COMMON COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
NOVEMBER 19, 2013

Mayor Kristen Brown called a regular meeting of the City Common Council to order at approximately 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers.

I. Meeting Called to Order

A. Opening Prayer was given by Pastor Justin White with First Christian Church.

B. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Brown.

C. Roll Call was taken. Dascal Bunch, Ryan Brand, Frank Jerome, Frank Miller, Tim Shuffett, Kenneth Whipker, and James Lienhoop were present.

D. Councilor Shuffett made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the City Council meeting of November 5, 2013. Councilor Bunch seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote of seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed. Councilor Shuffett made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the Special City Council meeting of November 4, 2013. Councilor Bunch seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Shuffett made a motion to suspend the rules of order and move Items A and B under New Business to be heard prior to Unfinished Business. Councilor Brand seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

III. New Business Requiring Council Action

A. Reading of a Resolution entitled "RESOLUTION NO. 28, 2013, A RESOLUTION APPROVING A DEDUCTION FOR TAX ABATEMENT IN A PREVIOUSLY DESIGNATED ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA PURSUANT TO INDIANA CODE 6-1.1-12.1 ET. SEQ. AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE STATEMENT OF BENEFITS FORM." (Claas of America, Inc.) Clark Greiner, Business Development and Planning Coordinator, along with Roger Parker, North America Vice President of Parts and Zach Armstrong, Parts Warehouse & Logistics Manager with Claas of America, Inc., presented this Resolution for tax abatement. Claas of America, Inc., is requesting a tax abatement on real and personal property at its existing location at 3030 Norcross Drive, Columbus, Indiana. The property is located in a previously designated Economic Revitalization Area. Claas of America, Inc., plans an expansion of 75,000 square feet to accommodate the installation of new racking and logistical equipment. They plan to invest $3,462,000.00 in real property improvements and $1,489,000.00 in new equipment. Clark explained that, as a result of the expansion, 33 jobs will be retained and ten jobs will be added by the end of 2015. Councilor Shuffett stated the Incentive Review Committee had met prior to the meeting and found Claas of America, Inc. to be in substantial compliance. Councilor Shuffett made a motion to approve the

Resolution with a ten (10) year tax abatement on real property and a ten (10) year abatement on personal property. Councilor Brand seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Reading of a Resolution entitled "RESOLUTION NO. 29, 2013, A RESOLUTION APPROVING A DEDUCTION FOR TAX ABATEMENT IN A PREVIOUSLY DESIGNATED ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA PURSUANT TO INDIANA CODE 6-1.1-12.1 ET. SEQ. AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE STATEMENT OF BENEFITS FORM." (Rightway Fasteners, Inc.) Clark Greiner, along with Ron Miller, General Manager with Rightway Fasteners, Inc. presented this request for tax abatement. Rightway Fasteners, Inc. is requesting a tax abatement on personal property at its existing plant located at 7945 S International Drive in Columbus, Indiana. Rightway Fasteners, Inc. plans to invest $2,350,000.00 for the purchase and installation of new manufacturing equipment. As a result of this expansion, Rightway Fasteners, Inc. will retain 298 jobs and add five new jobs by the end of 2014. The property is located in a previously designated Economic Revitalization Area. Brief discussion followed. Councilor Shuffett stated the Incentive Review Committee met prior to the Council meeting and found Rightway Fasters, Inc. to be in substantial compliance. Councilor Shuffett made a motion to approve the tax abatement with a ten (10) year abatement. Councilor Brand seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote of seven (7) in favor and none opposed.

