

REGULAR MEETING – April 7, 2020

The Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, met in Regular session on Tuesday evening, April 7, 2020 at the hour of 6:30 p.m., local time, hosted by “Zoom”.

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

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

PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS Bryant Dabney, Paul Przybylinski, Michael Mack, Sean Fitzpatrick, Tracie Tillman, Gene Simmons, Angie Nelson-Deutch, Don Przybylinski and Dalia Zygus (9).

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBER None (0).

ALSO, PRESENT: James Meyer – Council Attorney, Gale Neulieb City Clerk and Dawn Debald Deputy Clerk

A QUORUM WAS NOTED PRESENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Fitzpatrick inquired whether there were any corrections, deletions, or additions to the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 3, 2020 and the Regular meeting from March 17, 2020 – Cancelled (Due to COVID-19 Virus).

President Fitzpatrick asked for a motion to approve the Regular Council meeting minutes from March 3, 2020; with a motion from Councilman P. Przybylinski and second by Councilwoman Deutch. The minutes were approved as printed 9-0.

REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES

Councilman presented the Finance Committee meeting minutes for March 17, 2020 and April 7, 2020; they are as follows:

March 17, 2020 Council Finance Committee Meeting

The Finance Committee meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Chairman Dabney to review claims filed since the last meeting. Committee members Tillman and Paul Przybylinski were present as well as Council members Fitzpatrick, Simmons, Nelson-Deutch, Zygus, and Don Przybylinski. City Controller Yvonne Hoffmaster was in attendance as well as City Attorney Jim Meyers. Claims reviewed totaled \$510,108.75 from the Riverboat Fund and \$4,634.68 from the Boyd Development Fund, for a total docket of \$514,743.43. There was further discussion considering the ESG payments. Councilman Dabney moved to recommend approval of the docket, and with a second by Councilwoman Tillman, the motion was approved with a 2-1 vote, with Paul Przybylinski casting the nay vote. On a motion made by Councilwoman Tillman and a second by Councilman Paul Przybylinski, the meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

The summary of claims are as follows:

From the Riverboat Fund:

ACME Communications Inc. - \$385.00
COMCAST - \$44.44

Crown Castle Towers 6-02 LLC - \$978.58 (Tower Rental)
 Great America Financial Services - \$778.03 (copier System)
 Harris Precast Inc. - \$80.00
 Bank of America - ESG loan payment - \$388,140.59 (Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contract)
 Bank of America – ESG loan payment - \$123,702.11 (Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contract)

TOTAL from Riverboat Fund: \$510,108.75

From Boyd Development:

Express Press Inc. - \$62.30 (Business cards)
 News Dispatch - \$3,450.00 (full page advertising and listings)
 Primera Engineers Ltd. - \$1,122.38 (Singing Sands Trail)
TOTAL from Boyd Development: \$4,634.68

TOTAL CLAIMS DOCKET - \$514,743.43

April 7, 2020 Council Finance Committee Meeting

The Finance Committee meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Chairman Dabney to review claims filed since the last meeting. Committee members Tillman and Paul Przybylinski were present as well as Council members Fitzpatrick, Nelson- Deutch, Simmons, Zygas, and Don Przybylinski. City Controller Yvonne Hoffmaster was in attendance as well as City Attorney Jim Meyers. Claims reviewed totaled \$217,733.37 from the Riverboat Fund and \$0.00 from the Boyd Development Fund, and an Energy Savings Loan payment of \$210,768.60 for a total docket of \$428,201.97. There was no further discussion of docket payments. Councilman Dabney moved to recommend approval of the docket, and with a second by Councilwoman Tillman, the motion was approved 2-1 with Paul Przybylinski casting the nay vote. On a motion made by Councilman Paul Przybylinski and a second by Councilwoman Tillman, the meeting was adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

The summary of claims are as follows:

From the Riverboat Fund:

All Points Fire - \$93.00 (reseal Fire Extinguishers)
 Axon enterprises Inc. - \$27,672.37(Tasers Year 3 Payment)
 Crown Castle Towers 6-02 LLC - \$978.58 (Tower rental)
 Enterprise Rent-a-Car - \$1,985.28
 TruGreen - \$324.45
 Comcast - \$129.69
 City of Michigan City - \$186,250.00 (Grant funding match for a purchased 2 buses)
TOTAL from Riverboat Fund: \$217,433.37

