

State of Indiana
Greene County
City of Linton

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
February 12, 2024 - 6:00 P.M.**

**WELCOME – OPENING OF MEETING
Mayor Preble opened the meeting at 6 p.m.**

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

**Linda Bedwell, Greg Sapp, Tony Richards & Ed Singleton
Leslie Newman was absent.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**A motion to approve the minutes with clarification made by Greg Sapp on the
Crowe Equipment section of the January meeting was made by Tony
Richards and 2nd by. 4 Ayes, passed.**

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS PROPERLY SIGNED

**A motion to approve the claims properly signed was made by Linda Bedwell,
2nd by Tony Richards. 4 Ayes, passed.**

APPROVAL OF ALLOWANCE DOCKET SIGNED

**A motion to approve the Allowance Docket was made by Ed Singleton, 2nd by
Tony Richards. 4 Ayes, passed.**

APPROVAL OF FUND & APPROPRIATION REPORT

**The report was not available and tabled. A motion was made by Tony
Richards for further discussion, 2nd by Ed Singleton. 4 Ayes, passed.**

NEW BUSINESS

Cheryl Hamilton – Eclipse Update

Cheryl Hamilton from the Linton Chamber of Commerce gave an update regarding the eclipse occurring on April 8, 2024. Main targeted areas for parking and activities on Monday will be the Linton-Stockton School and Linton Elks Lodge. Many of the area's hotels, cabins, and Air B & B's are already booked. Saturday downtown businesses are looking into a "shop hop" with giving away prizes at the end of the day by customers shopping and having a card stamped for the drawing. Sunday will be a community church service and a possible 4.3 K run which is the length of time for the eclipse.

The eclipse will take place at approximately 3:00 pm on April 8, 2024.

Changing of Council Meeting for April

The regular council meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2024, but due to the eclipse it was recommended to move the meeting to April 9, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

The motion was made by Tony Richards, 2nd by Linda Bedwell. 4 Ayes, passed.

Buck Creek Muzzleloaders – Donation

Mr. David O'Bryan on behalf of the Buck Creek Muzzleloaders Club donated a check for \$500.00 to the City of Linton to go towards the new fire training center. Mr. O'Bryan stated that the city is good to help the club.

SIDC Bid Openings

Jenny Dearwester from Southern Indiana Development Commission attended the meeting to open the bids for the final house projects.

K D Mendenhall Carpentry Bids

House 107	\$46,675.00
House 108	\$22,525.00
House 109	\$22,635.00
House 110	\$22,900.00

Brock Anderson Construction

House 107	\$36,700.00
House 108	\$21,100.00

House 109 \$23,150.00

House 110 \$13,250.00

Jenny will take the bids with her to review and will attend the next council meeting to award the bids.

Janette Evans – Park Board Update

The Park Board consists of Janette Evans, John Cotter, Tim Bledsoe, Gayle Margraf and Herb Abbott. There is also Pride in the Park which consists of John Cotter and Bob Evans who work on grants and generating money for the park. The Park Board and Pride in the Park have worked together over the years, executing over \$300,000 in projects and improvements to the park.

Projects over the years such as in the Roy Clark Building are replacing the doors, installed carpet on the walls to deaden sound, added two more folding chair racks, kitchen updated, renewed the front façade. In the park exercise equipment has been added, installed two permanent picnic tables, basketball and pickleball court lights, cleaned up volleyball area, new roofs on buildings, new playground equipment, replaced two existing open shelter houses, planted five new trees (35 trees have been added in recent years). They would like to add concrete to one of the open shelters that was replaced due to a tree falling on it. A table carrier is needed at the Roy Clark Building, would like to add 10-15 more park benches, and replace playground equipment and place cushioning underneath existing equipment, improve the lighting and band shell. Mrs. Evans said they need funding for the projects and would like ideas. She also stated that historically the city's budgeting for the park has been for payment of the utilities and part-time employee's salaries to maintain the facilities. Pride in the Park will be doing a survey possibly an insert in the utility bills or online and working on a 5-year master plan.

Linda Bedwell and the Clerk-Treasurer stated that the city paid for the roofs of all the shelters in the park. Bob Evans stated that the city workers have helped in the park. Linda Bedwell stated that the United Mine Workers and Buck Creek Muzzleloaders donate time and money to the park as well.

