

REGULAR MEETING – September 21, 2021

The Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, met in Regular session on Tuesday evening, September 09, 2021 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 Michael Mack.

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

PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS Bryant Dabney, Sean Fitzpatrick, Michael Mack, D. Przybylinski, Paul Przybylinski, Gene Simmons, Dalia Zygus and Tracie Tillman (8).

ABSENT: Councilwoman Deutch (1).

A QUORUM WAS NOTED PRESENT

ALSO, PRESENT: Attorney Meyer, Gale Neulieb City Clerk and Dawn Debold Deputy Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Mack inquired whether there were any corrections, deletions, or additions to the minutes of the Regular Council “Zoom/ Hybrid” Meeting of, September 9, 2021; there was no response.

President Mack asked for a motion to approve the Regular Council “Zoom/Hybrid” meeting minutes of September 21, 2021 with a motion made by Councilman D. Przybylinski, second by Councilman Dabney and was approved by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Zygus, P. Przybylinski, Tillman, Dabney, Fitzpatrick, Mack and D. Przybylinski and Simmons (8). **NAYS:** None (0).

REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES

There were no standing committee reports this evening.

Councilman D. Przybylinski stated the Labor Negotiating Team had an executive session last Friday September 17, 2021 for the FOP and the Firefighters; advising the himself and Councilman Dabney were present, Councilman P. Przybylinski was absent (due to being ill) and that the team will be moving forward talking to the police and firefighters.

President Mack asked if there were any other reports of standing committees; there was no response.

FINANCE REPORT

President Mack asked if there were there was a finance committee meeting held.

Councilman Fitzpatrick advised that there wasn't a Finance Committee meeting due to not having any claims for the Riverboat or Boyd Development.

CLAIMS DOCKET

President Mack read the following claims for the record.

August 17, 2021 Riverboat/Boyd Claim Docket

Fund #2042 – Riverboat – Claims	\$	0.00
EFT	\$	0.00
Fund #2031 – Boyd – Claims-	\$	0.00
TOTAL CLAIMS	\$	0.00

REPORTS OF SPECIAL or SELECT COMMITTEES

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

REPORTS OF OTHER CITY OFFICERS and DEPARTMENTS

President Mack asked if there were any reports of other City Officers or Departments, there was no response.

PETITIONS

President Mack asked if there were any petitions.

City Clerk Neulieb advised that there was no petitions this evening.

COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Neulieb read the following correspondence that was received.

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office on September 1, 2021 from Controller Hoffmaster regarding the ARP Funds

Correspondence was received on September 15, 2021 from Councilwoman Deutch regarding the 2019 Salary Study

Correspondence was received in the Clerk's Office from the Michigan City IT Department and GIS Coordinator regarding the distribution of ARPA Funds

NOTE: Please note that Councilwoman Nelson Deutch joined the meeting at this time.

RESOLUTION

The Clerk read the following resolution by title only,

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 4813

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

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2021, the United States Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), which provides fiscal relief funds to State and Local Governments, and other program areas aimed at mitigating the continuing effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, ARPA is intended to provide support to local governments in responding to the impact of COVID-19 and in their efforts to contain COVID-19 in their communities, residents, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, ARPA includes State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to support urgent COVID response efforts to decrease the spread of the virus, to replace lost public sector revenue, to strengthen support for vital public services, to support immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses, and to address systemic public health and economic challenges that have contributed to unequal impacts of the pandemic on certain populations; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Treasury has adopted the interim final rule as guidance regarding the use of ARPA funds; and

WHEREAS, on June 8, 2021, the United States Department of Treasury deposited the City of Michigan City's first tranche of funds, which is Eight Million Two Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand Five Hundred Twenty-Two and 50/100 Dollars (\$8,274,522.50); and

WHEREAS, that as recipient, the City of Michigan City accepts award of Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds allocation up to the maximum allowed by the terms and conditions of the ARPA; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan City Common Council established the ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund #0176 through passage of Ordinance 4579. Which identified the following use of funds:

(A) to respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;

(B) to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work;

(C) for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the metropolitan city, non-entitlement unit of local government, or county prior to the emergency; or

(D) to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.”

WHEREAS, this resolution is intended as a statement of intent of the Council to expend a portion of the first tranche of the City's ARPA Funds in accordance with Federal Law and guidance, for the current critical needs and priorities for which there is consensus as set forth below.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA COMMON COUNCIL as follows:

Section 1. The aforementioned “Whereas” sections are included herein as if fully set forth herein.

Section 2. As set forth more fully below, the Council expresses its intent to expend these funds for eligible, immediate needs within the categories below:

- A. Expenditure of Lost Revenue on Governmental Services
- B. Premium Pay for Essential Employees
- C. Administrative Costs

Section 3. Expenditure of Lost Revenue on Governmental Services. It is the intent of the Administration that funds from the first tranche of the American Rescue Plan Act be prioritized and expended for governmental services as follows:

- A. Essential equipment needs for the Fire Department, to include UTV and equipment, water rescue equipment, rope rescue equipment and Fire Marshal vehicle, for a total of \$105,000.00.
- B. Essential equipment needs for the Police Department, to include portable radios for the Chaplains, eight (8) fleet vehicles and protect/riot gear, for a total of \$457,500.00.
- C. Essential equipment for Central Maintenance, to include a street sweeper, mechanics truck, two (2) 4x4 crew-cab trucks with plow and salt boxes and a utility sign truck, for a total of \$615,000.00.
- D. Essential equipment needs for the Park Department, to include tree work at the South Golf Course, three (3) crew-cab trucks, tractor with loader, compact utility tractor, gator with beach tires and rehab to large cat house at zoo, for a total of \$613,000.00.
- E. Essential equipment needs for the Cemetery, to include two (2) riding mowers and a 1-ton dump truck with plow, for a total of \$86,500.00.
- F. Funds for the expenditure will be taken from Fund 0176 – ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund as established with Ordinance 4579 and appropriated by the Common Council.

