

Mayor Marksberry called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum of Council was determined with all of Council present.

MINUTE APPROVAL

Minutes of the May Council meetings had been previously distributed to the Council and Mayor Marksberry. After discussion a motion was made by Councilwoman Scott to approve the May 2nd Council minutes, 2nd by Councilman Slack; motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, BOARDS & DEPARTMENTS

PROJECT MANAGERS REPORT

Mike Northcutt Project Manager informed the Mayor and Council that Sunesis is waiting on the fountain to be finished to complete the Riverfront Phase 3B project. He stated the Main Street Restroom Project appears to be on schedule and ice guards will be installed on the roof of city hall next week. He also informed all present that Dave O'Mara will be paving various areas in the City which was approved at the Board of Works meeting and the rules for the boat ramp/dock approved by Council will be posted on the river within the next week or so.

MAIN STREET

Tammy Elbright, Main Street Director informed the Mayor and Council the grant application for Community Focus Funds for the Presbyterian Church was not approved for funding by the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program. According to Elbright the next CFF grant round award is in November and this application can be resubmitted. She further stated a public hearing has been held to begin this process. There was discussion of possible HUD funds available to repair the roof—but acquisition of these funds could affect funding on a resubmitted application for Community Focus Funds. It was also stated the reason the application was not funded was because of the riverboat revenues. Councilman Slack questioned if the roof was leaking—or pouring in? Elbright stated it was a concern—but was not pouring in. After further discussion Council approved the resubmitting of this grant application for the next round of CFF funding.

Elbright presented Council with information recognizing Historic Downtown Rising Sun as an Accredited National Main Street Program as well as information about the upcoming Chalk Walk a combined effort of SEIFA and Downtown.

RS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief of Police David Hewitt stated he had been working with Ed Sullivan and the River Days Committee on the Street Closings for the River Days festival to be held August 19-21. This will be addressed later on the Agenda. He reported he plans to have a few articles in the local paper addressing River Days concerns—upon approval of Hillman. There was some discussion of the provided security for the festival. According to Hewitt he has recruited several State Police and Officers from other communities and the Rising Sun Lions Club will be event security for the festival. Councilwoman Scott stated she had been asked if someone wants to allow people park on their property and charge a fee—can they? Attorney Siekman stated when you bring people into your yard you assume responsibility. Residents should check with their homeowners insurance regarding liability. Chief Hewitt will address this in one his guest articles.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

EDC President Trey Clifton approached the Mayor and Council stating a survey and design plan of the proposed business park had been completed by The Survey Company. According to Clifton, EDC would at this time recommend the design plan to the Council for approval in order to add the utilities in the plan. After discussion a motion was made by Councilman Brown to approve the design layout for the proposed business park, 2nd by Councilwoman Siekman; motion carried 5-0. Clifton also gave an EDC update to the group for review. See Attached Exhibit A.

TOOLS FOR TOTS—DAYCARE

Representatives from the Tools for Tots Day Care were in attendance. The group informed the Mayor and Council Christina Postal had been elected as the President of Tools for Tots. Christina reported the audit was complete and questioned Council about the funding request for Tools for Tots Daycare. There was some confusion of the funding request—as Council approved payment of approximately \$16,000 of IRS back taxes at the May Council meeting. After discussion it was decided by Council they would like to review the audit report before addressing further funding. Funding requests will be reviewed during budget discussions.

MARK SCOTT—LIBRARY INFORMATION

Mark Scott introduced himself to the Mayor and Council as a local businessman involved in many local organizations—Vice President of Historic Downtown, Board of Directors of Southeastern Friends of the Arts, and Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce. He passed out information about the impact of a new Library to the Downtown businesses to the Mayor and Council —“Making the Case for a New Downtown Library”. See Attached Exhibit B. He requested the Mayor and Council review this and study the issues before building a new facility. Further questioning –Is this what Joe Taxpayer wants?