Energy Savings Group App 15 – 210,768.60 (Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contract)

From Boyd Development:

TOTAL from Boyd Development: \$0.00

TOTAL CLAIMS DOCKET - \$428,201.97

CLAIM DOCKETS

President Fitzpatrick asked if there was a motion to approve the claims from March 17, 2020; Councilman D. Przybylinski called a “point of order” asking what the balance is in

the Riverboat fund to date; stating that this council can't approve these claims not knowing what the riverboat balance is and knowing the city will not be receiving money from Blue Chip for the next few months due to Governors executive order. President Fitzpatrick stated the Council has been receiving bi-weekly reports from the City Controller; with Attorney Meyer advising the payment to ESG is not coming out of Riverboat funds, but from a loan the city has at Bank of America. - Councilman Dabney advised that he didn't know what the balance was in the Riverboat fund; making a motion to approve the claim docket, second by Councilman Michael Mack.

Councilman P. Przybylinski stated several reasons why he voted against the claim docket; commenting on the ESG Claim in the docket.

Councilwoman Deutch advised that ESG claim is not on the March 17, 2020 claim docket; but on the April 7, 2020 claim docket that we will be addressing next.

There was a motion by Councilman Dabney, second by Councilman Mack with the claims being approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council Members Dabney, Fitzpatrick, Mack, Deutch, Simmons and Tillman (6) **NAYS:** Council members D. Przybylinski and P. Przybylinski (2) **ABSTAIN:** Council member Zygas (1).

President Fitzpatrick asked if there was a motion to approve the claims from April 7, 2020; Councilman Dabney made a motion to approve the claims, second by Councilman Mack.

Councilman D. Przybylinski addressed Councilman P. Przybylinski's concerns regarding the lighting in the Elston Grove Neighborhood; advising the Elston Grove Neighborhood association voted in favor of the LED lights and no globes.

Discussion ensued between Councilmen D. Przybylinski, P. Przybylinski, and Dabney regarding the ESG Energy Project and what was proposed and completed in regards to lights.

Councilwoman Deutch advised there will be a committee meeting scheduled before signing the final completion docket for ESG; stating the concerns about the lights can be addressed and discussed at that time.

Attorney Meyer advised that the ESG project is completed and everything is constructed under the current contract; stating that any additional work requested from ESG/DLZ will be an additional cost to the city and would have to be incurred in the form of a Change Order.

There was a motion by Councilman Dabney, second by Councilman Mack with the claims being approved by the following voted: **AYES:** Council Members Fitzpatrick, Mack, Deutch, D. Przybylinski, Simmons, Zygas and Tillman (8) **NAYS:** Council members P. Przybylinski (1).

RESOLUTION

City Clerk Neulieb read the following proposed resolution in its entirety,

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 4777

**REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR OF INDIANA TO PROVIDE IMMEDIATE
FINANCIAL RELIEF TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO ENABLE THEM TO BEST
SERVE THEIR CONSTITUENTS DURING THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020 Indiana's Governor declared a public health emergency for the Coronavirus Disease Outbreak (Covid-19) pursuant to IC 10-14-3-12; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the President declared a national emergency for the same reason; and

WHEREAS, IC 10-14-3-12(d)(1) grant the Governor plenary authority to suspend or relax provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conducting state business, or the orders, rules, or regulations of any state agency which would otherwise prevent or unreasonably delay necessary action being taken to address the declared Covid-19 health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Executive Order 20-04 issued on March 16, 2020 required the closure of bars, restaurants, other hospitality and entertainment businesses; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020 the Governor issued Executive Order 20-08 requiring all non-essential businesses to cease operations and all Hoosiers to remain at home except to engage in essential activities; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the above described Governor's Executive Orders, numerous Michigan City businesses have suspended most, if not all, of their operations and there has been a resultant flood of applications by Michigan City residents for unemployment compensation which is overwhelming the current Indiana Work Force Development staff; and

