

State of Indiana
Greene County
City of Linton

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
October 15, 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 and
Leslie Newman.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**A motion was made by Greg Sapp to approve the August 12th minutes, 2nd by
Ed Singleton. 5 Ayes, passed.**

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS PROPERLY SIGNED

**A motion to approve the claims properly signed was made by Linda Bedwell,
2nd by Tony Richards. 5 Ayes, passed.**

APPROVAL OF FUND & APPROPRIATION REPORT

**A motion to approve the fund and appropriation report was made by Tony
Richards, 2nd by Greg Sapp. 5 Ayes, passed.**

APPROVAL OF THE PAYROLL ALLOWANCE DOCKET

**A motion was made to approve the allowance docket by Linda Bedwell, 2nd by
Ed Singleton. 5 Ayes, passed.**

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 2024-11 Vacate Platted Alley

**Mayor Preble stated that this item on the agenda will be tabled due to an
incorrect date on the document and there needs to be a public hearing which**

will be prior to the November 12, 2024, council meeting at 5:55 pm. This is regarding the property across from the Fire Station to vacate an alley.

Ordinance 2024-09 Budget

Greg Sapp made a motion to approve the 2024-09 ordinance for the 2025 budget seconded by Leslie Newman. 5 Ayes, passed.

Ordinance 2024-10 2025 Salary Ordinance

Clerk -Treasurer Claudia Walker stated the new Salary Ordinance included a 3% increase across the board for all employees also adding a Human Resource Person to the assist the Clerk -Treasurer's Department.

Councilman Leslie Newman said he would like to have more clarity on what the position and duties performed would be. Councilman Tony Richards expresses the same concern and would like more discussion. Clerk -Treasurer Claudia Walker informed the council she will put a packet together with information regarding the human resource position and duties involved for the council to look at. This will be revisited at the next meeting. A motion was made to approve the salary ordinance with the exclusion of the Human Resources position until further discussion of it by Linda Bedwell and seconded by Tony Richards. 5 Ayes, passed.

Resolution 2024-09 Transfer of Funds

Mayor Preble stated this transfer was from the general fund to cover expenses associated with the pool. The motion was made by Tony Richards to approve the 2024-09 resolution to transfer funds and seconded by Leslie Newman. 5 Ayes, passed.

Resolution 2024-10 New Fund and Appropriations

Clerk-Treasurer Claudia Walker stated that this was to create new appropriations for spending the Opioid Money on a K-9 for the police department. A new fund and appropriation for the police dog donations account was included. The motion was made by Tony Richards to approve Resolution 2024-10 and seconded by Greg Sapp. 5 Ayes, passed. After the motion passed Linda Bedwell stated that she would like to see the council donate \$500 to the K-9 fund. The motion was made again by Tony Richards to approve Resolution 2024-10 and the council donating \$500 to the K-9 fund and seconded by Linda Bedwell. 5 Ayes, passed.

Mayor Preble stated that in the council packet was a recommended update cemetery ordinance for review. Tony Richards commented that the reason for the increase was due to the burial company's raising their rates

Mayor Preble stated that in the council packet was the agreement that took place at the last council meeting to sell the Kennedy Lot to Harold Smith. The agreement has been signed by Mayor Preble and Mr. Smith. Mr. Smith was present at the meeting and stated that the title company has not completed the title search, and no money has been paid.

DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORTING

Chief of Police Paul Clark thanked the council for the \$500 donation to the K-9 fund. Chief Clark said that Officer Mitchell Eberhart will train and work with the new officer, a one-year-old Dutch Shepard named Zeke. He will focus on drug detection as well as other K-9 functions. Chief Clark said that currently there are no K-9 officers in Greene County. If needed, they call Sullivan County. Zeke should be ready by November or early December.

Chief Clark stated it was quite an expense with a K-9 officer, but the community response has been positive. Zeke will work 6 to 8 years before retirement.

Fire Chief Eric Carpenter reported there were 63 EMS runs, 19 fire runs, and 5 auto accidents for a total of 87 runs last month. He also stated the fire department has been busy with installing approximately 100 smoke alarms. These are free to residents. Chief Carpenter also stated that Jennifer Knight is helping with installation for residents outside of Linton. He also mentioned that October is National Fire Safety Month. The fencing around the new fire training facility is also ready to be installed. Mayor Preble stated that Chief Carpenter is now the official Chief of the Fire Department.

Operations Manager Brent Murray stated that repaving will begin next week in the alley behind NAPA to 3rd Streets and this is not a part of the Community Crossings project. Community Crossings money will be for the work done at Green Acres on Chris Schenkel Drive. Brush pickup is every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month. There is a new leaf machine that should be arriving any time.

Brent Slover discussed the continuing replacement of lead and copper water lines. He stated that customers will be receiving letters before November 16th regarding how to find out what pipe material is used where they live. He stated that the city has 10 years to get it done and would be replacing any substandard materials that residents might have. If residents have any questions to contact him.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

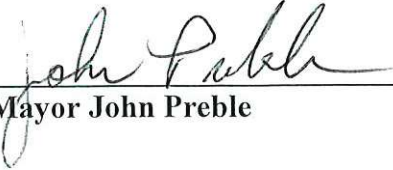
Matthew Copher attended the meeting and discussed immigration and wondered if the city had considered the possibility of Linton becoming oversaturated with immigrants.

Adam Wence attended the meeting and stated that he agreed with Mr. Copher regarding the immigration possibility and that Logansport has seen an influx of approximately 5,000 immigrants come in on work visas and wondered what Linton would do if in the same situation. Mr. Wence also stated that he would not be for refurbishing the pool. He stated it would be a burden on most taxpayers and thought the money could be better spent.

Mayor Preble made a point of clarification regarding Mr. Wence's comment regarding the pool. The resolution last month was to move money from the general fund to cover the losses from the pool.

Linda Bedwell stated that there have been some water issues in town recently and she wanted to thank Brent Murray, Ross Gentry and Tommy Bailey for the quick response, taking care of the issues and helping residents.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Linda Bedwell and 2nd by Ed Singleton. 5 Ayes, passed.



Mayor John Preble



Clerk-Treasurer Claudia Walker