

CITY OF INDIAN HILLS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
January 21, 2021 Minutes of Special Meeting  
Zoom Video Teleconference  
6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mayor: Chip Hancock

Council: Ann Dreisbach  
Laura Dunbar  
Lee Garlove (audio)  
LuAnn George  
James Giesel  
John Harralson, III (late)  
Kay Matton  
Gary Ulmer  
Mimi Zinniel

ABSENT

Attorney: Finn Cato

Public Works:

Jim Graven

Police Chief: Kelly Spratt

City Clerk: Donna M. Sinkhorn

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

2) Recognize any visitors

(a) Kristin Booker – Public Space Masterplan – Councillor Zinniel introduced Kristin Booker of Booker Design Collaborative and informed Council that Ms. Booker will be proposing the development of a guidance document for plantings, maintenance and other issues that have to do with the environment in the public areas of the City, such as parks, streets, traffic islands and woodlands, to be used as a go-to guide for Public Works and the people the City contracts with into the future. The goal is to preserve the aesthetics and the environment in Indian Hills all of which contribute to property values.

Ms. Booker: The proposal which was provided to Council a few months ago outlines three missions and goals: 1. Create a unique sense of place-nailing it down so that we know how much or how little is needed in certain areas; 2. Design a landscape with intention-there are lowlands along the road with naturalized woodland settings that deserve a certain kind of treatment that is different than some of the main entrances and there are some parklets that are largely underdeveloped that things may be done with to create a greater sense of community; and 3. Take the long view. This guide may help sustain a landscape overtime. The public open spaces may need a lighter touch but there will be places/locations that need a higher level of detail. The absorptions of the subdivisions have a slightly different look and feel so the plan is to figure out the treatment moving forward so everyone feels like they are equally associated with the overall community of Indian Hills.

Following the presentation, there were Council questions that were answered by Ms. Booker. Councillor Giesel stated as he mentioned to Councillor George a year-in-a-half, to two years ago, some landscape architects like flowers and some do not, so how will she decide what to put in her prescriptions and his other question is what Ms. Booker's biases are or prejudices she has that they should know about in case they disagree with her up front. Ms. Booker replied that it is not up to her independently to come up with ideas, it is up to her to develop several ideas so the community can provide feedback. Those ideas are going to come from her knowledge and experience from historic landscapes and other communities that have similar look and feel; how they have treated their

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entryways or their parks and open spaces. She will look back at Olmstead because the portion of the Olmstead Brothers helped design and layout the first phases of the City.

Once Ms. Booker took her leave, Councillor George moved that the Council accept a proposal for services provided by Booker Design Collaborative for the City of Indian Hills Landscape Design Manual at a fee not to exceed \$30,000. Councillor Dunbar asked where the proposed funds would come from? Councillor George responded the Environment Committee has some remaining money from their budget since they could not have meetings due to COVID; due to her work on the building deposits, there have been some deposits that have been forfeited; and the City has received CARES Act funds that may be available. Councillor George continued with as Councillor Zinniel mentioned earlier, about 75% of what will be in the plan the City has been doing, this would help the City do it in a more efficient manner and may not need to do so again for 10 to 15 years.

Councillor Garlove said when he was reading the presentation, there were pictures of what the entrances look like and suggestions of what they should look like so is the manual going to recommend at River Road entrance, there should be four bushes, 12 trees and a sign; or is it going to recommend a type of tree for this type of soil? What exactly is the manual going to tell us? Councillor Zinniel believes the manual may provide all of what he just said. For example, at the traffic triangle down at the bottom of the hill, this is the selection of trees that would be appropriate. Given certain circumstances, what would be appropriate and provide options. Councillor Garlove's last question was is this something Mr. Graven thinks would benefit his work, meaning he is going to be implementing anything we approve? Have they had an opportunity to talk to him? Mayor Hancock said it would be a manual more or less that he would work from with our landscape people. Councillor Zinniel is hoping Mr. Graven will provide his input on this and it is very important for him to do so; to give his ideas of what has worked or what has not worked in the past. The manual will also be a great working document for the next person once/when Mr. Graven retires. Mayor Hancock said in the interest of time, there is a motion on the floor, is there a second? Councillor Matton seconded. Since this is a virtual meeting, Mayor Hancock took the following roll-call vote:

Ms. Dreisbach	Aye	Mr. Harralson	Not present to vote
Ms. Dunbar	Aye	Ms. Matton	Aye
Mr. Garlove	Audio only	Mr. Ulmer	Aye
Ms. George	Aye	Ms. Zinniel	Aye
Mr. Giesel	No-would like more discussion		

Motion passed.

