

COMMON COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY HALL and WEBEX
JUNE 6, 2023

Mayor James Lienhoop appeared in person and called a regular meeting of the City Common Council to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers meeting room.

I. Meeting Called to Order

- A. Pastor Tim Carter, Associate Pastor and Director of Life Care, with St. Peter's Lutheran Church provided the opening prayer.
- B. Mayor Lienhoop led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Roll Call was taken: Jerone Wood, Elaine Hilber, David Bush, Frank Miller, Tim Shuffett, Tom Dell, and Grace Kestler were present in person.
- D. Councilor Hilber made a motion to approve the minutes from the Common Council meeting on April 4, 2023, as presented. Councilor Shuffett seconded the motion. Motion passed by a vote of seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed.

II. Old Business Requiring Council Action

- A. Second Reading of an Ordinance entitled, "ORDINANCE NO. 11, 2023, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND, COMMUNITY CROSSING GRANT FUND AND THOROUGHFARE FUND FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2023." Jamie Brinegar, Manager of Finance and Business Operations, presented this ordinance. He explained the request is for additional appropriations in three areas. The first request is \$512,000 for capital improvements in the City's sidewalk program and stormwater projects. Next, \$927,807 for a Community Crossings Grant, awarded from the State of Indiana. The third request is to appropriate \$2,266,000 from the Thoroughfare Fund for the City's trail programs, with an 80% reimbursement from the Federal Transportation Agency. There were no comments from the audience. Councilor Shuffett made a motion to pass the second reading and adopt the ordinance. Councilor Miller seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.
- B. Second Reading of an Ordinance entitled, "ORDINANCE NO. 12, 2023, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE CITY GENERAL FUND, NEXUSPARK FIELDHOUSE FUND AND PARKS GENERAL FUND FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2023." Pam Harrell, Associate Director of Business Services, and Mark Jones, Director of Parks and Recreation, presented this ordinance. Pam explained the ordinance consists of three parts: an additional appropriation for pledges from donors for NexusPark in the amount of \$2,036,500. Secondly, an appropriation from the NexusPark Fieldhouse Fund in the total amount of \$260,000 for staffing requirements including salaries, PERF, FICA, and insurance costs. Lastly, \$750,000 from the Parks & Recreation General Fund toward the purchase of furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the NexusPark project. Much discussion followed. Mayor Lienhoop opened the meeting for public comment. Mary Ferdon, Executive Director of Administration and Community Development,

stated the community has a history of using donors to help fund projects and the major donors are businesses. Councilor Miller made a motion to pass the second reading and adopt the ordinance. Councilor Shuffett seconded the motion. Motion passed by a vote of five (5) in favor and two (2) opposed. Councilors Hilber and Kestler voted nay.

III. New Business Requiring Council Action

- A. Reading of a Resolution entitled, "RESOLUTION NO. 5, 2023, A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROJECT 46 REGIONAL CLIMATE COALITION." Mary Ferdon, Executive Director of Administration and Community Development, explained the City of Columbus, the Town of Nashville, and the City of Bloomington announced the launch and next steps of a bipartisan multicounty effort to address climate change. The new alliance entitled Project 46, is named for the state road that links Bartholomew, Brown and Monroe counties. Mary stated the purpose of this alliance is to identify and pursue solutions that effectively address shared challenges and opportunities for climate change. Mayor Lienhoop spoke about the benefits of the project. Brief discussion followed. Mayor Lienhoop opened the meeting for public comments. A member of the audience encouraged Council to approve the resolution. Councilor Shuffett made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Councilor Miller seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.
- B. Reading of a Resolution entitled, "RESOLUTION NO. 6, 2023, A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF COLUMBUS REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION TO EXPEND FUNDS OVER \$500,000 TO FUND A PORTION OF THE NEXUSPARK CAMPUS PROJECT FROM THE COLUMBUS REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION CENTRAL ALLOCATION AREA." Mary Ferdon presented this resolution. She introduced Mark Jones, Director of Parks & Recreation, Pam Harrell, Associate Director of Business Services, and Brady Buckley, Associate Director of Sports, and Al Roszczyk, Chairman of the Redevelopment Commission. Mary stated the request is to approve a not to exceed amount of \$6,500,000 over two years, from the Central Allocation Area for the construction of the NexusPark exterior campus. She presented a powerpoint presentation including artistic renderings of the finished project. Mark Jones discussed the parks strategic master plan, which highlighted indoor walking, outdoor restrooms, indoor recreational facility, health and fitness programs, etc. Al Roszczyk stated the project will not only benefit midtown and the central TIF, but the city in general as a catalyst for the city overall, with improved quality of life, employment opportunities, and business opportunities. Much discussion followed. Mayor Lienhoop opened the meeting for public comments. Nick Slabaugh stated crossing 25th Street is very dangerous and questioned if there is a plan to have a protective crossing for access to NexusPark. Mary explained the goal is to install a Hawk signal and possible "road diet" to slow down traffic. Nick also asked if there is a published budget and operating plan for NexusPark. Much discussion followed. Christopher Rutan ask how the city will cover the shortfall if donors don't pay their pledged amount. Councilor Shuffett made a motion to pass the resolution as presented. Councilor Miller seconded the motion. Motion passed by a vote of five (5) in favor and two (2) opposed. Councilors Hilber and Kestler voted nay.
- C. Reading of a Resolution entitled "RESOLUTION NO. 7, 2023, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AN UPDATED THOROUGHFARE PLAN ELEMENT OF THE

CITY OF COLUMBUS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.” Jeff Bergman, Planning Director, presented this resolution. He explained the resolution is an effort to bring all of the related thoroughfare policy regulations into alignment with the updated Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan. Jeff stated the Columbus Plan Commission forwarded this to Council with a favorable recommendation on the changes. Discussion followed. There were no comments from the audience. Councilor Bush made a motion to pass the resolution as presented. Councilor Hilber seconded the motion. Motion passed by a vote of six (6) in favor and one (1) opposed. Councilor Miller voted nay.

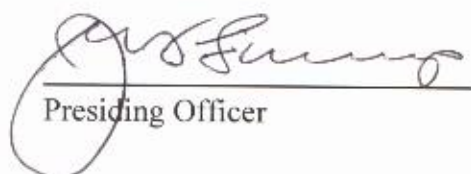
- D. First Reading of an Ordinance entitled “ORDINANCE NO. ___, 2023, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA SUBDIVISION CONTROL ORDINANCE.” Jeff Bergman presented this ordinance. He stated this ordinance and previous resolution go hand in hand. The thoroughfare plan provides policy around streets and transportation generally within the community and the subdivision control ordinance provides the regulations, which implement those policies as new development happens. Jeff discussed the significant changes. He reported the Columbus Plan Commission forwarded this to Council with a unanimous favorable recommendation to the changes. Much discussion followed. There were no comments from the public. Councilor Shuffett made a motion to pass the first reading and place in proper channels. Councilor Hilber seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

IV. Other Business

- A. Standing Committee and Liaison Reports – none
- B. The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 20, 2023, 6:00 p.m.**
- C. Councilor Kestler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Shuffett seconded the motion. Motion passed by a vote of seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:53 P.M.



Clerk Treasurer of City of Columbus


Presiding Officer