

**State of Indiana
Greene County
City of Linton**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
January 13, 2025 - 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 FOR COUNCIL MEETING AND PUBLIC
HEARING**

**A motion was made by Ed Singleton to approve the December 8, 2024,
minutes of the public hearing and regular council meeting and 2nd by Greg
Sapp. 5 Ayes, passed.**

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS PROPERLY SIGNED

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

APPROVAL OF FUND & APPROPRIATION REPORT

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

APPROVAL OF THE PAYROLL ALLOWANCE DOCKET

**A motion was made to approve the allowance docket by Greg Sapp, 2nd by
Leslie Newman. 5 Ayes, passed.**

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Linda Bedwell to nominate Tony Richards as president of the council for 2025 and 2nd by Ed Singleton. 4 Ayes, passed with Tony Richards abstaining.

Ordinance 2024-14 Electric Rate Increase

This ordinance was discussed in the earlier public hearing by Buzz Cronn. The effective date will be March 1st. A motion was made by Tony Richards to increase the utility rates and 2nd by Leslie Newman. 5 Ayes, passed.

Ordinance 2024-15 Sanitation Rate Increase

This ordinance was discussed in the earlier public hearing by Buzz Cronn. The effective date will be March 1st. A motion was made by Tony Richards to increase the sanitation rates and 2nd by Leslie Newman. 5 Ayes, passed.

Alcohol & Beverage Board Appointment

Mayor Preble stated that this appointment is to the county Alcohol and Beverage Board and Dick Kaiser currently serves on the board. Mayor Preble recommended the council to reappoint Dick Kaiser to a two-year appointment to the board which Mr. Kaiser has agreed to. A motion was made by Linda Bedwell and 2nd by Ed Singleton to reappoint Mr. Kaiser to the board. 4 Ayes, passed. Greg Sapp abstained due to holding a liquor license.

Economic Development Commission Appointment

Mayor Preble stated that an appointment was needed to the Economic Development Commission. Mayor Preble recommended the council to reappoint Jathan Wright to the commission, which Mr. Wright has agreed to. A motion was made by Leslie Newman to reappoint Jathan Wright to the Economic Development Commission and 2nd by Greg Sapp. 5 Ayes, passed.

Southern Indiana Development Commission Appointment

Mayor Preble asked to be reappointed to the SIDC board. The motion was made by Linda Bedwell and 2nd by Leslie Newman. 5 Ayes, passed.

Solid Waste Appointment

No action needs to be taken. Linda Bedwell and Mayor Preble serve on the board until 2027. Mayor Preble also noted that Brent Murray serves on the board, which is a county appointment.

Root 54 Lease

Mayor Preble presented the lease to the council for approval. Linda Bedwell asked if he had proof of insurance. Clerk-Treasurer Claudia Walker said she had not spoken with him about it, but he has always carried insurance in the past. Linda Bedwell stated he has done a good job of keeping the property clean and maintained. The motion was made by Tony Richards to approve the lease for Root 54 and was 2nd by Linda Bedwell. 5 Ayes, passed.

Stockton Township Fire Agreement

Mayor Preble stated that the Stockton Township Fire Agreement was in the council packets to review. The township provides the city with funds of \$90,000.00 to support the Fire Department. The motion was made by Linda Bedwell to adopt the Stockton Township Fire Agreement and 2nd by Leslie Newman. 5 Ayes, passed.

Approval of Human Resources Position for INPRS

For the Human Resources position to be covered by PERF it must be approved by the council and documentation submitted to INPRS. Clerk-Treasurer Claudia Walker stated the city's portion contributed is 11.2% for all employees. The motion was made by Tony Richards to approve the Human Resource Coordinator a PERF covered position and 2nd by Leslie Newman. 5 Ayes, passed.

DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORTING

Linton Police Chief Paul Clark stated in the month of December the Police Department had received 1,185 telephone calls. There were 135, 911 calls which generated 686 calls of service between the police, fire, EMS and dispatch. Also, 386 law related investigations. Linda Bedwell expressed her thanks to the police, fire and all city departments for their service and hard work during the past week's snowstorm.

Linton Fire Chief Eric Carpenter stated in the month of December the Fire Department had 93 calls. There were 73 EMS calls and 20 fire calls. In 2024 the department had a combined 1,123 fires and EMS calls. Chief Carpenter stated a representative from Senator Young's office reached out to him and

Mayor Preble and took a tour of the new training facility and inquired about the FEMA Grant the department received a few months ago. She gave Chief Carpenter contact information for FEMA Grant writing purposes. She said they would be glad to write a letter supporting the department's cause when needed.

Operations Manager Brent Murray stated that he thought everyone did a great job with the snow removal last week and he appreciated everyone that helped. He stated that plowing snow is not an easy job especially as cold as it's been. Brent stated in the next few days, they will work around the storm drains to allow somewhere for the melting snow to go and not in the streets. Brent also thanked the council for a good year and stated that he appreciated the council working well with everyone.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Harold Smith was in attendance and asked if the city hired a Human Resources Coordinator. Mayor Preble stated that they had and their first day of employment was today January 13th.

Mayor Preble thanked the Street Department for their hard work in the past week.

Tony Richards thanked and congratulated the council and Mayor Preble, stating that he thought they had worked well together this past year. He felt like that everyone had the city at heart.

Linda Bedwell commented that she had received a call regarding the pool, if it would be opened this year? She stated no decision has been made and would like to schedule a pool board meeting in January. The swim team has inquired about scheduling swim meets. Mayor Preble stated his intent is to have a town hall meeting with the pool board involved either in January or early February. He stated there was a study done 2 years ago under Mayor Wilkes and he would like to get current numbers to present what the issues and costs are regarding the future of the pool. He stated it is a tough decision but has been coming for some time.

Mayor Preble stated the Department of Corrections will be in town tomorrow to remove the Christmas lights and he appreciates their involvement in

putting up and taking down of the lights at Humphrey's Park, Rotary Park and City Hall.

Linda Bedwell received a drawing to give to the council from Harold Smith to show his plans of what he will be doing with the Kennedy lot he had purchased.

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

Mayor John Preble

Clerk-Treasurer Claudia Walker

