

CITY OF INDIAN HILLS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
August 20, 2020 Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Louisville Boat Club  
4200 River Road (40207)  
6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mayor: Chip Hancock

Council: Frank Doheny  
Ann Dreisbach  
Laura Dunbar  
Lee Garlove (Videoconference)  
LuAnn George  
James Giesel  
Kay Matton  
Gary Ulmer  
Mimi Zinniel

Attorney: Finn Cato

Public Works: Jim Graven

Police Chief: Kelly Spratt

City Clerk: Donna M. Sinkhorn

ABSENT

Visitors

Dr. John Stutts

Brent Watson

Nick Hamilton-Cotter

Ken Harrington

Address

14 Woodhill Rd.

14 Woodhill Rd.

Hempstead

Grove Hill Place

Purpose

Dogs off Leash

Stone wall damage

Speeding

1) Call to Order – Mayor Hancock called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2) Recognize any Visitors – Dr. John Stutts spoke of issues with people walking dogs without leashes in the neighborhood. It is the same people repeatedly allowing their large dogs to run in residents' landscaping, he often cleans up mess in his yard and Mr. Watson has had to step on his car brakes because a loose dog ran in front of his car. When the police have seen the dogwalkers, they have given warnings to them, but they continue to let the dogs run at large. Dr. Stutts has asked the dog owners if they were aware that the City had a leash law ordinance and they say yes, so they are just choosing to not walk their dogs on leashes. What can be done when the people do not value what our officers are telling them and not valuing the laws that are in place? Following much discussion, there was general agreement that Mayor Hancock would call the dog owners that he knows and send letters regarding the city having received complaints about their dogs running at large, inform them about the city's leash law ordinance and the fines that may be imposed if they, again, walk their dogs on no leashes.

Brent Watson informed Mr. Graven the stone wall on River Hill is damaged again. Mr. Graven had one of his workers look at it and said it would need to be taken apart to fix it.

Nick Hamilton-Cotter expressed concerns about the speeders during rush hours, in the mornings and afternoons, on the 5500 block of westbound Hempstead. There was a speed information sign that was doing a good job of slowing speeders down, but it was removed. He was told the sign was needed for another location. Chief Spratt

said according to the data that he got from the speed sign, there was no need for a speed sign on the westbound side. There is a speed sign on the eastbound sign. Following discussion concerning purchasing an additional radar speed sign, if there is a need for another radar speed sign on Hempstead, lowering the speed limit from 25 to 15 mph, changing the direction of the radar speed sign facing eastbound traffic to face westbound traffic, it was decided that Chief Spratt will have a patrol car posted during certain rush hours and Mayor Hancock said they would look into some sort of signage such as "Slow, Curve Ahead" to post. Mr. Cotter said he would appreciate it.

Ken Harrington said he is happy to be in the City of Indian Hills and asked the council if they had any questions concerning Grove Hill Place. The Council had none but Mr. Graven informed Mr. Harrington the amount of the water bill for the spring watering. The City has agreed to pay for watering landscaping but what would be a fair way of dividing the rest of it. Mr. Harrington said there are six residential lots and one empty lot owed by Mr. LeBeouf. Mr. Graven said he will get it figured out and let them know. Mr. Harrington said they certainly want to settle.

3) Minutes – Mailed

(a) July Minutes – Councillor Matton moved to approve the July Minutes; seconded by Councillor Dunbar. Councillor Doheny requested the word "would" be changed to "might" on page 3, item 5. (b), in the third line of the Environment Committee paragraph. Motion passed unanimously to approve the July Minutes as amended.

4) Committee Reports – Mailed

(a) Finance and Budget Report

1. Finance Report- July (Dunbar & Ulmer) – Councillor Ulmer presented the Finance Report to Council. Councillor Matton moved to accept the Finance Report as presented; seconded by Councillor Zinniel; motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval of Disbursements (City & Police Disbursement Details-July) – Councillor Dunbar moved to approve the City and Police checks disbursed; seconded by Councillor Matton; motion passed unanimously.

(b) Public Safety - Spratt & Doheny & Garlove

1. Police Report – Chief Spratt – July – Chief Spratt's report included five criminal reports, four traffic collisions, list of traffic citations issued and year-to-date stats.

(c) Public Works & Building – Graven

1. Public Works Director Report – Graven – Mr. Graven's report included the following: Paving will begin in September on Rudy Lane-traffic control will be needed-severe cave-ins. Then to Indian Hills Trail-there is a washout past the glass house on the right that has gotten worse this summer. Cherokee Section does not need to be paved at this time.