II. Unfinished Business Requiring Council Action

A. Second Reading of an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO. 25, 2013, AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES AND WAGES OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2013." Jeff Logston, City Attorney and Director of Operations, presented this ordinance by requesting an increase in the overtime line of the Police Department for $30,000.00. Jeff explained the Police Department had incurred additional overtime expenses from the Columbus Marathon, but marathon sponsors have reimbursed the City for those expenses. Additional overtime was also needed for new officers attending training. There were no comments from the public. Councilor Jerome made a motion to pass the second reading and adopt the ordinance. Councilor Shuffett seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Second Reading of an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO. 26, 2013, AN ORDINANCE FIXING SALARIES AND WAGES OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2014." Jeff Logston presented this ordinance by explaining the salary ordinance incorporates amendments requested by Council at the last Council meeting. The ordinance reflects the request for one (1) additional headcount in the Police Department to be moved back to the Fire Department for the position of Public Information Officer (PIO). The process would include moving a Lieutenant position from the Police Department and creating the position of PIO in the Fire Department at the Captain rank, which is what was removed earlier in the year. Mayor Brown asked if Council had any concerns or questions about the Technical Resource roll request for salary adjustment to accommodate that position. Mayor further stated the city's administrative needs are changing and an effort is being made to push out updates on the website and produce public information documents. Councilor Jerome asked if this new position would eliminate the marketing position at the Parks and Recreation

Department. Mayor said the new position would not eliminate the Parks and Rec position, but was meant to compliment that position. Discussion followed. Councilor Lienhoop stated his concerns include the fact that the city previously had a filled position and that employee was told there wasn't enough work, so the position was eliminated. Now the request is to spend $45,000.00 a year for a person to work as a website design/graphic arts employee. It is not clear to him how those particular duties are core to our government service. Further stating he has yet to receive information as to what is currently being spent or any future cost savings amounts on these particular services. Jeff stated $11,000.00 is currently being spent annually for the website. Councilor Whipker questioned whether that cost would go away. Mayor stated this position would lead to a platform where those expenses would eventually go away. Councilor Brand questioned if there had been any discussions for a consultant coming in to create flyer templates. Mayor stated specific skills are needed. Much discussion followed. Councilor Miller would like to see the entire salary ordinance revamped from top to bottom, with a complete overhaul of low range/high range per job description. Discussion followed. Mayor stated we have one HR person for 465 employees and 175 part-time employees and she is working on updating job descriptions. Mayor further stated we have personnel problems every day. Councilor Miller stated he would be willing to make an amendment to meet partway on the wages of the Technical Operations Resource position. The amendment would make the salary the same as the Marketing Coordinator salary in the Parks and Rec Department. The Mayor stated we have inconsistencies all over, further stating there are custodians on the salary ordinance that are significantly too high. Mayor begged the Council not to reduce the Technical Operations Resource pay to that of Marketing Coordinator. Councilor Brand stated it sounds like someone needs to be hired in HR and try to expand some of the responsibilities in the marketing position at the Parks Department to handle some of the technical duties. Mayor explained Matt Caldwell, the new Director of Operations and Finance, will be able to work in conjunction with Arlette. Mayor opened the meeting for public comment. Russell Poling of Columbus commented that the technical person is needed and agreed that additional help is also needed in HR, stating one person for 600 employees is a lot of work. Councilor Jerome made a motion to pass the second reading. Councilor Lienhoop seconded the motion. Council Jerome made a motion to amend the ordinance to increase the salary amount of the Technical Operations Resource position to $45,000.00. The motion failed because a lack of a second motion. Councilor Miller made a motion to amend the ordinance to revise the salary of the Technical Operations Resource position to the same level as the Marketing Coordinator with the Parks & Rec Department of $40,883.00. Motion to amend was seconded by Councilor Jerome. Discussion followed. Motion to amend passed by a vote of four (4) in favor and three (3) opposed. Roll call was taken:

Dascal Bunch	aye
Ryan Brand	nay
Frank Jerome	aye
Frank Miller	aye
Tim Shuffett	nay
Kenneth Whipker	aye
James Lienhoop	nay

Councilor Jerome made a motion to pass the second reading and adopt the amended ordinance. Councilor Miller seconded the

motion. Motion passed by a vote of six (6) in favor and one (1) opposed. Councilor Lienhoop voted nay.