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SCHOOL FUNDING—ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Siekman informed the Mayor and Council he had nothing prepared at this time. Further stating there is a School Board Meeting this evening in reference to the expansion and renovation at the school and possible funding sources. It was discussed that the County Council had denied the request by the school to allow flexibility in using the endowment funds to avoid higher interest rates. County Councilman Doug Baker stated the promise was made by the school to pay the debt first. He further stated he is going to request County Council take another look at the school’s request. Councilman Slack stated as a member of the School Endowment Board the goal has always been to get the debt paid, but if the numbers presented by Patz are correct there is a benefit to not paying the debt at this time. Slack also stated he serves on this Board with Grover Sefton who is also a County Councilman and Sefton felt the school request would be addressed again by the County.

ORDINANCE 2005-4 EMPLOYEE POLICY HANDBOOK 2ND READING

There was much discussion regarding the benefits section of the proposed employee handbook. Councilwoman Scott stated she had been approached by several City employees about the PTO policy. She proposed another option to Council for review. Attorney Siekman stated both are legal policies—whatever is approved just needs to be clear and across the Board concise. After further discussion it was determined that Council had already held first reading—so by motion the policy option proposed by Councilwoman Scott could be amended into the Ordinance and voted on or this could be viewed as 2nd reading. After even further discussion it was Council’s decision to view as 2nd Reading in order to further review the possible amendment.

BOB LOWE NOISE COMPLAINT

Mayor Marksberry informed all present that he, Councilwoman Scott, and Councilman Padgett had went door to door in the neighborhood of Mr. Lowe and Mr. White. They had discussions with residents that were home and left letters to those that were not requesting their input. The discussions with residents addressed possible time limits for the stock car noise—not after 8:00pm and not before 9:00 am OR no running of car unless the exhaust has a muffler or some kind of noise silencer. According to the group 22 residents responded—14 had no problem with the stock car noise —7 had issues with any loud noise after 8:00pm—Councilman Padgett stated not all of the 7 were concerned with the stock car or Myrle White. They were concerned with other neighbors or just noise in general—some didn’t even know what we were referring to. And I felt it should not be allowed to run unless a silencer of some type was used. After discussion it was

Council's determination that this was not a nuisance—and they requested to make the neighbors aware to be considerate of each other.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY —BILL DICHTL GRANT REPORT

Bill Dichtl, representing the Ohio County Historical Society thanked Council for the grant request enabling the group to bring the Kelly Miller Circus to Rising Sun. He reported selling 1375 tickets and hope to bring back again next year.

LIFETIME RESOURCES—2006 FUNDING REQUEST

Karen Anderson with Lifetime Resources made a funding request for general services and the Catch a Ride service for the 2006 Budget in the amount of \$15,200. There was discussion regarding the provided services and the benefits Lifetime Resources provide not only in Rising Sun and Ohio County but throughout Southeastern Indiana. Mayor Marksberry questioned how much the County gave towards this service? According to Anderson the requested amount was \$5,000. Mayor Marksberry informed Anderson this request will be addressed in our 2006 Budget which is set for approval in mid September. Lifetime Resources will be contacted at that time.

TOURISM

Sherry Timms informed the Mayor and Council the County Council approved \$2,000 towards the interpretive panels as match for the signage grant awarded by INDOT. At the June meeting Timms had requested \$2,000 from each the City and the County with \$1,000 being contributed by Tourism to complete the match for this project. After discussion a motion was made by Councilman Slack to approve \$2,000 as City participation, 2nd by Councilman Padgett; motion carried 5-0.

RIVER DAYS

Dave Hewitt and Ed Sullivan presented street closings for the upcoming River Days festival to the Mayor and Council. See attached Exhibit C. Mayor Marksberry stated Fred Taylor had approached him about concerns of a funeral or visitation during the River Days festival. Marksberry stated he had informed Taylor that this could be worked through—but would need notified as soon as possible. After discussion a motion was made by Councilwoman Scott to approve the street closings for River Days, 2nd by Councilman Slack; motion carried 5-0.

GRAND VICTORIA

There was no one in attendance to address the Mayor and Council.