Carolyn Earle – Concerns

Mrs. Earle lives at 160 12th St. NE and is concerned that a recently constructed block building may become a pool hall in the residential area near her. After inquiring she was informed there were no formal ordinances or laws regarding placement of businesses in residential areas. She is asking for consideration after receiving feedback from homeowners in her area for clear guidelines for residential businesses which would operate day and night to protect the residents. Also, she is asking to make speed limits more uniform

in the city. She stated that some streets do not have appropriate speed limit signs and worried about speeding on those streets. Tony Richards stated that he spoke with the owner of the building and his intentions are to make the building his home and live in the front and he makes pool cues and sells them and will have a small business in the back but no pool hall. Mayor Preble stated that the city will investigate the speed limit signs.

Economic Development – Jathan Wright

A motion was made by Linda Bedwell to reappoint Jathan Wright to the Economic Development Board for a 3-year term. The motion was seconded by Ed Singleton. 4 Ayes, passed.

Jerry May - Ruling from IN Assembly regarding Utilities

Mr. May stated there is a ruling from the Attorney General's office for which he provided documentation. The ruling is regarding utilities and rental properties. It states that a municipal utility cannot hold a property owner responsible for a tenant's utility bill. Mr. May stated that he has been held responsible for tenants that did not pay their utility bill. He asked the city to review their policy, rescind and change the policy. Sam Drummy clarified that this is a former Attorney General's opinion interpreting a 2020 statute from 4 years ago and it has been discussed in the past. Brent Slover stated that if a tenant has an unpaid utility bill it is forwarded to a collection agency.

The process does not mean that the city cannot file a sewer lien on the property. The property owner would be required to pay. Mr. Slover stated that the person whose name is on the utility bill is the one required to pay for sewer and storm water charges. Mr. May also addressed a power line that is live and has fell over and leaning against a mobile home at 568 G St NW which he reported last week has yet to be fixed. Also, he stated he has had brush setting out for several months and was told by the utility company they would not pick it up, which in the past the city has always done. Mayor Preble said he would look further into it.

Kristy Lewellyn – Appointment to Greene County Visitors Bureau

A motion was made by Linda Bedwell to appoint Kristy Lewellyn to the Greene County Visitor Bureau for a 2-year term and 2nd by Greg Sapp. 4 Ayes, passed.

Ordinance 2024 – 03 Flood Plain Administrator

Flood Plain Administrator in the past has been the Clerk-Treasurer. The street department working foreman which is Tommy Bailey has had training

and has been certified was designated to fill the position. The motion was made by Linda Bedwell and 2nd by Tony Richards. 4 Ayes, passed.

Resolution 2024 – 05 Investments

Resolution 2024- 05 will give the Clerk-Treasurer the ability to reinvest the Certificates of Deposit. The practice is to check with local banks and go with the highest percentage rate when they become due. The Clerk-Treasurer stated that not all banks have the same rate. The motion was made by Linda Bedwell to adopt the resolution to give the Clerk-Treasurer permission to reinvest and 2nd by Tony Richards. 4 Ayes, passed.

Township Trustee Fire Agreement

A motion was made by Tony Richards to renew the township trustee fire agreement, 2nd by Linda Bedwell. 4 ayes, passed.

Soccer Lease

The lease was tabled at this time due to questions regarding the possibility of youth football using the field. The city would want either party to show proof of insurance. It was suggested by Greg Sapp to clarify in the lease what the acceptable use of the property is.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTING

Brent Slover stated that a survey was sent out in the utility bills last month and received a good response back regarding the water service lines. Brent stated an advance notice of 3 weeks would be needed if the park board wants to add an insert to the utility bill for a survey or questionnaire.

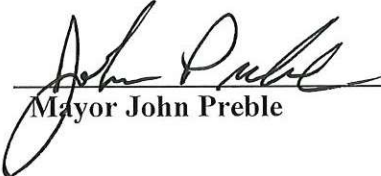
City Utilities Manager Brent Murray recognized Tommy Bailey and his workers for the work and time put in regarding the sewers and thanked the council for the money to get better equipment to use. They have caught several problems before they became bigger problems and Bailey is getting a plan together for future projects.

Linton Fire Chief Colton Murray thanked the Buck Creek Muzzleloaders for their donation to the new training center.

Linda Bedwell asked about the Community Crossings money and what streets the money will be used on. Tommy Bailey stated the streets involved would be Oak Street from Meadow Lane to the dead end and Chris Schenkel Drive from Willow Lane to the dead in all located in Green Acres. SE 7th St from SE Vincennes St to State Road 54 and NE D St from N Main Street to NE 2nd Street. Mayor Preble stated that the total estimate is 400,000.00.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Linda Bedwell and 2nd BY Greg Sapp. 4 Ayes, passed.



Mayor John Preble



Clerk-Treasurer Claudia Walker