WHEREAS, food banks, food pantries, and other social service agencies providing needed sustenance and assistance to the unemployed and needy are being overrun with demands for their services; and

WHEREAS, medical care facilities and professionals have begun to be inundated with Covid-19 related demands for service which demand is only likely to increase substantially in the near future; and

WHEREAS, although Michigan City's and other municipalities' revenues will suffer a large drop as a result of the Covid-19 virus emergency and resultant Governor's Executive Orders, that same emergency will increase the need for the City to incur costs to provide necessary City services to address the emergency and to help fund the agencies that provide necessary assistance to citizens of Michigan City who are in need of those services due to the Covid-19 virus emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Council is very concerned about the availability of food, medicine, and other necessities being made available to those in need thereof, especially the elderly and shut-ins, during the pendency of the Covid-19 virus emergency; and

WHEREAS, the State of Indiana has a surplus of funds of at least \$2 Billion dollars to be used as a rainy day fund in times of an emergency and the declared Covid-19 healthcare emergency and the Governor's stay at home and shut down of non-essential businesses clearly established that now is clearly a time when that surplus should be used to assist Michigan City and other local governments to meet all of the needs of their citizens during the Covid-19 virus emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Michigan City Common Council that it calls on the Governor to exercise his authority granted to him under Indiana law during times of a healthcare emergency to do the following:

1. Immediately take all necessary steps, including convening a meeting of the State Budget Committee, to authorize and implement a Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$500,000,000) stimulus package be distributed to cash strapped cities, towns, and counties throughout Indiana, in proportion to their needs, to assist with meeting the increased needs of their citizens resulting from the Covid-19 virus emergency, including providing funding to local nonprofits to assist with meeting those needs providing the necessary physical and mental healthcare.
2. Immediately direct the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) to

loosen restrictions and regulations on local governments spending public funds on emergency assistance to their citizens, including, but not limited to, spending those funds on matters other than as was identified in their 2020 Budgets as approved by the DLGF and inter and intra-fund transfers with limited administrative approvals.

3. Provide an immediate cash infusion to Indiana Work Force Development so that it can increase its staff of intake workers and their training to be able to promptly handle claims for unemployment compensation, and the increased benefits provided by the recently enacted federal CARES Act, including eliminating the ordinarily applicable waiting times for receiving benefits and assistance .

Upon the passage of this Resolution and approval by the Mayor, the City Clerk will send a certified copy to the Governor of Indiana and all State Senators and Representatives with constituents in Michigan City.

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

INTRODUCED BY: /s/ Donald Przybylinski, Member
Michigan City Common Council

CO-SPONSOR: /s/ Paul A. Przybylinski
/s/ Angie Nelson Deutch, Member
/s/ Bryant Dabney, Member
/s/ Eugene Simmons, Member
/s/ Sean Fitzpatrick, Member
/s/ Tracie Tillman, Member
/s/ Michael Mack, Member
/s/ Dalia Zygas, Member

President Fitzpatrick asked any of the Authors had anything to add to the proposed resolution.

Councilman D. Przybylinski read the proposed resolution in its entirety; explaining this is a very important resolution for the residents of Michigan City, LaPorte County and the state of Indiana as a whole; advising the LaPorte County Commissioners passed a similar resolution at their last meeting.

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any Council comments regarding the proposed resolution; there was no response.

Councilman P. Przybylinski made the motion to approve the proposed resolution; second by Councilman Simmons.

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any other questions or comments from the Council and hearing none the proposed resolution was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Council members Mack, Deutch, D. Przybylinski, Simmons, Zygas, P. Przybylinski, Tillman, Dabney and Fitzpatrick (9) **NAYS:** None (0).