Councillor Zinniel offered to get with Councillor Giesel and anyone else who wanted to talk further about it. Councillor Giesel is fine with talking about it outside of this meeting.

3) Minutes – Emailed – December – Councillor Matton moved to approve the December Minutes as emailed; seconded by Councillor Giesel; none opposed.

4) Committee Reports – Emailed

(a) Finance (Dunbar/Ulmer)

1. Report – December – Councillor Ulmer presented December's Finance Report to Council.

Councillor Matton moved to accept the December Financial Report as presented; seconded by Councillor Zinniel; none opposed.

2. City & Police Disbursements – Approval – December – Councillor Zinniel moved to approve the December City and Police checks disbursed; seconded by Councillor George; none opposed.

(b) Public Safety Report – Spratt & Garlove & Harralson

1. Police Report – December - Chief Spratt – Chief Spratt's report included three criminal reports, two traffic collisions, traffic citations issued and year-to-date stats.

(c) Public Works & Building – Graven

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1. Public Works Director Report – Graven – Mayor Hancock gave the following report in Mr. Graven’s absence: (a) Permitting is getting back on track; (b) Councillor George’s list of trees to be removed over the winter months has been given to Mr. Graven. (c) The list of permits that were issued were discussed and Mr. Graven is looking into them. Some he knows and will get with us but will get with the City Clerk about sending reminder letters to the others; Councillor George offered to discuss this at a later date. (d) Some drainage issues on River Hill are being looked into; Councillor Zinniel asked if MSD should look into it. They may be able to address the source instead of the City addressing the symptom. Mayor Hancock will get with Mr. Graven. (e) Mayor Hancock said Mr. Graven is also looking into prices of guard rails for Calumet Road.

5) Other Reports

(a) Waste Management Report – Graven – Councillor Zinniel and other Councilmembers reported broken glass falling from the recycling truck on several streets. Mayor Hancock said he and Mr. Graven will contact Eco-tech. Councillor Dunbar’s trash had not been picked up twice in the last two months, but she called Eco-tech both times.

(b) Environment Committee Report – Zinniel/George – Councillor George

1. Report – December – No report.

6) Council Members Comments - None

7) Old Business - None

8) New Business – Mayor Hancock reported that he and the City Clerk will be working on the newsletter and if anyone has something they want in the newsletter, to please email it to them.

9) Legal – Cato

As discussed earlier, with regard to the Public Space Masterplan, Attorney Cato informed the Council that Louisville Metro has implemented various neighborhood development plans, and it is possible that Louisville Metro could have some funding. Someone may want to contact the Metro Councilmember for our Districts. Mayor Hancock said he would do so.

American Legal Publishing is in the process of reviewing our ordinances. American Legal sent a questionnaire for us to fill out for them to move forward, and we have sent that to them. Once they have finished reviewing the ordinances, they will forward a draft to us for review.

Attorney Cato has submitted the paperwork for the annexation of Phoenix Hill Court to the Louisville Metro Council. It should come up in early February; he and Mayor Hancock will be attending the virtual meeting.

10) Mayor’s Comments – Mayor Hancock commented he and Chief Spratt have discussed the CARES Act funds. Chief Spratt will be looking into body cameras for the police officers. The other item he is interested in is getting a backup generator for the office in the event of a storm.

11) Adjournment – Councillor Matton moved to adjourn at 7:26 pm; seconded by Councillor Dunbar; motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting

Thursday – February 18, 2021

6:00 p.m.

/s/  
Donna M. Sinkhorn, City Clerk

/s/  
Chip Hancock, Mayor