HEALTH INSURANCE REVIEW

Clerk Gipson stated she had attended a meeting today with Superintendent Clifton and insurance broker representatives Pat Kern and Melissa Clifford. According to Gipson there is actually a decrease in the proposed annual cost of health insurance. Gipson further stated this information was copied for the Mayor and Council to review. Mayor Marksberry stated if a special meeting were necessary to review and approve health insurance –he would contact Council. Clerk Gipson will get Council a simplified comparison of the health insurance options as soon as possible.

DISPOSAL OF EQUIPMENT

Clerk Gipson submitted a list of city equipment that was outdated or of no value to the City. See attached Exhibit D. After discussion a motion was made by Councilman Padgett to declare the list of equipment of no value and dispose of, 2nd by Councilwoman Scott; motion carried 5-0.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mayor Marksberry informed Council he had signed the Warranty Deed for the sale of surplus property to Daryl Shell. There was some discussion of the \$2,500 still not

accounted for in this sale. Ultimately the check for earnest money has never been cashed and is considered to be apparently lost. This amount was deducted from the price of the property at the closing. Clerk Gipson will write a letter requesting Shell stop payment on the original check and reissue.

Mayor Marksberry informed Council the County Auditor had informed Clerk Gipson by e-mail that the County wants to continue offering the shared dumpster service for the rest of the year. According to information from Mayor Marksberry the County would like to keep the annual shared cost of this service in the \$5,000 range. It was proposed to begin offering this service in early spring—skipping the months of December through February.

Marksberry informed Council that with all the success of the Spring Clean Up and Yard Sale Extravaganza—it has been requested to have a fall Yard Sale Extravaganza. It was discussed only cost would be advertising—After discussion a motion was made by Councilman Slack to approve the request to hold a Fall Community Yard Sale Extravaganza, 2nd by Councilman Brown; motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Marksberry briefed Council regarding a proposal from Indiana Association of Cities and Towns to develop a plan for alternative funding options to the Legislature for the next few years. IACT is requesting participation from communities based on population. Marksberry requested approval from Council to submit \$5,000 towards this effort. He further requested authority to submit a grant application from the City to the Regional Foundation to aid the surrounding communities in participating in this plan. After discussion a motion was made by Councilwoman Scott to send \$5,000 to IACT in support of the alternative funding proposal and to allow Mayor Marksberry to submit a grant application to the Regional Foundation to aid the surrounding communities in participating in the statewide effort, 2nd by Councilwoman Siekman; motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Marksberry informed Council that Shell Auto Body has offered a quote of \$150 to repaint the riverfront ballards. Council agreed to this expenditure. .

Clerk Gipson informed Council she had been contacted by Casey Rayls with Beastmaster Pest Control. He stated he was going to be increasing cost of the services offered to the City. Council requested Gipson get quotes from Orkin for this service and bring back to the August Council meeting.

Clerk Gipson informed the Mayor and Council there was some confusion with the spay/neuter allocated funds for Animal Control. According to Gipson the rabies vaccinations have been included in the billings from the local veterinarians. Gipson requested Council's pleasure in reference to this payment. After discussions Council determined the funds were designated for spay and neuter clinics and that is what should be paid.

Clerk Gipson informed Council the Park Board had requested to declare old chairs at the senior community building of no value. According to Gipson the County approved this request several months back. After discussion a motion was made by Councilman Slack to approve the request to declare the chairs of no value and dispose of them, 2nd by Councilman Padgett; motion carried 5-0.

1ST READING ORDINANCE 2005-5 SALARY ORDINANCE

Clerk Gipson presented Ordinance 2005-5 "Salary Ordinance" to Council for first reading. Gipson informed the Mayor and Council the salaries were advertised in the local paper –there were a few errors—but could be addressed by the local paper. Gipson also stated for bookkeeping purposes she would recommend the Pool Manager and Assistant Pool Manager be changed to an hourly rate vs. a weekly rate. Second reading and passage is set for the August Council meeting.