RESOLUTION

The City Clerk read the following resolution by title only,

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 4778

**WAIVING CERTAIN PROCEDURES AND FORMALITIES
DURING DISASTER EMERGENCY PURSUANT TO I.C. 10-14-3-17**

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020 the Governor of Indiana declared a public health emergency for Coronavirus Disease 2019 Outbreak ("COVID-19") pursuant to I.C. 10-14-3-12; and

WHEREAS, I.C. 10-14-3-17 gives the City of Michigan City, by and through the Michigan City Common Council (Council), the authority to waive procedures and formalities otherwise required by law as a result of the disaster emergency declaration; and

WHEREAS, I.C. 10-14-3-17(j)(5) states, in part, a political subdivision may:

In the event of a national emergency or disaster emergency as provided in section 12 (I.C.10-14-3-12) of this chapter, waive procedures and formalities otherwise required by law pertaining to:

-
- (H) the appropriation and expenditure of public funds.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Michigan City Municipal Code (City Code), the Council is required to approve claims to be paid from the Casino or Boyd Development Funds; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to City Code, the Council is required to consent to the Mayor’s appointments to various City Commissions; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to avoid the disruption to City operations and services that the COVID-19 virus emergency may create; and

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes concern for public health due to the COVID-19 virus emergency and related Governor’s Orders may prevent the Council from meeting to conduct its business and affairs, including the approval of claims and fulfilling other duties required by City Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY THAT:

1. The aforementioned “Whereas” sentences are incorporated herein as if fully set forth herein.
2. Those procedures required by Indiana law pertaining to the appropriation and expenditure of public funds and required by City Code for approvals by the Council of Mayoral appointments to City Commissions and other Council approvals shall be waived in the event the Council President determines and declares in writing that the Council is unable to hold a timely meeting due to public health concerns arising out of the current Governor declared COVID-19 virus emergency or due to another Governor declared emergency issued pursuant to IC 10-14-3-12, at which time the Council President or, if he is unavailable, the Vice-President, shall have the authority to approve the same that would otherwise have been presented for approval by the Council at a Council meeting.
3. This Resolution does not waive the requirement for a public hearing on an appropriation to the extent a public hearing is required by Indiana law but this Resolution does allow the approval of such appropriation by the Council President or, if he is unavailable, the Vice-President, after the public hearing.
4. The waiver provided for in this Resolution shall be null and void upon the expiration of the current Governor declared COVID-19 public health emergency or of any subsequent Governor declared emergency issued pursuant to IC 10-14-3-12 which is the basis for a Council President’s above described declaration allowing the implementation of the waiver of formal Council approvals provided for herein.

This Resolution will be in full force and effect from and after its passage by the Council and approval by the Mayor.

INTRODUCED BY: /s/ Sean Fitzpatrick, President
Michigan City Common Council

President Fitzpatrick commented on the Resolution the Board of Public Works and Safety board adopted April 6, 2020 and is similar to the proposed resolution this evening; advising to follow the covid-19 executive orders, it may be necessary to meet for essential items that need to be addressed to keep the city government business moving forward.

Attorney, James Meyer addressed the Council stating more importantly this is in line with what the State Law allows in these circumstances; advising the State Board of Accounts (SBOA) itself has approved the process for instance, the first item stating the recommendation is that the President and Vice-President are able to approve what would normally be approved by the Council; explaining if the President is unavailable, the Vice-President can approve those items; further advising once we can hold in person meetings all of these things will be ratified.

Discussion ensued between President Fitzpatrick and Councilman P. Przybylinski regarding the language in the proposed resolution; addressing what procedures will be followed if adopted.

Councilwoman Deutch called for a "point of order" making the motion to adopt the proposed resolution so they can have further discussion; second by Councilman P. Przybylinski.

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any other questions or comments from the Council.

Councilwoman Deutch stated that she agreed with Council P. Przybylinski comments; advising it is important that the Council follows what the state is doing to make sure we can move forward to get city business done.

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any other questions or comments from the Council and hearing none the proposed resolution was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Deutch, D. Przybylinski, Simmons, Zygus, P. Przybylinski, Tillman, Dabney, Fitzpatrick and Mack (9) **NAYS:** (0).

ORDINANCE

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on 2nd Reading by title only,

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2-399 OF THE MICHIGAN CITY MUNICIPAL CODE DESIGNATING THE COMMON COUNCIL AS THE CITY AGENCY WITH THE SOLE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE PURCHASE ORDERS FROM THE CITY'S RIVERBOAT FUND AND BOYD DEVELOPMENT FUND

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney
Co-Sponsor: Tracie Tillman
Paul Przybylinski
Don Przybylinski

President Fitzpatrick asked if any of the authors had anything to add at this time.