Poplar Hill Road Fire Hydrant Since this area has been developed many years ago, the residents have been paying an annual bill for a fire hydrant. This year's bill is \$700. Mr. Graven received a phone call from a new resident who received the bill and asked about it. Mr. Graven does not believe the residents should be paying the bill because they pay taxes to the city. There was general agreement amongst the council to have the city pay the annual bill for the fire hydrant.

Construction-Indian Hills Trail – Mr. Graven has received some complaints about the construction on this house. He has called the builder but has not heard back from him. He will stay on it.

MSD Pumping Station Switch Update – MSD needs to install an electric switch for a huge sewage pipe at the

pumping station and it must be above the 107-year floodplain. Basically, there will be a fence around a ladder and the switch will be at the top of the ladder. MSD has agreed to landscape around the area.

Apache Rd – LG&E has cut down several trees and it looks like a warzone. Mayor Hancock passed around pictures he took this morning. Mr. Graven was unsuccessful in contacting Mr. Grismer but will call him again.

Rio Vista – Does he mow or does he not mow? Mayor Hancock said just the easement along the guardrail; none of LG&E easement. Councillor Zinniel asked that Mr. Graven let her know before they start mowing because there are some areas that should not be mowed.

Shredding Event – Mr. Graven has been asked by some residents when the city will be having a shredding event. He asked council if they would be interested in having one in Sagamore Park. He would set it up to where the resident does not need to get out of the car. If they decided to do this, he would also like to do something for a charity whether it be Blessings in a Backpack or Home of the Innocents. Following discussion, there was general agreement amongst council to have a shredding event in October and ask residents for a monetary donation for a charity yet to be determined.

Speed Humps – Some residents on Hempstead have requested speed humps. Chief Spratt and Mr. Graven have done some research on portable speed humps made from recycled tires. He would measure the road, order how long it needs to be. It comes in sections and snaps together. The cost would be \$1800.00 which is about 25% cheaper than a permanent speed hump. He asked council to approve the expense so he may experiment with this. Councillors Doheny, Ulmer & Giesel requested a traffic count of how many cars use Hempstead so to have backup information showing that a speed hump is necessary. Chief Spratt said he would take care of getting the data.

Indian Hills Trail Accident & Solar Signs – Mr. Graven has a \$4500 claim with MetLife Automobile Insurance Company for damage done by the wreck on the Trail. Most of it will be used to replace the damaged speed sign which costs \$3100.00. He would like council approval to buy two more solar speed signs. He would put them in sleeves so they may be pulled and placed in different areas. Mayor Hancock suggested buying the two speed signs for now and wait to purchase the portable speed hump until they have the traffic count data. Following discussion, Councillor Matton moved to approve the expenditure not to exceed \$6200 for two solar speed signs; seconded by Councillor Doheny; motion passed unanimously.

Councillor Doheny asked about the so-called chicken coup on Eastwind. Mr. Graven said he is working on it with Attorney Cato. Mr. Graven has talked with the resident about the wooden structure. It is actually a raised flower garden. Mayor Hancock said we will get more information and report on it next month.

Old Brownsboro Ct. - Mayor Hancock stated they have taken care of this. He and Mr. Graven met with the resident, Mr. English. Cornerstone came out and has taken care of it for less than \$1000.00. Mr. Graven said they still need to strip the ivy which will take a while. Once they get the ivy stripped out of the bed, they will edge it again, clean it, put fresh dirt in it and heavily plant with the ivy that matches the one next door.

5) Other Reports

(a) Waste Management Report – No report.

(b) Environment Committee – Zinniel/George –

1. Report – July – Councillor Zinniel reported the tree removal letters were mailed.

Councillor George handled any questions and answered everybody personally. Councillor George said she thinks there were 62 letters mailed and there were only eight calls, so they were really pleased with that. They are ready to send out the pruning letters and get the program wrapped up. Councillor Ulmer asked what if someone received a letter but decided to do nothing. Councillor Zinniel said if their tree comes down, the city has a copy of the letter showing they had been put on notice and that it is their responsibility. Councillor George said there is a

file of everything that has been said and every email that has been sent.

2. Landscape Architecture Master Plan – Councillor George said after last month’s meeting, she and Mayor Hancock had a nice discussion about a long-term plan for the city landscape, erosion, and drainage. Mayor Hancock requested they have somebody come in to speak to the council. Councillors George and Zinniel thought it be best to put some information together in a packet and let the council take it home, digest it, and come up with some questions. Kristin Booker, a landscape architect, has offered to come to next month’s meeting to speak to them and answer any questions they may have. Councillor George distributed the packets to council.

