added as a Co-sponsor as well.

President Deutch asked if there were any additional comments from the Council, there was no response; stating that the proposed ordinance will be held over on second reading at the May 17, 2022 Council meeting.

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on first reading by title only.

AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4598 COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE “2022 SALARY ORDINANCE” TO ESTABLISH A MONTHLY COMPENSATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE MICHIGAN CITY SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney
Michael Mack
Dalia Zygas

President Deutch asked if any other the sponsors had anything to add at this time, there was no response.

President Deutch asked if the public had any questions or comments, there was no response.

President Deutch asked if there were any comments or questions at this time, there was no response; stating that the proposed ordinance will be held over on second reading at the May 17, 2022, Council meeting.

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on first reading by title only.

APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE ARP CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND FOR UPGRADES TO THE SECURITY SYSTEM AT CITY HALL, CENTRAL SERVICES, CENTRAL MAINTENANCE AND TO PAY FOR UPGRADES TO THE CITY’S CYBER SECURITY SYSTEM

Introduced by: Angie Nelson
Bryant Dabney
Dalia Zygas

(DECREASE ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund 0176 Unappropriated balance \$200,000.00 INCREASE ACCOUNT #0176 000 444.0503 \$161,000.00 Cap Outlay – Improvements Other than Buildings INCREASE ACCOUNT #0176 000 439.090 \$39,000.00 Other Services & Charges – Other Contractual Services)

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the sponsors.

Councilwoman Zygas stated that we need to upgrade especially the cyber security part that it is very concerning because we are vulnerable to an attack every day; advising by upgrading the cameras security will be helpful as well.

President Deutch asked if there were any additional comments from the sponsors, there was no response.

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the public, there was no response.

President Deutch asked if there were any questions or comments from the Council at this time.

Councilman Dabney stated that we need to make the same type of amendments to the proposed ordinance as we have different things we are purchasing and we will have to amend the dollar amount as well; stating that everyone has a hard copy of his proposed amended ordinance by substitution at their desk in front of them.

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

ORDINANCE NO. _____

APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE ARP CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND FOR UPGRADES TO THE SECURITY SYSTEM AT CITY HALL, CENTRAL SERVICES, CENTRAL MAINTENANCE, TO PAY FOR UPGRADES TO THE CITY’S CYBER SECURITY SYSTEM AND PURCHASE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT FOR THE CITY’S EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT VOLUNTEERS THROUGH THE MICHIGAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, it has been demonstrated to the Common Council of the City of Michigan City that it is necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the 2022 Annual Budget to fund security upgrades to City Hall, Central Services, and Central Maintenance, and to pay for upgrades to the City’s cyber security system, including providing employee training on said upgrades, and to purchase a 4WD crew cab pickup truck, a side-by-side UTV, and equipment for vehicles for the City’s Emergency Management Volunteers, by and through the Michigan City Police Department to be funded by monies the City received from the American Rescue Plan (ARP); and

WHEREAS, the City Controller has determined that sufficient unappropriated funds are available in the ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund #0176 to be appropriated for that purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of Michigan City, La Porte County, Indiana, that for the expenses of the City the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the fund named and for the purpose specified above, subject to the laws governing the same:

	<u>AMOUNT REQUESTED</u>	<u>AMOUNT APPROPRIATED</u>
DECREASE ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund 0176 Unappropriated balance	\$280,000.00	
INCREASE ACCOUNT #0176 000 444.050 Cap Outlay – Improvements Other than Buildings		\$161,000.00
INCREASE ACCOUNT #0176 000 439.090 Other Services & Charges – Other Contractual Services		\$39,000.00
INCREASE ACCOUNT #0176 000 445.050 Cap Outlay – Other Machinery & Equipment		\$80,000.00
TOTAL FOR FUND	\$280,000.00	

This Ordinance to be effective upon passage by the Council, approval by the Mayor, any necessary publication, and any necessary approval by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance.

Councilman Dabney made a motion to adopt the following proposed amendment ordinance by substitution, second Councilman Mack.