Councilman Dabney stated the proposed ordinance is so all purchases that will be paid out of the Riverboat/Boyd Development funds be approved before a department purchase can be made; explaining in the past if there was money in each departments annual budget for expenses, equipment, etc., giving each department the right to make a purchase during that year; after the purchase was made it then came to the Council

for their approval. further stating this is a good step to get control of the Riverboat/Boyd Development funds.

Discussion ensued between Councilwoman Deutch and Councilman Dabney regarding if there was going to be a motion made for an amendment to take this down from \$500.00 to .01 cents; Councilman Dabney responded no, this has to go before the Board of Public Works and Safety because it is a policy; stating they have to make the change to the policy then it goes back to the Council to change it from \$500.00 to .01 cents.

Attorney James Meyer stated it is not required for this to go before the Board of Public Works and Safety; advising the Council can change it because they are above the Board of Public Works in reference to setting rules for purchasing; explaining in this case you are setting a rule that solely applies to the Council approving purchases; advising the Council can set the parameters they want to approve.

Councilman Dabney further explained they can make the amendment to the proposed ordinance tonight; changing it from \$500.00 to .01 cents.

Discussion ensued between President Fitzpatrick, D. Przybylinski, Councilman Dabney and Attorney Meyer regarding if this has to be done in writing. Attorney Meyer stated under the Council's rules it is supposed to be writing, but that was in the times where everything was in writing and people were meeting face to face; advising it is up to the Council as to whether or not they want to allow it being in writing.

President Fitzpatrick stated he agrees with the amendment and if Councilman Dabney is willing to suspend the rules to allow this and get the amended Ordinance in writing to the Clerk's Office, this should be sufficient.

Councilman P. Przybylinski made the motion to amend the proposed ordinance to add language in the 2nd whereas to reflect changing the amount from \$500.00 to .01 cents; second by Councilwoman Deutch.

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any other questions or comments from the Council and hearing none the amendment to the proposed ordinance to add language in the 2nd whereas to reflect the amount from \$500.00 to .01 cents was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members D. Przybylinski, Simmons, Zygus, P. Przybylinski, Tillman, Dabney, Fitzpatrick, Mack and Deutch (9) **NAYS:** None (0)

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any further comments.

Councilman Dabney asked if this could be read on 2nd and 3rd reading tonight.

Councilman Dabney explained that he sees this as an emergency situation since the Riverboat is closed.

Councilman D. Przybylinski commented on Councilman Dabney's remarks; stating we have no Riverboat money coming in; explaining we just spent \$900,000.00 tonight and there was 1.5 million dollars in the budget (Riverboat) which leaves \$600,000.00 if that is the true number; advising there is a spending freeze and the Mayor stated there is no spending; further commenting there is two (2) weeks until the next meeting and no one is spending any money so he sees no reason to declare an emergency and have 2nd and 3rd reading tonight.

Councilman Dabney continued to explain that Councilman D. Przybylinski's explanation constitutes an emergency for him.

Councilman P. Przybylinski asked if the Council has to pass the ordinance as an emergency or is it sufficient for the Board of Public Works and Safety to pass a resolution proclaiming it is an emergency.

Attorney Meyer stated if it was on first reading and the Council wanted to approve it on first reading instead of waiting on 2nd and 3rd reading, the Council would have voted and declared it an emergency as to why there they are not going to have the two (2)

readings that are typically required by state law; advising it would be voted on by the Council, the Board of Public Works and Safety has nothing to do with it.

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any Council comments regarding the proposed ordinance; there was no response; advising the proposed ordinance would be held over for third reading at the next Council meeting; to be determined.

PENDING

(Items that were on our March 17, 2020 Council meeting agenda were removed and will be addressed at a later date as the Council is only allowed to address essential items at this time)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Final Acceptance Certificate – DLZ (Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contract, dated as of November 20, 2018 (the “Agreement”) between Energy Systems Group, LLC (the “Contractor”) and the City of Michigan City (the “Owner”)

- The Senior Center Solar work (as defined in the agreement) have been delivered, installed and accepted as of the 28th day of October, 2019 (the “Final Acceptance Date”)
- The Police Headquarters Solar work (as defined in the Agreement) have been delivered, installed and accepted as of the 17th day of January, 2020 (the “Final Acceptance Date”)

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any Council comments regarding the final acceptance certificates; asking if the Council has to make a motion or if they have to vote on this.