Section 4. One (1)-Time pay for Eligible City Employees. It is the intent of the Administration that funds from the first tranche of the American Rescue Plan Act be prioritized and expended to provide premium pay or retention bonus as a one-time bonus to all eligible employees who worked a minimum of thirty days between March 20, 2020, and July 31, 2021 as follows:

- A. This will include all City employees, Sanitary District employees, Port Authority and Water Department employees for a total not to exceed \$1,650,000. All seasonal and former employees are eligible on a pro-rated basis.
- B. A one-time bonus will be paid to eligible employees in three (3) categories.
 - a. Seasonal - \$500 Retention Pay
 - b. Municipal Essential Workers - \$2500 Retention Pay
 - c. ARPA Final Ruling defined Premium Pay Essential Workers in Fire, Police, Refuse and Transit. - \$5000 Premium Pay
- C. Funds for the expenditure will be taken from Fund 0176 – ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund as established with Ordinance 4579 and appropriated by the Common Council.

Section 5. Expenditures for Administrative Expenses. It is the intent of the Administration that funds from the first tranche of the American Rescue Plan Act be prioritized and expended for administrative assistance in the amount of \$100,000.00.

Section 6. 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, Member
Michigan City Common Council
/s/ Bryant Dabney, Member
Michigan City Common Council
/s/ Tracie Tillman, Member
Michigan City Common Council
/s/ Gene Simmons, Members
Michigan City Common Council
/s/ Sean Fitzpatrick, Member
Michigan City Common Council
/s/ Don Przybylinski, Member
Michigan City Common Council

Councilman D. Przybylinski asked to be added as a Co-sponsor.

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

Councilwoman Deutch stated that she sent an updated amendment by substitution to this resolution a few hours ago to the Clerk's office and was forwarded to each Council member.

Councilwoman advised that most of the Council members received telephone calls, emails, texts, regarding what was being proposed in regard to the ARPA bonuses City employees are being proposed to receive for working through the pandemic.

President Mack asked if there were any other comments from any of the authors; there was no response.

President Mack asked if there were any comments or questions from the public.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street, addressed the council regarding the ARPA funds asking if the City could use some of these funds to purchase a "Safe Haven Baby Box" to be located within the City Limits.

President Mack asked if there are any other comments from the public

President Mack asked if there was anyone from the Council that wished to address the proposed resolution.

Attorney Myer advised Councilwoman Deutch that if she want to amend this resolution by substitution she would have to make a motion.

Councilwoman Deutch made a motion to amend this resolution by substitution proposing the following:

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____

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

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WHEREAS, ARPA is intended to provide support to local governments in responding to the impact of COVID-19 and in their efforts to contain COVID-19 in their communities, residents, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, ARPA includes State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to support urgent COVID response efforts to decrease the spread of the virus, to replace lost public sector revenue, to strengthen support for vital public services, to support immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses, and to address systemic public health and economic challenges that have contributed to unequal impacts of the pandemic on certain populations; and

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(C) for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the metropolitan city, non-entitlement unit of local government, or county prior to the emergency; or

(D) to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.”

WHEREAS, this resolution is intended as a statement of intent of the Council to expend a portion of the first tranche of the City's ARPA Funds in accordance with Federal Law and guidance, for the current critical needs and priorities for which there is consensus as set forth below.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA COMMON COUNCIL as follows:

Section 1. The aforementioned “Whereas” sections are included herein as if fully set forth herein.

Section 2. As set forth more fully below, the Council expresses its intent to expend these funds for eligible, immediate needs within the categories below:

- D. Expenditure of Lost Revenue on Governmental Services
- E. Premium Pay for Essential Employees
- F. Administrative Costs

Section 3. Expenditure of Lost Revenue on Governmental Services. It is the intent of the Administration that funds from the first tranche of the American Rescue Plan Act be prioritized and expended for governmental services as follows:

- G. Essential equipment needs for the Fire Department, to include UTV and equipment, water rescue equipment, rope rescue equipment and Fire Marshal vehicle, for a total of \$105,000.00.
- H. Essential equipment needs for the Police Department, to include portable radios for the Chaplains, eight (8) fleet vehicles and protect/riot gear, for a total of \$457,500.00.
- I. Essential equipment for Central Maintenance, to include a street sweeper, mechanics truck, two (2) 4x4 crew-cab trucks with plow and salt boxes and a utility sign truck, for a total of \$615,000.00.
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- D. This will include all City employees, Sanitary District employees, Port Authority and Water Department employees for a total not to exceed \$1,650,000. All seasonal and former employees are eligible on a pro-rated basis.
- E. A one-time bonus will be paid to eligible employees in three (3) categories.
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Section 5. Expenditures for Administrative Expenses. It is the intent of the Administration that funds from the first tranche of the American Rescue Plan Act be prioritized and expended **for administrative assistance in the amount of \$100,000.00.**

Section 6. 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.

A second was made by Councilman Simmons.

The amended resolution by substitution was adopted by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Zygas, P. Przybylinski, Tillman, Dabney, Fitzpatrick, Mack and D. Przybylinski, Simmons and Zygas. (9). **NAYS:** None (0).

The Clerk read the amended resolution by title only, **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**

INTRODUCED BY: /s/ Angie Nelson Deutch, Member
Michigan City Common Council
/s/ Bryant Dabney, Member
Michigan City Common Council
/s/ Tracie Tillman, Member
Michigan City Common Council
/s/ Gene Simmons, Members
Michigan City Common Council
/s/ Sean Fitzpatrick, Member
Michigan City Common Council
/s/ Don Przybylinski, Member
Michigan City Common Council

President Mack asked if any other the authors had anything to add.

Control Hoffmaster advised Councilman Dabney that regarding the first tranche that is being proposed is alot, but you will be able to come back with a proposed resolution or ordinance regarding the ARPA funds and how they will be spent.

Councilman D. Przybylinski stated with the adoption of this resolution there will be an ordinance following on first reading to bring forward the appropriation from the ARPA Fund; commenting on some of our department heads being upset when the Council TABLED those appropriation a few weeks ago to not take the monies out of Riverboat but out of the ARPA funds which he feels was worth the wait.

