

CITY OF INDIAN HILLS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
January 18, 2023 Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Louisville Boat Club  
6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mayor: Chip Hancock

Council: Bob Astorino, Sr.  
Ann Dreisbach  
Laura Dunbar  
David Ferguson  
Lee Garlove  
John Harralson, III  
Chip Hayward, Jr.  
Lee Maddox  
Kay Matton

Attorney: Finn Cato

Public Works: Jim Graven

Police Chief: Kelly Spratt

City Clerk: Donna M. Sinkhorn

ABSENT

- 1) Call to Order – Mayor Hancock called the meeting to order at 5:57 p.m. and welcomed the newly-elected council members.
- 2) Recognize any visitors – Mayor Hancock recognized visitor, Jeanne Ferguson.
- 3) Minutes – December – Emailed - Councilor Maddox moved to approve the December minutes as emailed; seconded by Councilor Dunbar; none opposed.
- 4) Committee Reports – Emailed
  - (a) Finance (Dunbar)
    1. Report – December – Councilor Dunbar presented December’s financial report to Council.
    2. City & Police Disbursements – Approval – December

Councilor Matton moved to accept the December financial report as presented and to approve December city and police checks disbursed; seconded by Councilor Astorino; none opposed.
  - (b) Public Safety Report – Spratt & Garlove & Harralson
    1. Police Report – Chief Spratt’s report included multiple criminal reports; three traffic collision reports; one arrest/criminal citation; multiple traffic citations and year-to-date stats.

(c) Public Works & Building – Graven

1. Public Works Director Report

Mr. Graven's report included the following:

- a. Storm drains have been cleared of leaves/debris.
- b. Ms. Mimi Zinniel (former councilor) contacted Mr. Graven asking that he take over the completion of the Stonebridge Rd area near the bridge. He had a crew begin working on clearing it yesterday and will have it regularly maintained.
- c. Update on the ice/snow removal.
- d. Update on the butterfly garden.
- e. Deer issues.

Anyone knowing or hearing of any plow damage to any residents' grass/yard, please let Mr. Graven know.

Mayor Hancock informed council that the city has mailed a letter re short-term rentals not permitted in the city to the owner listing the owner's home as a short-term rental. The city clerk will email a copy of the letter to council tomorrow.

Councilor Garlove informed Mr. Graven about cracking pavement in the Locust Hill section. Mr. Graven said he drove through that area today and did notice a couple of cracks. That area and other areas throughout the city will be patched sometime this spring.

In response to Councilor Matton's question Mr. Graven said the speed humps on Arrowhead will be painted in the spring.

5) Other Reports

(a) Waste Management Report – Graven/Hancock

Mayor Hancock informed council that the city has received a few complaints re recycling glass falling through the cracks of Eco-Tech's trucks onto the streets and missed trash pickups. Mr. Graven has called Eco-tech about the glass, and they have cleaned it up. The mayor and Mr. Graven will meet with Eco-Tech to discuss the missed pickups and a couple other matters.

(b) Environment Committee – Maddox

1. Report – None

6) Council Members Comments - None

7) Old Business - None

8) New Business

(a) City Officials' Email Addresses & Group Emails – Mayor Hancock asked Chief Spratt to talk about city email addresses and group emails. Chief Spratt said we have discussed city email addresses for the council members, for various reasons including maintaining separate city emails from personal emails, open records

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requests. Chief Spratt and Mayor Hancock suggested taking personal phone numbers and addresses off the website and the newsletters for security reasons. Attorney Cato indicated that the Kentucky League of Cities recommends that city officials have a common city email address. Attorney Cato also advised that group emailing of more than a quorum (five or more council members) constitutes an official meeting under the Kentucky Open Meetings Act. Chief Spratt has researched the implementation of city emails and it would cost annually \$60 per person. Following discussion, Councilor Astorino moved to approve up to \$700 a year for the cost of city email addresses for the mayor and council members; seconded by Councilor Matton; none opposed. Discussion was also had regarding implementation of city officials' voice mail accounts. Councilor Astorino has asked Chief Spratt to get pricing for voice mail accounts for further discussion at the next meeting.

(b) Statement of Financial Interests – Due from elected officials by January 31, 2023 – Mayor Hancock asked that the council complete and sign the statement each received prior to the meeting and return it to the clerk.

(c) Proof of Receipt-Ky Open Records & Open Meetings Acts and Managing Government Records -Due from elected officials by January 31, 2023 – The manuals were emailed with the meeting packet to everyone, and the mayor asked the Council to return the signed Proof of Receipt to the clerk.

(d) Potential Conflicts of Interest – Mayor Hancock stated, as has been done in the past, he would like to have the minutes reflect the following potential conflicts of interests:

(1) Mayor Hancock is an employee of Republic Bank, and the city and police department have accounts at Republic Bank. The city had accounts with this bank prior to the mayor becoming a city official. Also, the bank's fees the city pays are on the same basis as similarly situated customers.

(2) Mr. Graven is associated with Steepleton, and the city awarded a snow removal contract via Municipal Order No. 11, Series 2019 to Steepleton.

(3) Penny Spratt cleans the city and police offices and is Chief Spratt's spouse.

(e) Newsletters – Bi-annual & Newsletter Supplements – Mayor Hancock said that instead of quarterly newsletters, the city would like to try bi-annual newsletters and as the need arises, supplemental newsletters will be emailed to residents. This change is not only because of the expense of printing and postage but also may encourage those residents who are not email subscribers to become a subscriber. The city may get to a point where newsletters are sent electronically. Residents may also request a hard copy.

9) Legal – Cato – No report.

10) Mayor's Comments

a) Mayor Hancock said we are looking into the opioid settlement fund. The State of Kentucky has received a large settlement due to the Opioid case.

b) Mayor Hancock commented that there are only 33 unpaid 2022 tax bills.

c) Mayor Hancock said if council members would like to have a one-on-one meeting about a specific topic, such as meeting with our city controller re finances, just let the city clerk know. If there is a committee that they may be interested in joining, just let the mayor know.

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d) Mayor Hancock informed council that the mayor of Rolling Fields has advised him that Rolling Fields has hired a consultant re merger with the City of Indian Hills. Discussion followed.

11) Adjournment – Councilor Matton moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m.; seconded by Councilor Astorino; none opposed.

Next Meeting  
Wednesday – February 15, 2023  
6:00 p.m.

/S/  
Donna M. Sinkhorn, City Clerk

/S/  
Chip Hancock, Mayor