Attorney Meyer stated they need a motion to approve; advising these are two (2) of the projects, not the overall final project; explaining whenever a project is completed there is a final acceptance certificate from DLZ; explaining they can be approved together and voted on.

Councilman D. Przybylinski made a motion to accept the final acceptance certificates for the Senior Center Solar work and the Police Headquarters Solar work; second by Councilman Simmons.

Councilman P. Przybylinski stating that the “owner” John Kirk signed off of the final acceptance certificates; advising he has an issue with this because it never went in front of the City Engineer for him to sign off of it.

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any other questions or comments from the Council and hearing none the final acceptance certificates passed by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Simmons, Zygas, Tillman, Dabney, Fitzpatrick, Mack, Deutch, D. Przybylinski (8) **NAYS:** P. Przybylinski (1)

Discussion ensued between Councilman D. Przybylinski and President Fitzpatrick regarding the open position on the Tree Board being Johnny Stimley stepped down from the Council. President Fitzpatrick advised this matter is not essential and it will be addressed at a later time.

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

President Fitzpatrick asked if there were any comments from the Mayor; Mayor Parry stated he did not have any comments at this time.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

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

Councilman D. Przybylinski commented on the marquis sign that MCAS owns that is located at Ames Field; advising it didn't have any messages on it, so he asked to put the phrase that is being used across the nation "Stay at home, Stay Alive" on it; stating MCAS is showing their support as far as keeping everyone safe and healthy.

Councilman P. Przybylinski stated that everyone needs to wash their hands and use good, safe and healthy practices if you do have to leave your home.

Discussion ensued between Councilman Simmons and President Fitzpatrick regarding if there was a decision made on how they are going to collectively reach out to their respective wards. President Fitzpatrick stated at the workshop they mentioned putting a video message together; advising they need to get together and work that out; explaining if the Council needs to get a general message out to the public, we do have the capabilities and ability to do so.

Councilman Simmons further stating he wanted to share with the public and fellow Council members that retired police officer, Al Christensen passed away on April 6, 2020; advising he will miss his good friend.

President Fitzpatrick gave his condolences and prayer's to Al's family.

Councilwoman Zygas commented she heard from constituents that Air B&B's are still renting properties; advising she also has concerns regarding the cleaning of such properties.

President Fitzpatrick addressed Councilwoman Zygas advising her that the Mayor just issued an Executive order today regarding her concern.

Discussion ensued between Councilwoman Zygas and Mayor Parry regarding the emergency soup kitchen reaching out to her asking if they can continue operations with the quarantine situation (the stay at home order). Mayor Parry stated none of the City's support services are closed; advising the soup kitchens are staying open.

Councilwoman Deutch thanked Mayor Parry for the Executive Order; advising there are still grants available through LaPorte Healthcare Foundation and United Way of LaPorte County and the Unity Foundation; advising residents need to utilize these services if they need help; stating North Central Community Action Agency is helping with rental assistance; there is also help with water and utility bills; explaining the money is starting to get to these agencies so if you need help or assistance, don't hesitate to reach out one of them; also thanking first responders who are out there working; further stating Covid-19 has affected many of us; keep positive spirits and appreciate the people out there volunteering.

Councilman Dabney stated the Executive Order goes into effect tonight (April 7, 2020) at 11:59 p.m.

Mayor Parry stated the entire Executive Order goes into effect at 12:01; explaining it is a seven (7) day order which is what the legislative requirement is because he selected to refer to it as an emergency; advising at the end of the seven (7) days it will need approval by the Common Council which would extend it to 11:59 p.m. Monday, May 4, 2020; stating if the Council votes to extend it after the seven (7) days, Tuesday, May 5, 2020 is when the Governor's Executive Order ends; advising we will be in line with the Governor.