Councilwoman Deutch stated the reason these appropriations were tabled is that we wanted to know we were doing the right thing making sure all options are on the table; commenting that Councilman Dabney advised that we could have a clause in each of those appropriation stating the ARPA would reimburse these monies to the Riverboat fund; asking the Controllers office to work with the Council to make sure we understand all of our options which would alleviate a lot of conversation up front.

President Mack asked if there were any other comments from any of the authors; there was no response.

President Mack asked if there were any comments from the public; there was no response.

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

Councilman P. Przybylinski stated that he want to concur with what Councilwoman Deutch's comments with putting all the options on the table with each appropriation that is brought to this council.

Councilman D. Przybylinski made a motion to adopt the proposed amended resolution; second by Councilwomen Tillman and Deutch.

The motion was passed by the following vote: : **AYES:** Council members Tillman, Dabney, Fitzpatrick, Mack, D. Przybylinski, Simmons, Zygus and P. Przybylinski. (9). **NAYS:** None (0).

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on first reading by title only,
ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES

Introduced by: Sean Fitzpatrick
Tracie Tillman

President Mack asked if the authors have anything to add.

Councilman Fitzpatrick stated this is one in a series of appropriations that we're introducing and will be decided by what the Council's pleasure is.

President Mack asked if there were any comments from the public; there was no response.

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

Councilman P. Przybylinski asked to be added as a Co-sponsor.

President Mack asked if there were any other comments by the Council, there being none the proposed ordinance will be held over on second reading at the October 5, 2021 Council meeting.

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on first reading by title only, **AN ORDINANCE SETTING SALARIES AND WAGES FOR APPOINTED OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA, FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2022**

Introduced by: Sean Fitzpatrick
Tracie Tillman

President Mack asked if there are any comments from the authors.

Councilman Fitzpatrick stated that these are proposed salary increases from the administration; advising that as chair of the Finance Committee I sponsored these so they could be introduced to the Council and the Council can do there due diligence to see what the Council members please is on these matters.

Councilman Fitzpatrick stated that his sponsorship of this was not an endorsement or himself signing off on any of these appropriations that are proposed, it is up to the council to decide whether any of this going to go through or not; advising that he isn't running for mayor that process of these proposed ordinances are the same as they

have always been; that whoever sponsors these it still has to go to the nine council members for the final vote.

Councilwoman Tillman stated off of what Councilman Fitzpatrick these are just proposed ordinances that are moving forward for approval by the Council and also asked to keep in mind as we go into the budget hearings soon and that this council can't exceed those amounts and the Finance Committee does their research, reviewing job descriptions that there may be different discussions and different figures that may be presented.

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

President Mack asked if there are any comments from the Council at this time.

Councilman P. Przybylinski asked to be added as a Co-sponsor to this ordinance and all the following proposed budget ordinances.

Councilwoman Deutch stated that we a workshop yesterday and understand that there will be budget hearings being scheduled and hoping that she will be able to attend all of them but do have some comments; that she doesn't agree with the output of the that was delivered to the council and the City paid a lot of money for; that there is some equity issues even from a point of department heads, leadership and their span of control in their departments, individual contributors, making the same amount as people running heavy equipment's and have certain certifications and that she thinks there are some disparities that exists and that the administration should make some decisions and not fully use this study as a way of creating these raises; and that she wants to make sure the lower salaries need to be dealt with first and those predominantly are primarily the hourly wages; stating that doesn't believe that someone should get a \$20,000 raise advising that she would like to see the hourly wages get passed.

Councilman Dabney stated is kind of piggybacking what Councilwoman Deutch is saying is looking at the email/spreadsheet Yvonne just sent out with the employees the hourly and salary figures and that the council is up against the clock to go thru the entire salaried and hourly people individually.

Councilman D. Przybylinski stated his overall feeling about the proposed budget was it was thrown in our laps and that we should figure it out; that this has never happened before like this, but it is happening now; with this not being the Council's job to go down the list of employees and determine what each person should get paid.

Councilman D. Przybylinski stated that if this is what the Mayor and his administrations intentions are with what they are proposing, then we are going to do it; commenting on some of the pair raises of 32%,44% just in the Mayor's office, that the council needs to look at what is being proposed and decisions we feel is adequate; stating that if the budget was adopted this evening the total increase for the 2022 budget for salaries is 4 million dollars

Councilman Dabney stated that he has to clear the comment that was just made by Councilman D. Przybylinski that this be an additional \$4 million every year is not how it works that it might be that amount this year, but in 2023, 2024, it may only be a 1%, 2% raise across the board that it wouldn't be \$4 million each year.

Councilman D. Przybylinski advised that he was stating that if the budget was adopted today it would cost an additional \$4 millions dollars right now here today.

Councilman Simmons interjected stating that we all have good intentions, but our main focus should be our workers who are the backbone of our city; that we want to have retention here and make sure our workers stay in place and are pleased and this doesn't cause a morale issue.

President Mack gave kudos to Sean, Tracy and Yvonne for bringing these tough issues up, that it is a perfect time the whole United States needs to reevaluate value, equity, pay positions within the City, stating that he is not a big believer in equity across the geographical lines, but we have some equity issues that have been persistent in the country, but is good that we are actually going to have these conversations that this is basically economic theory is to hire better people at the top or is it the other way bottom up, that hiring someone at \$15 an hour does create better performance and was shown just that with a simple beach and lifeguard situation.

President Mack asked if there were any other comments at this time, there was no response stating that the proposed ordinance will be on second reading at the October 5, 2021 Council meeting.

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on first reading by title only, **AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE MAYOR**

Introduced by: Sean Fitzpatrick
Tracie Tillman

President Mack asked if the authors had anything to add.

Councilman P. Przybylinski asked to be added as a Co-sponsor.