Mayor Marksberry informed Council that Grand Victoria has proposed a mini bus as used in many airports vs. the Victorian Trolley currently used for shuttle operations. According to information from Grand Victoria the current trolley continues to require excessive maintenance, which has escalated costs for operations to cover the shuttle route while the trolley is being repaired. Marksberry stated the bus would have Grand Victoria and the City of Rising Sun advertisement as well as interchangeable local business

advertisement on the sides of the mini bus. Council concurred with this change in vehicle type—but it was stated the Mayor has the authority to make this decision. Mayor Marksberry will work with Attorney Siekman to get this accomplished.

Mayor Marksberry presented a proposal for a comprehensive signage plan to Council for review. The cost of Project 1 of the plan is \$10,355. The cost of Project 2 of the plan is \$30,375. The plan offers an expansion of public relations and advertising for the City of Rising Sun including Tourism and Main Street. Marksberry requested authority from Council to approve Project 1 of this plan and to pursue grant funds through the RS Regional Foundation for Project 2. Councilwoman Scott questioned if Tourism and Main Street were a part of the planning group. It was stated they were. Scott also questioned if this was a duplication of services with Tourism doing advertising as well. It was stated it was not. Ed Sullivan stated this continues to be a top issue of local merchants. After further discussion a motion was made by Councilman Padgett to approve Project #1 for a comprehensive signage plan in the amount of \$10,355 and to pursue grant funds for Project #2 through the RS Regional Foundation; 2nd by Councilman Slack; motion carried 5-0.

With no further business before Council a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Padgett; 2nd by Councilman Brown; motion carried 4-0--meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Attest:

Rae Baker Gipson, Clerk Treasurer

William A. Marksberry, Mayor



This report is to update the Mayor and Council on items with which the Economic Development Commission is currently evolved. The details contained in this report are derived from discussions at our meeting on Tuesday, July 5, 2005.

- 1. Purchase of Additional 16.5 Acres for Business Park**
Ron Hocker, EDC Attorney, will compose and send a letter to owners Myron Barbour, Dianne Dawson and Roger Walton announcing the EDC's intention to exercise the options to purchase the additional land by the end of 2005. The commission requested a closing date during the week of November 14th.
- 2. Business Park design including utilities layout**
The commission will have an extra meeting at 7:00 P.M. on July 19th to allow Terry Crouch, The Survey Company, to present their design of the park with the utility layout included as well as streets, lots, etc.
- 3. Ivy Tech College Update**
Please refer to the enclosed June Activity Summary from Thomas P. Miller and Associates.

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Thomas P. Miller and Associates

Building Assets through Knowledge & Innovation

June 30, 2005

June Activity Summary

Rising Sun Ohio County Economic Development Commission Professional Services Contract

On June 7th the Rising Sun Ohio County Economic Development Commission confirmed the continuation of the professional services contract with TPMA. Activity on the contract had been "on hold" until that decision. This summarizes the activity since that decision.

- TPMA brought downtown development consultant Brad Hurt to Rising Sun for a series of introductory discussions.
- TPMA met with Gerry Dick of "Inside Indiana Business" and secured agreement to do a segment highlighting Rising Sun Ohio County economic development efforts. Arranging for a visit by Gerry Dick, tentatively planned for July.
- TPMA provided technical advice to Rising Sun Regional Foundation and Rising Sun officials regarding a possible incentive package for a proposed Hyatt/Grand Victoria expansion.
- TPMA provided initial economic impact estimates of a proposed Hyatt/Grand Victoria expansion for use by Rising Sun Regional Foundation and Rising Sun officials when formulating a possible incentive package.
- TPMA met with Gerald Lamkin, President of Ivy Tech State Community College, to get his endorsement of proceeding with plans to locate classroom facility in Rising Sun-Ohio County. Also discussed these plans with Jim Helms, the Region Chancellor for Ivy Tech.
- TPMA initiated the drafting of economic development marketing and promotional materials for Rising Sun-Ohio County.

Making the case for a new downtown library...

The Ohio County Library Board is about to make one of the most important decisions in their history; the location of where to build a new public library. They have looked at many sites around the community but, by the process of elimination, have come back to the location of the former County Highway garage. The location is available, it's free, and it's immediately available for construction. However, making a choice of this dimension need to take into consideration the necessities of day-to-day political and economic realities. We also need to consider the long-term consequences of such a choice.