Discussion ensued between Councilman Dabney and Mayor Parry regarding if the Council would have to approve the extension within seven (7) days. Mayor Parry stated, yes; advising the Council would have to have an emergency meeting.

Discussion further ensued between Councilman Simmons and Mayor Parry regarding if hotels in Michigan City were notified of the Executive Order. Mayor Parry stated no, they were not, but he will follow up with direct visits tomorrow; stating it was imperative for him to get the Executive Order out today with the nice weather coming; explaining he is concerned with individuals traveling to Michigan City from outside the state; especially from identified hotspots such as Illinois, New York and Florida; advising they need to self-quarantine for fourteen (14) days regardless whether or not if they are exhibiting symptoms from the COVID-19 virus; further stating he closed the golf courses the second time is because they were inundated with calls for tee times from out of state; further advising there are a lot of people that have summer homes in Michigan City so they are coming here because the incident rate is so high in Illinois; further explaining they need to realize we are not putting our community at risk for golfers and people that want to escape the conditions where they live.

Councilman Simmons further adding he would like to have dialog with the Visitor's Bureau because they are having conversations with the hotels.

Discussion continued between Councilwoman Tillman and Mayor Parry regarding his Executive Order #5, City wide curfew. Mayor Parry stated the curfew is directed towards the younger generation; advising last summer when the weather was nice there were a lot of people at Washington Park; explaining they are trying to reduce this with the curfew.

Councilwoman Tillman elaborated on the curfew stating it is in effect from 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m. per Governor Holcomb's executive order 20-18; advising they need to get this out to the public, so they are aware of what is currently being implemented by the City.

Councilman P. Przybylinski thanked Mayor Parry and his staff for all their hard work on getting the Executive Order out; stating he also has a letter for Dan Gramquist to be re-appointed to the Michigan City Historic Review Board; asking by unanimous consent if they can go back to unfinished business and get that done.

President Fitzpatrick advised there are no Board and Commission meetings at this time and this is not an essential item; stating when the Mayor releases the Boards and Commissions and they are able to meet again, the Council will look into all of the Advice and Consents; advising with the resolution that passed, everyone will not have to get together; stating if there are no objections the Vice-President or himself can approve.

Discussion ensued between Councilman P. Przybylinski and Councilwoman Deutch regarding the Economic Development Corporation and who is helping to facilitate the SBA loan, is it Horizon Bank? Councilwoman Deutch advised there have been two (2) meetings that have included the Mayor, officials from the banking industry and they were being led by Katie Eaton and Clarence Hulse; stating they brought industry together to figure out what their needs are and what they are facing; there have also been several seminars and webinars from GIS and local companies to talk specifically about FMLA, unemployment and the SBA loans; explaining EDC has a portal on their website and they have been pushing out information to local businesses; further advising the SBA loans are for local hairdressers, barbers, uber drivers, etc. Councilman P. Przybylinski asked if Mr. Hulse knows how many small businesses we have and how many have applied for it.

Councilman D. Przybylinski thanked emergency personnel, nurses, doctors, and also M.C.P.D. and M.C.F.D. for being on the front lines helping people who are possibly positive for the Corona Virus; adding the Water Department and Sanitation Department

will not be shutting off anyone's service; NIPSCO will not be shutting off anyone's electric or gas; explaining things will be re-assessed on May 1, 2020; stating the City needs to be transparent with the public regarding the budget and City finances; thanking Mayor Parry for his hard work.

Councilman Dabney explained violations and various criminal charges pertaining to the Mayor's Executive Order; also commenting on Councilman D. Przybylinski's comments regarding the City's finances; advising he would like to see what we get back on tax collections (pay date May 15, 2020) so that he gets a clearer picture.

President Fitzpatrick giving his thoughts on the current situation (Covid-19); stating people are taking wearing masks for granted; explaining how they are extremely important they are; also you need to wash your hands and if wearing gloves, they are for single use only; asking people to be mindful of basic hygiene practices; advising we need to work together respectfully and for the greater good of all people.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Councilman P. Przybylinski, supported by Councilman D. Przybylinski and there being no further business to transact, President Fitzpatrick declared the meeting **ADJOURNED** (approximately 8:19 p.m.)

Gale A. Neulieb