Councilman Fitzpatrick stated this is another proposed increase like the rest of the team and just for the public knowledge his position has not changed that he still has zero confidence into Duane Parry and would never support an increase like this for him and that he doesn't believe any Mayor with a population of 30,000 should not get a salary of this amount and that there may an increase at some point or the administrative position but not at this time.

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

Tommy Kulavic, 1316 Ohio Street read Indiana Code 36-4-3-5 which covers the duties of a mayor in a second-class city in its entirety.

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

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

Councilman D. Przybylinski advised that he would not be supporting this ordinance at a rate of \$118,000 annually; stating that every citizen he spoke to and was approached himself can't understand why the Mayor thinks he should a \$30,000 raise with people asking what he has done within the City last two years he's been in office; commenting on the citizens that live in Michigan City and are at the poverty level.

Councilwoman Deutch agrees with Councilman D. Przybylinski stating that she doesn't think elected officials should be given ourselves raises, when we sign up for the position we didn't sign up to give ourselves raises so I won't be supporting this one or the next one.

President Mack asked if there were any other comments, there was no response.

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on first reading by title only, **AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE CITY CLERK**

Introduced by: Sean Fitzpatrick
Tracie Tillman

President Mack asked if the authors had anything to add at this time.

Councilman Fitzpatrick advised like the other proposed ordinances this evening, we were asked to sponsor so we did so we could bring all of them to the Council for their review and recommendation; stating in his personal opinion this is probably the only that is anywhere close to being warranted explaining his reason and advising this is also up to the Council.

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

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

Councilwoman Deutch stated that she agrees with Councilman Fitzpatrick that the Clerk's office is one of the busiest offices in City Hall and we expect a lot from them.

President Mack stated from the perspective of performance expectations, some positions are managerial with the whole top down theory of if you get a good manager people will perform better and am not a believer I that, but if you get people that comprehend the job and especially like this, I didn't have any idea of the expectations and needs of this office.

Councilman P. Przybylinski questioned since we can not increase any line item, would it be appropriate at the next meeting to introduce a resolution to increase the Clerk's pay with Attorney Meyer advising that this could be done, commenting on the work performance and responsibilities of the ladies in the that office.

Councilman P, Przybylinski requested to be a Co-sponsor to this ordinance as well.

President Mack asked if there were any other Council comments; there was no response.

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on first reading by title only, **AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ANNUAL SALARIES FOR THE COMMON COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Introduced by: Sean Fitzpatrick
Tracie Tillman

Councilman Fitzpatrick stated this just a formality to get this in front of the Council commenting on what Councilwoman Deutch stated we ran for these positions and knew what the salary would be and don't think that we should be looking at giving ourselves a pay increase at this time.

Councilwoman Tillman concurred with Councilman Fitzpatrick and Councilwoman Deutch that when she took office and was sworn in didn't even know that the Council was paid, that she thought this was something everyone did because they wanted to make changes in their community that it isn't about the pay and enjoy working with our community.

Councilman Simmons stated "it's the love of the city" that we do this; just like when he was a police officer he could of left at twenty years and stayed for thirty-four year because of the love

Councilman D. Przybylinski concurred with the other council members that he will not support a pay raise for the Council members, stating he hasn't in the past and not starting now that he loves this City; take this money and give it the men and woman that are out there serving our citizens every day.

President Mack agrees with what everyone has stated about supporting this pay increase; stating several concerns on how this administration came up with the amount he is proposing.

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

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on first reading by title only,
APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE RIVERBOAT FUND FOR LEGAL EXPENSES FOR THE CITY'S ESPLANADE

Introduced by: Don Przybylinski
Dalia Zygas

(DECREASE Riverboat Fund 2042 Unappropriated balance \$175,000.00. INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 112.431.010 \$175,000.00 Professional Services Legal)

President Mack asked the authors had anything to add this evening.

Councilman D. Przybylinski explained the request from the Michigan City Park Department for legal assistance with the long-standing issues related to the use, care and ultimately the ownership and control of the shoreline and an area generally known as the Esplanade establishing security and securing the City's property and the Esplanade and to ensure the continued use and benefit of this important public resource for current and future Michigan City residents, guests and visitors.

Councilwoman Zygas agrees that the situation has to be taken under control and environmentally, it is easy to wreck but very difficult to put back the way it was, that by the use of Riverboat monies for legal services will protect the Esplanade for the future.

President Mack asked if there were any comments from the public; there was no response.

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

Councilman Dabney stated he would also like to be a co-sponsor to this ordinance.

Councilman P. Przybylinski commented on his concerns regarding the \$175,000 out of the Riverboat Fund asking if there were any other fund this could come from rather than it is coming out of Riverboat and if this would fall under the aspect of economic development that they could help with these legal fees.

Councilman D. Przybylinski stated that regarding Councilman P. Przybylinski's question he would contact Controller Hoffmaster tomorrow to see if there are any other avenues we could take and will report back at our next council meeting.

President Mack asked if there were any other comments from the Council; there was no response, stating that the proposed ordinance will be held over to second reading at our October 5, 2021 Council meeting.

City Clerk Neulieb read the following proposed ordinance on first reading by title only,
APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE RIVERBOAT FUND TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR SIDEWALKS

Introduced by: Don Przybylinski
Paul Przybylinski

(DECREASE Riverboat Fund #2042 Unappropriated balance \$100,000.00 INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 114 443.031 \$100,000.00 Capital Outlay – Streets – sidewalks)

President Mack asked if either of the authors had anything to add this evening.

Councilman D. Przybylinski stated that he didn't have time to get back to the Clerk's office to remove this proposed ordinance for sidewalks; advising that he had a meeting with the Mayor and they discussed that it is too late in the year to start this project and that it could be done in the spring of 2022; and that he would be pulling his sponsorship of this ordinance at this time and that he wasn't able to contact Councilman P. Przybylinski prior to this meeting, but there won't be any funding at this time for this project.

Councilman P. Przybylinski stated that it is sad not to fund this small amount with so many sidewalks in our community in disrepair; advising that this should be an essential project that is being working on constantly making our neighborhoods to look better; that maybe the city needs to go back to having a sidewalk program where sidewalks are being repaired every year.