The issue of where to locate a public library is nothing new. The issue was even apparent in the early twentieth century when Andrew Carnegie helped fund the first public library in Rising Sun. More than 1,600 new libraries were built in various cities and towns throughout America between 1890 and 1917. In Free to All: Carnegie Libraries & American Culture (University of Chicago Press, 1995), historian Abigail Van Slyck reveals the role that political differences between local philanthropists and municipal officials over siting, architectural design and intended patronage played in site design and planning. The City Beautiful, a turn of the century urban planning movement, encouraged library trustees to locate main libraries near developing civic centers. *Van Slyck, Abigail In Free to All: Carnegie Libraries & American Culture (University of Chicago Press, 1995)*, There were fundamental differences between the views held by men and women on issues of location. Many businessmen saw the library as contributing to local commerce; a sign of cultural advancement that should be easily seen by visiting investors. Conversely, women saw the library as extensions of the hearth and home, better located away from the commercial district and saloons frequented by businessmen.

While these differences are not as evident today, finding the ideal site for a library in Rising Sun appears to be no less contentious than during Carnegie's time. Then and now, politics inform the process through which decision makers select a building site. The Library Board and its architect are now steering the process towards a specific site. But, too often in this community, we have taken the path of least resistance when making decisions of this nature. Can anyone say that the location of the health department or the police station were good choices? A new library is another rare chance for Rising Sun to "lead by example" in stimulating revitalization. The Ohio County Public Library can become a true activity and cultural center that attracts local residents into the town center and improves the environment for business revitalization. A vibrant modern library has the look and feel of a bookstore and would fit nicely into a retail business area. The library could become a public sector "anchor." Thus, development of a library in the downtown area could provide a major opportunity to help revitalize Rising Sun.

If we build on the highway garage site; what does that do for any potential future expansion of the high school? Should a library be located next to a school? Is that a good choice? Library planning texts provide almost uniform recommendations about the criteria for choosing a library site. In his classic work, *Planning the Small Public Library Building*, Anders Dahlgren sums up these recommendations: "Too frequently, when library sites are being suggested, there is a

tendency to locate them as part of a municipal complex, or adjacent to a park, or to share a site or a building with some other public entity—a school, perhaps in the interest of saving money. There is a wealth of information available to counter the wisdom of those suggestions, but one can usually turn to the need for accessibility to respond to any such community or political pressure.”

A public library's priority is to meet informational and service needs of the public. Its mission is to provide equal service to diverse populations of all socio-economic levels of society at minimal or no cost. As a result, the public library draws a broad customer base. Furthermore, in her 1977 work, *Library Facility Siting and Location Handbook*, Christine Koontz observes that "Towns build libraries very infrequently, on the average about once in forty years. Yet they will be used by more citizens than any other building in town. Libraries are used by children, students, business people, do-it-yourselfers, artists, writers, taxpayers, people learning new skills, professionals updating their knowledge. The library must be in a location where it can be constantly visible to all of these people." (*Christine Koontz, Library Facility Siting and Location Handbook, 1977, p. 42*)

The Library has a vital role to play to supporting and revitalizing the downtown and has been a vital part of Rising Sun's Main Street for over 90 years. It is important to maintain that continuity and connection. The location of the Public Library in Downtown Rising Sun could also support partnership opportunities with local businesses. The new library, along with its Main Street partners, will encourage and express the richness of Rising Sun's public, cultural and intellectual life. The prime corner location raises potential benefits for both public and private sector developments. It could bring high activity as an anchor to downtown. In the right location, the library becomes a hub of the community, drawing and naturally diversifying businesses. It will be a special civic place where people come together to enjoy free and equal access to information.

