

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE INDIANA BOROUGH COUNCIL
HELD TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2022, AT 7:00 PM IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE
GEORGE E. HOOD MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

PRESENT: President Broad, Presiding; Council members Collazzo, DeBuyser, Ford, Herring, Kratsa, Lancaster, Newell, Smith, Steelman, Taylor, Warnock; Mayor Simmons; Solicitor Dougherty; Chief of Police Schawl; Manager Sipos; Communications & Grants Coordinator Mudry; Recording Secretary Busovicki; Pat Cloonan, Indiana Gazette; Josh Widdowson, Renda Broadcasting; members of UWUA 580, and eight (8) virtual attendees.

President Broad called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

President Broad asked for a Roll Call. All Councilmembers were present.

There was one change to the agenda. 1) Broad announced the Executive Session for legal matters would be moved to the end of the meeting.

There was no Public Comment.

The following occurred during Committee Reports:

ADMINISTRATION:

- An audit report will be given at the next Administration meeting.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

- The first Third Thursday is being held this week April 21, 2022.
- Downtown Arts Walk is scheduled for this Saturday, April 22, 2022.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Meeting is scheduled for this week April 21, at 7:00PM.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- Meeting is scheduled for next week April 25, at 7:00PM. 2022.

SHADE TREE:

- Meeting is scheduled for next week April 25, 2022.

The following occurred during Manager Sipos' report:

- Public Works Department will start limb collection next week on a ward-by-ward basis. It will take place Monday through Friday.

- A community event at Grace United Methodist Church will be held on April 26th to discuss the Borough's Active Transportation Plan. A booth will also be at the event to gather public input on how to best utilize American Rescue Plan Act funds.

The following occurred during Chief Schawl's report:

- No update.

The following occurred during Solicitor Dougherty's report:

- Dougherty remarked he is making progress on one (1) legal issue.
- Dougherty had discussion with Sipos and Francis regarding a gate that had been installed at the access road to the WWTP.

The following occurred during President Broad's report:

- No update.

The following occurred during Mayor Simmons' report:

- No update.

The following occurred during Old Business:

- Municipal reapportionment was discussed as it relates to the current councilmembers serving in each of the four (4) wards. Reapportionment is a process that is required under Pennsylvania Borough Code, "all wards in the borough shall be numbered and composed of compact and contiguous territory as nearly equal in population as practicable as officially and final reported in the latest official census."
- Sipos and Newell attended the Pennsylvania Municipal League's 40th annual PELRAS Conference last month in State College. Newell remarked a common sentiment amongst attendees was that twelve (12) councilmembers must be difficult to manage.
- Simmons said the matter was previously discussed by a former Council, but no action was taken because no Councilmembers at the time wanted to lose their seat.
- During the discussion, Ford suggested that Manager Sipos have staff prepare maps illustrating different new ward scenarios. Sipos agreed to have three (3) maps prepared for review at the June 2022 Work Session.

The following occurred during New Business:

- DeBuyser received a complaint from a borough resident regarding a roof collapsing on another resident's property. Sipos stated she will have Public Works Director Gelles go assess the property complaint tomorrow.

Meeting adjourned for executive session at 8:17 PM.

Council reconvened into Regular Session at 8:55 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM upon a motion by Taylor.

A recording of the full meeting can be viewed and downloaded by clicking the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iyokZRcVRj8>