Councilman P. Przybylinski stated that he was going to stay on the proposed ordinance and let the Council decide.

Attorney Meyer advised the Mayor sent a letter out on September 16, 2021 which everyone should have received a copy stating that he would not be funding the request of funds for sidewalks; stating under the Indiana law you only process an addition appropriation if the Mayor asks for it.

Councilman P. Przybylinski thanked Attorney Meyer advising that he would also then pull his sponsorship.

President Mack asked if there was anyone else that wanted to take the sponsorship; there was no response, and the ordinances dies.

APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE ARP CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND FOR PREMIUM PAY FOR ALL MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Introduced by: Angie Nelson Deutch
Don Przybylinski

(DECREASE ARP Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund 0176 Unappropriated balance \$3,627,000.00. INCREASE ACCOUNT #0176 000.411.013 \$1,650,000.00 Salaries & Wages – Premium Pay INCREASE ACCOUNT #0176 000.431.050 \$100,000.00 Professional Services – Other INCREASE ACCOUNT #0176 0.431.050 \$1,877,000.00 Capital Outlays – Other Machinery & Equipment)

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

Councilwoman Deutch stated that this related to the resolution that was adopted earlier and again as stated then is that this is the same funds that were in the additional appropriation ordinance that was tabled at the last council meeting and was to be funded from the Riverboat fund; with proposed ordinance is for all the equipment that the departments were requesting along with the employee retention pay and premium pay.

Councilman D. Przybylinski just wanted to add that this \$3,627,000.00 won't be being spent from the Riverboat but from ARP funds and will we still be able to move forward and do more in the near future; that the different departments that requested equipment will be able to order them now and all employees will be receiving their retention pay and premium pay will; asking for the Council's support and will be asking for second and third reading at the October 5, 2021 Council meeting.

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

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

Councilman Fitzpatrick wanted to add that he does support this ordinance and agree the way we're doing now having this money come out of the ARP funds rather than the Riverboat funds and is a more appropriate way; asking to be a co-sponsor

Councilmen P. Przybylinski also asked to be a co-sponsor and concurred with Councilmen D. Przybylinski, Fitzpatrick's and Councilwoman Deutch comments on the funding mechanism that has been used is fiscally responsible and that when proposing an additional appropriation for anything we should see what fund is the best fund the appropriation is coming from.

President Mack stated that he concurs with this mechanism that we just know it; the mechanism is legal, it was available but again we just didn't know what knowledge is power.

Councilwoman Tillman asked to be a co-sponsor as well agreeing the comments made by other Council members this; that giving the council the time and the opportunity to do thorough research, and to find out a conclusion of what we can and cannot do with utilizing our ARP funds; there are going to be questions to be asked especially if there may be other sources to be utilized instead of always converting back to Riverboat funds; and it may take more time to ask questions, investigate to allow the council to do the job the citizens are expecting them to do.

Councilman Dabney commented on all of the proposed ordinances (additional appropriation) coming up on this agenda and talking about the funds for these ordinances coming from the Riverboat came out at a Council meeting on a Tuesday with the new resolution actually coming out about using the ARP funds on that following Thursday of that week; but we didn't know the ARP funding at the time the appropriations came out from the Riverboat; stating that he called Controller Hoffmaster asking if the Riverboat monies he was requesting for these proposed ordinance could be reimbursed being advised that it could have been. Stating that we could have done this a little faster to get these items ordered and is hoping that they will have their equipment by winter when they need it.

President Mack asked if there were any other comments from the Council; there was no response, stating that this ordinance will be held over on second reading at the October 5, 2021 Council meeting.

Clerk Neulieb reading the following proposed ordinance on first reading by title only,
**APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE
 RIVERBOAT FUND FOR ESSENTIAL CAPITAL PURCHASES NEEDED TO
 OPERATE THE CENTRAL SERVICES AND CENTRAL MAINTENANCE
 DEPARTMENTS**

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney

(DECREASE Riverboat Fund 2042 Unappropriated balance \$615,000.00 INCREASE
 ACCOUNT#2042 116.445.050 \$280,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment (Street Sweeper)
 INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 108.445.0 \$75,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment – Motor

Equipment (Mechanics truck) INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 116.445.020 \$120,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment – Motor Equipment (2-350 4x4 Crew Cab w/plow & salt boxes) INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 116.445.020 \$140,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment – Motor Equipment (Utility Sign Truck)

President Mack asked if the author had anything to add at this time.

Councilman Dabney stated that he wants to pull his sponsorship for this proposed additional appropriation from the Riverboat fund as well the following four proposed ordinances on first reading; commenting what the City should have at the end of the year in the Riverboat fund with approximately \$5 million at the end of 2021.

Councilman Dabney asked if he could pull his sponsorship all at one time or individually.

Attorney Meyer advised that if there was no objection by the Council, he could pull them all at the same time.

President Mack asked if there were any objections to vote on Councilman Dabney pulling his sponsorship on this proposed ordinance along with the following four and asking if there is anyone that would like to pick of these ordinance; there was no response

APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE RIVERBOAT FUND FOR ESSENTIAL CAPITAL PURCHASES NEEDED TO OPERATE THE MICHIGAN CITY PARK DEPARTMENT

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney

DECREASE Riverboat Fund 2042 Unappropriated balance \$313,000.00 INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 511.444.050 \$100,000.00 Improvements Other than Buildings (tree work at South Course) INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 505.445.050 \$99,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment (3 – crew cab trucks) INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 505.445.050 \$35,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment (Tractor w/loader) INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 505.445.050 \$62,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment (Compact Utility Tractor) INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 505.445.050 \$17,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment (Gator w/beach tires)

APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE RIVERBOAT FUND FOR ESSENTIAL CAPITAL PURCHASES NEEDED TO OPERATE THE MICHIGAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney

DECREASE Riverboat Fund 2042 Unappropriated balance \$457,500.00 INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 202.445.050 \$20,200.00 Other Machinery & Equipment (Portable radios - Chaplains) INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 202.445.020 \$416,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment – Motor Equipment (8 – Fleet vehicles) INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 116.445.050 \$21,300.00 Other Machinery & Equipment (Protest/Riot Gear – gas masks (40), gas masks holder (86), gas canisters (90))

APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF THE RIVERBOAT FUND FOR ESSENTIAL CAPITAL PURCHASES NEEDED TO OPERATE THE MICHIGAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney

DECREASE Riverboat Fund 2042 Unappropriated balance \$105,000.00 INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 201.445.050 \$25,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment (UTV & Equipment) INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 201.445.050 \$20,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment (Water rescue vehicle) INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 201.445.050 \$15,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment (Rope

Rescue Equipment) INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 201.445.020 \$45,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment – Motor Equipment (Fire Marshal Vehicle)

APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE BUDGET OF RIVERBOAT FUND FOR ESSENTIAL CAPITAL PURCHASES NEEDED TO OPERATE THE CEMETERY DEPARTMENT

Introduced by: Bryant Dabney

DECREASE Riverboat Fund 2042 Unappropriated balance \$86,500.00 INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 119.445.050 \$32,000.00 Other Machinery & Equipment (2 – riding mowers) INCREASE ACCOUNT#2042 119.445.020 \$54,500.00 Other Machinery & Equipment – Motor Equipment (1-Ton dump truck w/plow)

The Clerk read the following ordinance on second reading by title only, **AN ORDINANCE VACATING A PLATTED PUBLIC WAY WITHIN THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY**

Introduced by: Michael Mack

President Mack asked if there were any comments from the author.

President Mack stated that this is an ordinance that we discussed at our last council meeting on September 9, 2021, that this land the city has no use for it that its grass overgrown and will be sponsoring this.

Attorney Vis address the Council and appreciate the dialogue that President Mack is doing on behalf of the City and that Mr. And Mrs. Randena are on “Zoom” as well commenting on the partial alley way his clients are asking to have vacated by the city so they can join their two parcels together.

Discussion ensued between Attorney Vis and Councilman D. Przybylinski regarding the vacation being proposed with Councilman D. Przybylinski stating he was in full support of Mr. Randena’s request.

Councilwoman Deutch agreed with Councilman D. Przybylinski comments; advising that she met with Dunes National Lakeshores superintendent talking items we would like to see happen in the future but doesn’t see any reason this vacation shouldn’t be approved this evening.

Councilwoman Deutch advised that we still need way finding signs to show where our National Lakeshore Park is, that this is important to get this done.

Councilman D. Przybylinski stated that we have this gentleman that bought this property, that’s renting this house and is putting this back on the tax rolls, knowing that it is going to be a beautiful resident when finished; stating that this is what our roll is to encourage people to do what he is doing and help him when needed to get to the next level to complete their project.

President Mack stated that they went through some weeks of snap moves, so this been a lot more difficult process that it needed to be, and we are close to the finish line and that the Mayor has his right to have his opinion on this topic, but the sooner we just come to the conclusions it better to.

Councilwoman Deutch made a motion to do third reading this evening, second by Councilman P. Przybylinski.

The motion was passed to have third reading by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Dabney, Fitzpatrick, Mack, D. Przybylinski, Simmons, Zygas, P. Przybylinski. and Tillman(9). **NAYS:** None (0).

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on third reading by title only,

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

ORDINANCE NO. 4595

**AN ORDINANCE VACATING A PLATTED PUBLIC WAY
WITHIN THE CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY**

WHEREAS, certain real estate within the City of Michigan City has been platted as a subdivision known as the Frederick H. Bartlett's South Shore Acres, recorded in Plat Book 6, Page 26 and 27 in the Office of the Recorder of LaPorte County, Indiana;

WHEREAS, Vincent J. Rendina, Jr. and Rita M. Rendina (hereinafter "Rendina"), have certain equitable interest in certain real estate located within the above area, and have petitioned the Common Council of the City of Michigan City for vacation of that part of a platted public right of way (alley) for a distance of 108 feet east of the alley's intersection with Winnipeg Street as shown in the survey drawing attached hereto as Exhibit A (Petition); and

WHEREAS, Rendina has an equitable interest in the following lots within the South Shore Acres bordering the part of the alley which the Council is being asked to vacate, to-wit (the "Property")

LOTS NUMBERED TWELVE (12) AND THIRTEEN (13) IN BLOCK TWENTY-THREE (23) IN FREDERICK H. BARTLETT'S SOUTH SHORE ACRES, BEING A SUBDIVISION IN SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 38 NORTH, RANGE 4 WEST AND THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (NW ¼) OF SECTION 6 IN TOWNSHIP 37 NORTH, RANGE 4 WEST IN LAPORTE COUNTY, INDIANA.

LOT 14 AND 15 IN BLOCK 23 IN FREDERICK H. BARTLETT'S SOUTH SHORE ACRES, WHICH IS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6 PAGE 26 AND 27, IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF LAPORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

WHEREAS, Rendina caused to be mailed on the 13th day of August, 2021, via United States Postal Service by certified mail, return receipt requested, notice of consideration of the Rendina Petition by the Common Council of the City of Michigan City to the following abutting property owners of the above described property.

United States of America, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
621 East Michigan Boulevard
Washington D.C. 20410

Dawn E. Armstrong
907 Woodlawn Avenue
Michigan City, Indiana 46360

Angela M. Dixon
127 Silverlake
Michigan City, Indiana 46360

The Patricia Pizzo and Anthony Pizzo Trust
c/o Christopher Pizzo
1732 Sunvalley Drive
Golden, Colorado 80401

123 Silver Lake Ave Land Trust
5424 McFarland Rd
Indianapolis, IN 46227

Kenneth Lee Morlan & Judy Kay Morlan
PO Box 835
Michigan City, IN 46361

Adam G. Armstrong
907 Woodlawn Avenue
Michigan City, IN 46360

Christine Richart Bennett & Jacob Christopher Marvin
918 Woodlawn Ave
Michigan City, IN 46360

WHEREAS, Rendina has caused notice of the consideration of the Petition before the Common Council of the City of Michigan City to be published on the 8th day of September 2021, in a newspaper of general circulation in LaPorte County, Indiana.