Building new, the site could accommodate at least one community room for after-school programs and other activities, and artists' live-work spaces. Research shows marketing successes for public libraries integrated with cafes or restaurants in the area. Parking is available both on and off street. It could support the increased demand for parking by new library patrons, new arts developments, and spin-off businesses. The library enhances the Main Street area for tourists - It works well with the Riverfront and the proposed Presbyterian Church Auditorium. In fact, the Public Library has the definite potential to become a tourist attraction itself.

The character of a public library is important and a new public library on Main Street could be a signature building that will be an enduring and instantly recognized Rising Sun landmark.. As the American Library Association notes, the Library's mission is to provide equal service to diverse populations of all socio-economic levels of society. "Of prime concern is convenient access. A library site, like that of a successful commercial location, must be near, if not on, the community's major pedestrian and vehicular traffic route." (*Christine Koontz, Library Facility Siting and Location Handbook, 1977, p. 42*)

"Remember that the best public library sites are good commercial sites. If it's not a place for a nice store, it's not a nice place for a public library" *Moorman, John, and Fred Schlipf. "The Public Library Construction Process : From Problem Recognition to Ribbon Snipping". Accompaniment to a presentation at Public Library Association symposium, Planning Designing and Building the Perfect Library, March 25-27, 1999.*

How has the library board reached its decision? Experts recommend that an objective, comprehensive and detailed process should be used to determine the best site for a new public library. *Dahlgren, Anders C. Public Library Space Needs: A Planning Outline/1998. Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Public Library Development. Available online only at <http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dlcl/pld/plspace.html>* These factors are important in site selection:

1. Suitability
 - o Good commercial site (high traffic, good mix of other retail and services, welcoming yet secure environment).
 - o Site must meet zoning requirements.
 - o Consistent with city plans.
 - o Adaptable to future demographic changes.
 - o Room for expansion.
2. Proximity
 - o High correlation exists between library visits and other daily activities. Proximity to following are desirable (ranked in order of importance)
 1. shopping
 2. community space such as square or mall which generates pedestrian activity
 3. business / offices
 4. culture / educational

Conversely, people should be able to drop in on the library on impulse.
3. Environmental issues
 - o Has an environmental impact study been made?
 - o Are there hidden problems of geology, topology, toxic waste, etc.?
 - o Do neighbors pose possible environmental nuisance problems?
 - o Would library pose environmental / nuisance problems to neighbors?
4. Costs
 - o Land acquisition (if required), demolition, site preparation.
 - o Legal restraints (easements, ownership questions).
 - o Relating to size and shape of lot (factors such as multi-story buildings, maintaining building functionality).
 - o Which location would have more "sellable" points for fundraising?
5. Architectural Design Considerations

“Does the design have the character and power to make the library building a focus for its community? ... Does the design create a building that is unmistakably public in character and function, yet very comfortable and non-intimidating for the user? (*Checklist of Library Building Design Considerations*, William W. Sanwald.)

- o The downtown site allows a design that is able to satisfy required functional relationships within the building.
- o Allows a design that will be in scale with surrounding buildings.
- o Library should be identifiable as a public building.
- o It must also be visible from the street.
- o It is important that the public perceive the library to be in an appropriate and satisfactory location.

6. Impact

“Libraries are no longer in the information business; they are in the community development business” (*Haycock, Ken Redefining the library board for dynamic communities; Part 1: A library board's visioning process. Toronto: OLA Education Institute, 2003*)

- o Would library usage decrease, increase or stay the same if this site was selected?
- o This location will best meet objective of providing materials and services to greatest number of people most effectively and efficiently.
- o Would a library at this site have a positive or negative effect on downtown development?
- o The location should help create an egalitarian common public space associated learning and culture that will be frequented by as broad cross section of the community as possible.

What can we do?

Remember that no decision is final until the first shovel turns the ground. Keep informed on this issue by following the local paper and radio station. Be a vocal advocate for the Ohio County Public Library. It's not a question of building a new library. We can agree that a new library is needed, the question is “where is the best place to build the new library?” Tell friends and neighbors what the library means to you and how important its services are. Emphasize the need for proper library facilities and services. Contact your local city council members and members of city and county governments to urge them to support a new Public Library in the historic downtown location.

SOURCES

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