Councillor George said she is not sure Mr. Ackermann is talking to his men about mowing over the debris. There are things in the contract that are very clear that they are not seeing. He is doing better about not mowing below three inches but he may not be communicating to his workers what is in the contract such as keeping the mower blades up, staying away from the creek, cleaning up the debris instead of mowing over it. Councillor Zinniel asked Mr. Graven if he would make sure Mr. Ackermann is telling his workers because today, she talked to one of them who was weed eating all the way down the bank and she asked him about it. He said he had not been given instruction on it. Mr. Graven will talk with Mr. Ackermann.

6) Councilmembers Comments – Councillor Dunbar commented that River Fields is beginning a project on the damaged area across from the Islamic Center on River Road and calling it the Fair View Property. They are trying to raise \$38,000.00. At one point, they may come to the City of Indian Hills for a donation. Mayor Hancock said the city worked with River Fields on an application with the state and let Meme Runyon know that if they needed to refile, the city would support them if possible. Councillor Zinniel said she does not think they will be asking for money; Councillor George said they need sponsorship.

72 Westwind – Councillor George asked for a follow up. Mayor Hancock said he noticed they were working on the veneer when he drove past it today. Mr. Graven said they are putting up the finishing touches to the outside. Councillor George asked why the building deposit was refunded. Mr. Graven said because Metro Louisville issued a Certificate of Occupancy (CO). Councillor George said it clearly states in our ordinance, regardless of the CO, that deposit is not to be refunded until the front and side landscaping is done. They have had plenty of time, it has been over a year and that building deposit, according to our ordinance, should not have been released even with the CO. Mayor Hancock said they talked about it and realize they probably should not have returned it to them. Mr. Graven said it was his mistake. Mayor Hancock said the property needs to get cleaned up now. Councillor George agreed.

Signage – Councillor George asked for an update. Mr. Graven said all the signs are up. She said Eastwind sign was not up yesterday. Mr. Graven said he put it up at 9:30 last night. She asked about the comma for the Stonebridge sign. He has not ordered it yet.

7) Old Business

(a) American Legal Publishing – Update – Dunbar & Ulmer & Matton – Councillor Dunbar reported that the city clerk has scanned 14 years of ordinances since our last meeting, so this project is moving right along.

(b) Kentucky League of Cities – Investment Pool – Councillor Dunbar said the Finance Committee members are trying to do due diligence with these investments, and they feel they can trust the Kentucky League of Cities and the PNC folks are going to help them. She thinks it is a great idea. Councillor Ulmer said the city will need to come up with an Investment Policy and thinks instead of taking it to somebody to try to reinvent the wheel, the City should use Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) boiler plate model investment policy. Attorney Cato said there were a couple of changes he made to it. The form KLC used, mentioned that it would have to be approved by ordinance and he talked to them about that. They said that was incorrect, that it can be done by municipal order, so he added that into the investment policy. Other than that, it was just tailoring it to the names and adding the individuals like the mayor and city controller who will be designated officials to act on behalf of the

investment policy. Councillor Ulmer said if we roll the cds, the city gets .06 of 1% interest rate for a year or two. The Republic Bank sweep account pays .05%; about \$20 a month. We lose our ability to anything unless we try hard to earn 1% or 2% in the KLC investment pool. He spoke with PNC again today and asked him to lay it out for him if the city was to invest one million dollars. He said the city is only allowed to take 20% of the total and put it at risk in S&P 500s. Councillor Ulmer is convinced that it is a well-run entity; there is no way to earn 1% on your money right now; it would cost 1% or more if the city hired an investment manager. He has great comfort in PNC who has done this for multiple cities. There is a lot of detail, but he is hoping the council will approve the model investment policy and the ability to take the city's savings and place it in the KLC pool. It looks as if the city has a million dollars at least that is not needed but if it ever is, it is sitting there, very liquid, and available. Following lengthy discussion, Mayor Hancock said the city has two cds at Commonwealth Bank that matured on August 15<sup>th</sup>. According to our auditors, we need to have approval to withdraw those funds and put them in our general account. Councillor Zinniel moved to remove the Certificates of Deposit money to the General Fund for possible investment with the pending approval of our participation in the Kentucky League of Cities Investment Pool; seconded by Councillor Matton; motion passed unanimously.