WHEREAS, the Common Council has conducted a public hearing on September 21, 2021 with regard to said Petition and determined, and the Council now finds, that it is in the best interest of the City of Michigan City and its citizens that the Rendina Petition be granted and the public right of way shown in Exhibit A attached hereto should be vacated; and

WHEREAS, Rendina has granted appropriate utility easements acceptable to the Michigan City Water Department and Sanitary District for their facilities, if any, located in the public right of way that is to be vacated.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Michigan City Common Council as follows:

1. As depicted on the surveyor's plot drawing attached hereto as Exhibit A, the unimproved alley extending from the easternmost right-of-way line of Winnipeg Street east between Lots 13/12 and Lot 14, is hereby vacated, to a line from the easternmost boundary of Lot 12, running perpendicular in a continuous northerly direction 16 feet until it intersects at a perpendicular with the westernmost boundary of Lot 14.

2. Notwithstanding the vacation of said public right-of-way, any public utility presently occupying or using all or any part of said platted public right of way shall not be deprived of said use unless said utility waives said rights by executing and recording its written its waiver of said use.

3. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor.

4. The Clerk of the Michigan City Common Council shall furnish a certified copy of this Ordinance to the LaPorte County Recorder in order that same may be placed of record in the recorded of the Recorder's Office.

Introduced by: /s/ Michael Mack , President
Michigan City Common Council

President Mack as author stated he was glad to see this on third reading and are moving on.

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

President Mack asked if there were any comments from the Council at this time.

Councilman Fitzpatrick stated that it is obvious the council is 100% in favor of this ordinance and is hoping that we don't have to, but if we do will be more than happy to override a Veto that may come.

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

The proposed ordinance was adopted by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Fitzpatrick, Mack, D. Przybylinski, Simmons, Zygus, P. Przybylinski. Tillman and Dabney (9). **NAYS:** None (0).

The Clerk read the following proposed ordinance on third reading by title only,

MICHIGAN CITY COMMON COUNCIL

ORDINANCE NO. 4596

CREATING SECTION 2-411 IN CHAPTER 2 OF THE MICHIGAN CITY MUNICIPAL CODE TO ESTABLISH A RESTRICTED, NON-REVERTING CITY-SPONSORED SPECIAL EVENTS FUND

WHEREAS, the City would like to establish a specific fund to receive and disperse funds for City-sponsored special events; and

WHEREAS, the need exists to create a restricted, non-reverting fund to be used to receive and disburse funds to be used for City-sponsored special events and to specify how said funds may be spent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, that Section 2-411 shall be created in Chapter 2 of the Michigan City Municipal Code and shall read as follows:

Sec. 2-411. *City-Sponsored Special Events Fund.* There is hereby established a City-Sponsored Special Event Fund. This fund shall be a restricted, non-reverting fund. The purpose of this fund shall be for the receipt and disbursement of funds to host City-Sponsored Special Events, and all revenues from such events shall be deposited into the fund and those funds shall only be used by the City for expenditures directly related to costs of hosting City-Sponsored Special Events, which include, but are not limited to, marketing/promotional materials, supplies, and services. The City shall not use the funds in its City-Sponsored Special Events Fund for any other purposes than those stated herein and such funds shall be administered by the Controller.

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.

INTRODUCED BY: /s/ Bryant Dabney, Member
Michigan City Common Council

President Mack asked if the author had anything to add, with Councilman Dabney stating not at this time.

President Mack asked if the public had anything to add at this time, there is no response.

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

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

The proposed ordinance was adopted by the following vote: **AYES:** Council members Fitzpatrick, Mack, D. Przybylinski, Simmons, Zygus, P. Przybylinski, Tillman and Dabney (9). **NAYS:** None (0).

NEW BUSINESS

President Mack stated that there is no new business this evening.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Mack stated that the Council has one appointment to the Youth Leadership Commission representing "Marquette High School" (term expired 06-01-2021)
Incumbent: Mr. Trayvon Moore.

Ms. Neulieb stated that the Clerk's office didn't receive any correspondence from Marquette High School regarding their appointment to the Youth Leadership Commission.

President Mack stated there will be a vote tonight regarding the one (1) appointment to the Urban Enterprise Association due to the resignation of Mr. Keith Devereaux; expiring on December 31, 2024; advising nominations at the last meeting were Ms. Kimberly Williams and Mr. Tommy Amico.

Councilwoman Deutch stated the Council received notification that Ms. Kimberly Williams does not live within the Urban Enterprise Zone; advising they can vote by unanimous consent or a regular vote for Mr. Tommy Amico.

Councilwoman Deutch made a motion to appoint Mr. Amico to the Urban Enterprise Association; second by Councilwoman Tillman.

Clerk Neulieb took the vote as follows: Council members Deutch, D. Przybylinski, Simmons, Zygus, P. Przybylinski, Tillman, Dabney, Fitzpatrick and Mack (9).

President Mack congratulate Mr. Tommy Amico on his appointment to the Urban Enterprise Association.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

President Mack asked if there is anyone from the public who wished to speak.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio Street addressed the Council congratulating the Michigan City Police Officers that were promoted and announced yesterday; thanking them for their service and serving and protecting the City.

Cranston Harris, Superintendent, Central Maintenance thanked the Council for the Resolution that was passed tonight allowing them to get the essential equipment that is needed for their departments; also thanking his four (4) technicians for their hard work and dedication; advising they fix over two thousand (2000) vehicles per year.

Judy Colwall, 214 Pinewood Drive commented that we need an ordinance for trains to silence their signaling devices when they go through town; explaining other cities already have ordinances like this; advising this would improve the quality of life and the property values of homes in town.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

President Mack asked if there were any Council comments.