III. New Business Requiring Council Action

C. First Reading of an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO._____, 2013, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS BETWEEN DEPARTMENTS FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2014." Jeff Logston presented this ordinance and explained this is the transfer of funds from the Police Department to the Fire Department for the recreated position of Public Information Officer within the Fire Department. Jeff stated the total sum is $76,413.00, which is a sufficient amount to cover salary and all benefits. There were no comments from the public. Councilor Jerome made a motion to pass the first reading and place in proper channels. The motion was seconded by Councilor Brand. Motion passed unanimously.

D. First Reading of an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO._____, 2013, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA, TO AMEND CHAPTER 5.12 OF THE COLUMBUS CITY CODE, TAXICABS." Jeff Logston presented the ordinance by explaining the revision is an administrative cleanup. The ordinance revision specifically defines that *licenses* deal with taxicab drivers and the licenses they request through the Board of Works to drive those vehicles. *Permits* are defined as the documents that allow the business to operate as a taxicab company within the city. The language regarding expiration was also modified to expire on a yearly basis instead of December 31 of every year. Additional revisions include stronger background checks to make sure drivers are of good moral character. Councilor Miller questioned who would enforce any violations. Jeff stated section 5.12.260 of the ordinance addressed complaints, violations and penalties. Councilor Whipker questioned if this includes limousines. Jeff said no, but he will research regulations on limousines. Brief discussion followed. Mayor Brown opened the meeting for public comment. There were no comments. Councilor Shuffett made a motion to pass the first reading of the ordinance and place in proper channels. Councilor Whipker seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

E. First Reading of an Ordinance entitled "ORDINANCE NO._____, 2013, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA, TO AMEND CHAPTER 10.48 OF THE COLUMBUS CITY CODE, ABANDONED VEHICLES." Jeff Logston presented this ordinance by explaining this is a revision of the existing ordinance to include unlicensed and inoperable vehicles. Jeff read the definitions of inoperable vehicles and unlicensed vehicles. He further discussed the prohibition language of the ordinance, which allows an ongoing conversation with Code Enforcement or Columbus Police Department with the property owner to find out operability of the vehicle. Councilor Miller expressed concern about language regarding inoperable vehicle exposure in public view. Jeff stated after the last Council meeting he added the word carport to the language which would be an exception to this ordinance. Discussion followed. Jeff stated the county has a similar policy already in place. Mayor opened the meeting for public comment. Russell Poling expressed concerns about the information he read in the newspaper regarding this issue. It was determined the newspaper article was referencing the current code, not the proposed revisions. A lady in the audience raised a question in regards to automobiles placed for sale on the street in

neighborhoods for extended periods of time. Discussion followed. Brad Grayson with the Bartholomew County Landlord Association expressed concerns with section 10.48.095 referring to the owner of the property. He believes the language opens the door to fine the landlord who, by law, cannot touch a vehicle on the property. Much discussion followed. Councilor Bunch made a motion to pass the first reading and place in proper channel. Councilor Jerome seconded the motion. Motion passed by a vote of six (6) in favor and one (1) opposed. Councilor Miller voted nay.

IV. Other Business

A. Standing Committee and Liaison Reports

B. Discussion Items:

1.) Downtown Parking – next steps – Mayor Brown asked for discussion or direction from the Downtown Parking presentation held on November 4, 2013. Councilor Jerome stated the City Council suggests the Mayor take the lead on this and Council will work with her. Much discussion followed. It was agreed that two members of the Council would join the Parking Committee for further review. Sarah Cannon explained there is additional information coming from the parking Consultant that should be more detailed. Tom Dell would like to wait until the Consultant provides formal recommendations.

2.) Columbus City Utilities Annual Financial Plan – Keith Reeves, Director of Columbus City Utilities presented a brief summary of the 2014 financial plan. Councilor Shuffett stated the City Utilities Board has approved the financial plan. Discussion followed.

C. Next regular meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 3, 2013 at 6:00 P.M. in City Hall.**

D. Councilor Bunch made a motion for adjournment. Councilor Shuffett seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:46 P.M.

Presiding Officer

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer of City of Columbus