President Deutch stated that we have a motion and a second, reading the amendments to purchase the necessary equipment for the City's Emergency Management volunteers for the Michigan City Police Department and to purchase a four-wheel drive pick-up truck.

President Deutch asked if the public had any comments on the proposed amended ordinance at this time, there were no comments.

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the Council regarding the amendments.

Councilman Dabney stated that \$200,000 is to decrease the unappropriated balance, with \$161,000 going to capital outlay improvements and \$39,000 is going to other services and charges, other contractual services.

President Deutch stated that \$80,000 is for the capital apple outlay for machinery equipment for the Emergency Management.

President Deutch asked if there were any additional comments regarding the proposed amendment.

Councilman P. Przybylinski stated that he would like to see the list of what equipment being proposed as soon as possible; so that he and his fellow colleagues can review before this is adopted.

The proposed amended resolution was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members P. Przybylinski, Dabney, Fitzpatrick, Mack, Deutch, Simmons and Zygus (7) **NAYS:** None

Clerk Neulieb read the amended ordinance on first reading by title only. **APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE ARP CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND FOR UPGRADES TO THE SECURITY SYSTEM AT CITY HALL, CENTRAL SERVICES, CENTRAL MAINTENANCE, TO PAY FOR UPGRADES TO THE CITY'S CYBER SECURITY SYSTEM AND PURCHASE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT FOR THE CITY'S EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT VOLUNTEERS THROUGH THE MICHIGAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Introduced by: Angie Nelson Deutch
Michael Mack
Dalia Zygus

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the sponsors, there was no response.

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the public at this time.

President Deutch advised that Mr. Rickey Jackson and Lt. Jeff Loniewski were present asking them to address the Council regarding what they are using the equipment for and why..

Lt. Jeff Loniewski and Ricky Jackson (a twenty eight 28 year veteran of the Emergency Organization) addressed the Council advising that this organization has been together for forty two years and in 2011 they transitioned over into the police department when the EMA director position was eliminated; EMA receives approximately \$5,000.00 a year to spend through the MCPD for smaller items, such as uniforms and other equipment and receive small donations for all the events they work; advising that in 2021 they worked over 1,100 hours in our community services at fifty-three (53) events last year related to Covid volunteering their time.

Officer Loniewski addressed the Council regarding the equipment/truck they are asking for explaining what they would be using them for.

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the Council.

Councilman Simmons thanked the Emergency Management volunteer for their services that do an outstanding job in our community.

Councilman P. Przybylinski reiterated that he hopes that he can get the estimates/quotes to review to make sure this equipment will be multi-functional that they can use it on the or on our city streets and that he isn't saying the EMA doesn't need this equipment.

President Deutch asked if there were any additional comments on the amended proposed ordinance, there was no response; stating that this will be held over on second reading at our April 17, 2022, Council meeting.

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on third reading by title only.
AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4598 COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE "2022 SALARY ORDINANCE" TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS WITHIN THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY & TO CREATE THE POSITION OF GRANT WRITER

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney
Dalia Zygas
Michael Mack

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from any of the authors at this time.

Councilwoman Zygas wanted to add that at the last council meeting we talked about the grant writer and that it wasn't necessary and that we don't have a grant writer at this time and the city has lost around \$600,000 from incorrectly managed grants; stating several reasons why she supports approving adding this position to the City's staff.

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the public.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, supports having a grant writing; stating that the City wouldn't of had to forfeit \$340,000 a few months ago on the Community Crossing Grant that was done by our former City Engineer mistake.

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the Council.

Councilman P. Przybylinski questioned the comments Councilwoman Zygas stated regarding the additional amount of money that was needed for Community Crossing Grant; commenting on the money the former City Engineer saved our city during his time working for our city and that we don't need a grant writer that we can hire a grant writer to look over any grant that is being proposed and received.

Councilman Dabney commented on the dollar amount that Councilman P. Przybylinski stated that if the former city engineer save the city a million dollars by his services that he hasn't seen those figures on paper; advising that the figures Councilwoman Zygas put out there were facts.