Councilwoman Tillman read a flyer from the Michigan City Commission of African American Males as follows:

What does the future hold for you? Your answer can be found at the HE Future Fair presented by Eleven Fifty Academy - Males of Color, October 14, 2021 which will be held from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Dean and Barbara White Community Center, 6600 Broadway, Merrillville, IN 46410. They are looking for young men between the ages of 16-24 living in Northwest Indiana; Employers - the Michigan City Police Department, the City of Gary, and Work One; Training - Eleven Fifty Academy, Job Corps, Physicians Coding and Education Solutions, Centier Bank, WDS, Inc., (Career Connections) Little Lou's Beauty Barber College; Colleges- Indiana University Northwest, Valparaiso University, Ivy Tech Community College; Health – HealthLinc; Culture - Gary Commission on the Social Status of Black Males, DeCay Devils and The Urban League of Northwest Indiana; Spiritual- Embassies of Christ Kingdom Ministries, The Cross Church.

Councilwoman Tillman stated that she has been receiving a lot of phone calls in regard to neighbors garbage and debris; explaining she is aware that our City departments are in need of equipment and manpower, but the residents need to help by putting trash in the actual trash bins; asking them to be mindful and respectful when putting out their trash; advising if you have furniture, tires, etc. you need to contact the Refuse Department and schedule a pick up; commenting on the alleyways and easements and who is responsible for maintaining the brush and trees, branches, etc.

Councilwoman Zygus commented that there has been a lot of discussion on salaries and she is hoping to get together to discuss the salary study that was done and applying it to Michigan City; advising all Michigan City Schools participated in Trail Creek Week (for fourth graders) and she was an instructor; stating this was put on by LaPorte County Soil and Water Conversation District; explaining there is a Community floating event on Saturday, September 25, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Hansen Park, in Trail Creek; encouraging the community to come and participate.

Councilman D. Przybylinski thanked Chief Dion Campbell, M.C.P.D. for the Family Fun Day event on Sunday, September 19, 2021 at the Police Station; stating the Council and Community appreciates the hard work and effort that M.C.P.D. puts forth on a daily basis; commenting on the fantastic job that Cranston Harris and his team does at Central Maintenance keeping all of the equipment up and running and all of the hard work they do; also thanking Mr. Kulavik for bring up the baby boxes; asking if some of the ARP funds could be used for a new baby box in Michigan City.

Councilman Simmons thanked Mr. Kulavik for addressing the baby boxes; congratulating the Police Officers on the Michigan City Police Department that were recently promoted; also thanking Cranston Harris and his team at Central Maintenance for all they do.

Councilman Fitzpatrick congratulated all of the Police Officers at the Michigan City Police Department that were promoted; stating he will be getting the budget hearings scheduled as soon as he coordinates everyone's schedule; commenting on the proposed salaries for the City employees; explaining he is not looking forward to having the budget hearings via "Zoom" because it is a disservice to the public; it is their money that is being spent and they should be able to attend the meetings safely to discuss the matter; advising on this date, September 21, 2021 he still has zero confidence in Mayor Parry.

Councilwoman Deutch commented that she agrees that City buildings should be open; stating there was an ARP workshop last week and they had great dialog from the Council members and the public; explaining she has a meeting coming up with day care providers; there are grant monies that will be available in early October to assist them; advising the Council needs to come up with a plan on how to move forward in addressing the ARP monies; on Friday, September 24, 2021 from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. the Indiana Plan has an orientation set for Neka IBEW at the old Central School; class starts on September 27, 2021; the phone number is 219-884-4503 or go to Indianaplan.org online; commenting the Urban League of Northwest Indiana which covers LaPorte County has an infinite Scholar's scholarship day on October 20, 2021; stating you can register at infinitescholars.org; they have been giving kids scholarships right on the spot when they attend the scholarship fair; further explaining it has always been held at the Chateau Banquet Hall in Merrillville, Indiana; further advising the students will be excused for attending; further stating the Council has been receiving a lot of phone calls from City employees and they appreciate everything that all the employees do; further explaining the Council is not trying to hinder the process of getting City employees raises; there is a process that needs to be followed.

Councilman P. Przybylinski took the time to thank all City workers; stating the Council needs to look at the bottom going up with the raises; advising they want to take 7.5 million dollars out of the Riverboat for the 2022 budget; commenting on the operating transfers in the amount of \$4,856,000 that are not itemized; asking for a breakdown so it is easier to read; advising the job classifications and other information should have been given to the Council earlier so they could look it over prior to the budget hearings; explaining he is appreciative of the ARP monies that are being used to get things done; hoping the department heads understand this could have been resolved awhile ago; and the Riverboat funds need to be protected; further stating the Riverboat monies need to be used for big projects in our neighborhoods.

Councilman D. Przybylinski further commenting on the ARP funds and why the snowplows that are needed for Franklin Street and Michigan Boulevard keep getting denied.

Councilwoman Deutch continued to comment on the Special meeting that was held by the Board of Public Works and Safety to discuss bus shelters in Michigan City; advising they spoke about snowplows and keeping up the maintenance on them; stating she has been approached and asked about the contract negotiations for the Police and Fire Departments; thanking Kaleb Goodwin, I.T. Webmaster for his work with the "Zoom" meetings.

President Mack thanked Kaleb Goodwin for his work on the "Zoom" meetings; commenting on a Dunbrook fundraiser that he attended in which he is a new Board member to that organization; stating they do such great work, helping children; stating we need to create learning opportunities in Michigan City; speaking about the Community Center Athletic Field House; advising it is a costly endeavor but much needed in our Community; continuing to comment that Clarence Hulse, Executive

Director, Economic Development had a study done some time ago and our City is large enough to sustain a real Entrepreneur Center that would help with training and development for our youth; explaining youth is our future.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Councilwoman Deutch, second by Councilman P. Przybylinski and there being no further business to transact, President Mack declared the meeting **ADJOURNED** (approximately 8:59 p.m.)

Gale A. Neulieb