Legal – Cato (Item No. 9)

Municipal Order No. 7, Series 2020 – Adopting Investment Policy – (Item No. 9 (a) on Agenda) - Councillor Dunbar introduced and Attorney Cato read Municipal Order No. 7, Series 2020 adopting an Investment Policy. Councillor George moved, Councillor Matton seconded to approve Municipal Order No. 7, Series 2020. Councillor Giesel suggested a change in wording in Section 12.2 Amendments on page 8 of the Investment Policy to have it read “This policy shall be reviewed on an annual basis by the designated officials.” and in the next sentence replace “any other appropriate authority” with “the Indian Hills City Council”. Also, replace “principle” with “principal” wherever necessary in the document. Councillors Matton moved and Dunbar seconded to approve Municipal Order No. 7, Series 2020 and the Investment Policy as amended.

Mayor Hancock proceeded with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Doheny	Yea	Mr. Giesel	Yea
Ms. Dreisbach	Yea	Ms. Matton	Yea
Ms. Dunbar	Yea	Mr. Ulmer	Yea
Mr. Garlove	video-conferenced	Ms. Zinniel	Yea
Ms. George	Yea		

Motion passed unanimously. (Municipal Order No. 7, Series 2020)

Municipal Order No. 8, Series 2020 – Authorizing Participation in Ky League of Cities Investment Pool Plus (Item No. 9 (b) on Agenda) – Councillor Dunbar introduced and Attorney Cato read Municipal Order No. 8, Series 2020 – Mayor Hancock suggested removing the names “Chip Hancock” and “Patty Deye” in Section 3. of the Municipal Order. Councillor Matton moved to approve Municipal Order No. 8, Series 2020 as amended; Councillor Dunbar seconded. Mayor Hancock proceeded with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Doheny	Yea	Mr. Giesel	Yea
Ms. Dreisbach	Yea	Ms. Matton	Yea
Ms. Dunbar	Yea	Mr. Ulmer	Yea
Mr. Garlove	video-conferenced	Ms. Zinniel	Yea
Ms. George	Yea		

Motion passed unanimously. (Municipal Order No. 8, Series 2020)

8) New Business

(a) Walk Safe Initiative – Dreisbach – Councillor Dreisbach proposed a Walk Safe Initiative consisting of three legs. Send out an oversized postcard. It would have “Mayor Chip Hancock and the City Council wants you to walk safe.” There are five points, such as walk facing traffic, be visible and your dog should be on a short leash and walk on your left. She would like to place it in the newsletter; and thirdly, have extra copies of the postcards printed for the police officers to have in their car. To print and mail 3000 oversized postcards, it would cost \$2732.22. Mayor Hancock said we can put the information in our next newsletter because we spend about

\$2300.00 on it but to print the card would be an extra \$2700 and he is not sure if it is in the budget. Chief Spratt said he is not necessarily in favor of having the police officers handing them out. He understands the intention would be for a positive contact, but he does not know if it would always be taken that way. He agrees with putting out that information and he could put it on their Facebook and Twitter accounts. Mayor Hancock said to look into getting the information out electronically and in our newsletter. Councillor George asked if there would a difference in price to have 1500 instead of 3000; the city has about 1300 homes. Councillor Dreisbach said she would find out. Councillor Zinniel asked if the postcard could be inserted in the newsletter. Mayor Hancock said he would ask the printer.

(b) Bridges – Update – Mayor Hancock reported receiving a letter from Kentucky Department of Transportation. The bridge on Stonebridge may or may not be repaired due to funding from the state that is dried up due to COVID. The project would not happen right away; it may be within the next 3-5 years, so they informed the city to get pound limit signs for the bridge. Mr. Graven has put in place a 3 Ton sign and we notified Eco-Tech to not run their trucks on the bridge. Councillor Zinniel said the bridge, even at 3 tons, because that is only residential cars basically, but if the engineers ever come back and examine it again, it may not even get rated for three tons and that is the lowest they would rate it. Then it will not be able to be used at all until it gets rebuilt. Someone she talked to said she could lobby and see if they can find the money to do the bridge because there is money there but it would be a lot of work to get it moved up on the priority list even if we could. She thinks it is probably the least expensive bridge they are going to do so maybe they would; on the other hand, it is sort of an insignificant thing on their list of things to do so maybe they would not and she does not know if we should go through the effort of lobbying. She thinks the residents will be happy with not doing anything because they will not have trucks going up and down the road anymore. Chip said if anyone has a contact in Frankfort, let them know. Councillor George said she would call the person she talked to about the guardrails and let council know.

9) Legal – Cato – See above page

10) Mayor’s Comments – None

11) Executive Session and/or Adjournment – Councillor Doheny moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 pm; seconded by Councillor Ulmer; motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting:  
Thursday – September 17, 2020  
6:00 p.m. – Louisville Boat Club

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Chip Hancock, Mayor

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Donna M. Sinkhorn, City Clerk