Councilman Dabney commented on the letter received this evening from Mayor regarding our Community Crossing grants for this year and that we will not be receiving

this grant this year at all; asking that he would like to see the numbers on paper of the million dollars the city saved from the former city engineer.

Councilman Dabney stated several reasons why this proposed ordinance raising the salaried personnel to compromise the study that was done and followed during the 2022 budget should be approved this evening.

Councilman Fitzpatrick stated for the record that all city hourly employees were given 100% of what the proposed salaries were, it's just the department heads who are appointed by the administration that we went around and did different percentages to; and that we were looking out for our city employees 100% during the 2022 budget time.

President Deutch stated as far as the grant writer goes and going back again to the community crossing; that there is a specialty in that and we've never had this issue previously with engineering firms the city utilized for the community crossing grant; stating that these grants are "specialties" and there are firms out there that the city contracts to make sure everything is done correctly; not a person making \$40,000 and aren't highly specialized in grant writing.

President Deutch commented on the proposed salary ordinance that is on third reading; stating for the record and as far as the salary and this coming back to us, she didn't see anything that's changed from last summer when we went through the process that there was something miraculously that changed in our minds; that it's the same exact thing that was proposed before and that we will move forward on this issue in the upcoming budget, that 100% was given to all hourly wages, she didn't totally agree with the study that was done as well.

Councilman P. Przybylinski stated for general information for this year there were no Community Crossing grants awarded to LaPorte County and that he is against hiring a grant writer; asking since we don't have a city engineer at this time, asking if we hired any local firms to date.

President Deutch asked if there were any additional comments from the council.

Councilwoman Zygas made a motion to adopt the proposed ordinance, second by Councilman Dabney.

The proposed ordinance FAILED by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Dabney, Mack, and Zygas (3) **NAYS:** Fitzpatrick, Deutch, Simmons, and P. Przybylinski (4)

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on third reading by title only.
AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4614 TO ESTABLISHING SALARIES FOR THE MICHIGAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2022

Introduced by: Don Przybylinski
Paul Przybylinski
Bryant Dabney

Note: This Ordinance was TABLED at the April 19, 2022, Council meeting until the Labor Relations Committee met with FOP negotiating team

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the sponsors.

Councilman P. Przybylinski advised that the Finance Committee had a meeting with the MCPD FOP negotiating team regarding the language they wanted to amend in their

contract regarding lateral transfer and how it was going to be handled within their department; with everyone being on the same page resolving this matter.

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the public, there was no response.

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the Council.

Councilman Fitzpatrick made a motion to adopt the proposed ordinance, second by Councilman P. Przybylinski.

The proposed ordinance was adopted by the following vote; **AYES:** Council members Fitzpatrick, Mack, Deutch, Simmons, Zygas, P. Przybylinski, and Dabney (7) **NAYS:** None (0).

NEW BUSINESS

President Deutch asked if there was any new business this evening, there was no response.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NOMINATIONS: Vice President D. Przybylinski advised the Council has the following appointments to the Commission of the Social Status of African American Males (term expired 2/15/22)

Incumbents:

Ms. Albertine Allen – Minority Health Partners of LaPorte County
(resigned)
Dr. Wendall McCollum- MCAS

President Deutch advised that Councilwoman Tillman is working on filling these positions and amending their ordinance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the public at this time.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, encourages everyone to support our farmer's market that is being held starting this Saturday, May 7th from 8:00 a.m to 12:00 p.m. and will go through the end of October.

Kathy Parker, 331 Fir Street addressed the council updating them about an assault that happened at the MCPD park behind their building with one of them being her grandson; advising that all three (3) boys were shot with "bb" guns showing several pictures; asking what is going to be done to stop the violence and update cameras being used at the police department.

Rodney McCormick, Michigan City Housing Authority member, addressed the council regarding the article that was in the paper written by Shaw Friedman and signed by Councilman Mack with the title of it "Mayor wrong for attacking Michigan City Housing Authority" advised that Councilman Mack is this Council's Liaison, his attendance and what he addressed in this article was not correct; asking this council to address this matter as well as appointing a hearing officer from the council.

MCFD Chief Doug Legault stated on February 9, 2022, he brought an issue to the Council's Finance Committee and did not go into details; advising that he still strongly recommends and believes that we need to address this situation regarding the salary

difference with his deputy chiefs' positions; asking if he could meet with someone he would appreciate it.

Nathan Patrick, Commissioner of the Michigan City Housing Authority briefly addressed some of the email chain's that have gone back and forth to clarify some things; advising that there was nothing personal like Commissioner McCormick mentioned that each commissioner's pay and that the Mayor appointed them to do a job which adds up to hours and hours trying to see how we can restore Michigan City's Housing Authority to do and fulfill its mission statement to provide safe, clean, affordable housing to its residents.

President Deutch took a point of presidential privilege stating that the Council does have an Executive Session tomorrow evening along with a Special Council meeting following at 7:00 p.m. in reference to appointing a public hearing officer; we have two (2) candidates and that there were some things in those emails that were personal; that she didn't appreciate them and that she takes her job seriously and will always follow proper procedures as a council; but also understand that this Council has no bearing on what is happening that we're not the judge or the jury, we are a neutral party and have been presented in the public.

President Deutch stated again that the only role this council has is to appoint a hearing officer.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

President Deutch asked if there were any comments from the council.

Councilman Dabney commented on the Executive Session that has been called by the ruling body; advising that this case does involve a family member on the Housing Authority Board and that he stated he is going queues himself from hearing it, even though we are not judge, jury or anything like that I'm going to remove myself totally from the situation.

Councilman Mack addressed the Council regarding the article that was in the paper about the Mayor and the Housing Authority; that the Herald Argus sent him an email he returned an answer six days later, that it is ludicrous of my inability to write a simple letter, that they put the article together adding other people's comments can change the meaning of you wrote and attacking your integrity and your intelligence about writing a letter yourself; also stating that he has a full time job and is unable to attend all the boards he is on; asking the public to go back and watch the last four or five meetings of the Housing Authority Board and make your own decision.

Councilman Fitzpatrick commented on what we had addressed earlier in regards to the former City Engineer and the numbers/money Councilman Przybylinski stated he saved; advising the million dollars he stated and what he thinks he was referring to is the \$400,000 the City spends annually on outside engineering firms for last couple of years and if you add that up as you go it could easily get to a million.

Councilman Fitzpatrick wished everyone a "Happy Mothers Day"!!

Councilwoman Zygus stated that the Labeznick Center for the Arts is having a "stage reading" call Climate Follies an interactive evening of contemporary theater this Friday.

Councilman P. Przybylinski thanked Councilman Fitzpatrick regarding his comments on money the former city engineer saved our community while he was here.

Councilman P. Przybylinski questioned Chief Lagault if he knew what the amount in pay was for each of his salaried chief's for their 27th pay under the executive order of Mayor Parry last year and was rolled into your base.

Councilman P. Przybylinski also asked Chief Lagault about the total cost of disciplinary action regarding the altercation that took place within the fire departments personnel when putting these firefighters on paid administrative leave to the city.

Councilman P. Przybylinski asked if the Planning Department could do something more about getting the detoured traffic load due to the Double Track Project off Washington Street to Wabash Street and Ohio Street also.

President Deutch went back to comments made regarding our former City Engineer Mr. Wright and that she doesn't want him to do any work within our City Limits again; that we always talk about savings and we have gone after Federal Grants and brought in additional monies for infrastructure, but unfortunately and it states in the memo; that unfortunately we didn't get this last cycle because the City Engineer failed to requested revisions our application was not accepted because the city engineer failed to make the requested revisions and again stating when we hired out to professional engineer firms we never had any issues.

President Deutch wished everyone a "Happy Mother's Day"; sharing that the sixth Community Job Fair is next Tuesday, May 10, 2022 from 2 – 6 p.m. at Blue Chip Casino.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Councilman Dabney, second by Councilman Fitzpatrick and there being no further business to transact, President Deutch declared the meeting **ADJOURNED** (approximately 7:48 p.m.)

Gale A. Neulieb