Regular Council Meeting
April 5, 2021

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CROWN POINT
Met in a REGULAR MEETING in the Council Chambers,
Located at 101 N. East Street,
On Monday, April 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Pursuant to and in accordance with the Rules of the Common Council
*In Person and Via Zoom*
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89566850445

Mayor Uran called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Mayor Uran asked for a roll call of the Members. The call of the roll was as follows:
Members Present: Chad Jeffries, Dawn Stokes, Andrew Kyres, Laura Sauerman (Zoom), Zack Bryan and Council President Scott Evorik.

Absent: Member Carol Draga

Also present were City Attorney David Nicholls, Council Attorney Pat Schuster, Clerk-Treasurer David Benson, Chief Deputy Bette Babjak and Deputy Clerk Sheri Herma.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: Executive Session and Regular Meetings on March 1, 2021.

Member Andrew Kyres motioned to approve the minutes of the Executive Session and Regular Council Meeting on March 1, 2021, seconded by President Scott Evorik.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

D. READING OF AGENDA

Mayor Uran read the agenda and made a Point of Order. Mayor Uran introduced Resolution No. 2021-04-10R which addresses establishing the City of Crown Point, Indiana’s policy regarding the use of electronic meetings and signatures. This allows us to continue the use of hybrid meetings electronically.

City Attorney David Nicholls confirmed that this would be a good time to present this to the Council for their consideration.

The State of Indiana has passed HB1437 which allows the continuation of these electronic meetings. It says that the governing body is required to adopt a written policy establishing procedures for electronic participation. This requires technology to permit communication between the public and the members simultaneously. At least 50% of the governing body shall be physically present at the meetings.

Member Zack Bryan made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-04-10R, seconded by Member Dawn Stokes.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
E. ADDITION OF NEW ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

None at this time.

F. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND SRF DISTRIBUTIONS

Member Zack Bryan reported that he reviewed the claims and the SRF Distributions for the period. They all appear to be in the normal course of City business, and therefore, moved to approve the claims and SRF Distributions, seconded by Council President Scott Evorik.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

G. PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS

None at this time.

H. SPECIAL RECOGNITION

St. Patrick’s Day Logo and Window Decorating Contest winners

Diana Bosse announced the winner for the St. Patrick’s Day drawing contest. Diana thanked our sponsor McDonald’s for donating Value Meals and Shamrock Shakes.

Third place was Kaitlin and Hannah Flewelling.
Second place was Juliana Rush.
First place was Allison Hasse.

Diana also mentioned the Business Window Decorating Contest winners. Five businesses participated and they were: Guaranteed Rate, Square Roots, Bapple and Bapple, Rizzo Insurance and Blue Ribbon Vintage. Diana added that the winner was chosen by voting that took place on the City Website.

Third place was Bapple and Bapple.
Second place was Rizzo Insurance.
First place was Square Roots. (Mia was present for her award.)

Employee of the Month

Terry White – Maintenance Superintendent hired 12/6/92 (28 yrs. with the City)
Ben Vickers – Mechanic hired 6/4/04 (16 yrs. with the City)
Mike Smith – Mechanic hired 6/23/08 (12 yrs. with the City)
Jason Clemons – Laborer hired 5/11/15 (going on 6 years with the City)

The City of Crown Point received over 38 inches of snow this winter. These 4 gentlemen were assigned to and responsible for the removal/relocation of the snow around the downtown square.

In one snow event totaling more than 11 inches, they moved over 300 snow baskets in a 16-hour period. In addition to removing the snow, they are also responsible for keeping our fleet on the road and making repairs as needed during these snow events.
H. REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOARDS, AND COMMITTEES

Planning Administrator Anthony Schlueter introduced the new City Assistant Planner Grace Roman. Grace has experience as the Assistant Planner for the City of LaPorte, Indiana. She managed projects through various Boards and Commissions.

She is well versed in applications of compliance with zoning ordinance, comprehensive plan and design standards. She also has extensive experience with the GIS mapping data base management. She is a graduate of Valparaiso University and a graduate of Missouri State University as well.

J. APPOINTMENTS

None at this time.

K. PRESENTATIONS

None at this time.

L. OLD BUSINESS

None at this time.

M. NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 2021-04-07R – A Resolution Allowing a Special Use for a Yoga/Wellness Center in a R-1 Residential District, located at 209 W. State Road 231. Nina Bivoli, Owner/Petitioner, received a 4-0 Favorable Recommendation at the March 22, 2021 BZA Meeting.

Planning Administrator Anthony Schlueter gave his staff report.

Nina Bivoli of 285 E. 129th Place, Crown Point, was present and addressed the Council.

Member Dawn Stokes motioned to approve Resolution No. 2021-04-07R, seconded by Council President Scott Evorik.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution No. 2021-04-08R – A Resolution Allowing a Variance of Use to Allow an Indoor Golf Simulation Business in an I-1 Industrial District, located at 1005 Millennium Drive. Hunter Carmichael, Petitioner / Orchard Properties, INC., Owner received a 4-0 Favorable Recommendation at the March 22, 2021 BZA Meeting.

Planning Administrator Anthony Schlueter gave his staff report.

Hunter Carmichael of 2124 Copper Creek Drive, Crown Point, was present (Zoom) and addressed the Council.

Council President Scott Evorik thanked Hunter for this facility and inquired about future expansion. Hunter answered that he could add another bay, but would require more space.

Member Dawn Stokes inquired about the need for an Alcohol Permit and Hunter
replied that he would be approaching the Council for consideration on that topic during the May 5th Council meeting.

Member Chad Jeffries motioned to approve Resolution No. 2021-04-08R, seconded by Council President Scott Evorik.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.


Council Attorney Pat Schuster approached the Council for consideration on the purchase of two parcels of property identified in the Member's packets.

Member Chad Jeffries made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-04-09R, seconded by Member Andrew Kyres.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.


Mayor Uran related to the Council that this Ordinance just renews and substantiates all the City signage and memorializes all into record.

Member Zack Bryan made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Member Dawn Stokes.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Member Andrew Kyres made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-04-05, seconded by Council President Scott Evorik. Mayor Uran called for a roll call vote.

Roll call vote as follows:

Ayes: Members Jeffries, Stokes, Kyres, Sauerman, Bryan and Evorik.

Nays: None

Motion to adopt passed 6 to 0.

Member Zack Bryan made a motion to reinstate the rules, seconded by Member Andrew Kyres.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

**Tax Abatement Renewals**

Member Zack Bryan addressed the Council about the Tax Abatement Renewals. He said that prior to this meeting the HREDC Committee met to discuss the various tax abatement renewals and a few of the deferrals. After discussion, they were all approved and Zack moved to approve the deferrals and tax abatements, seconded by Member Dawn Stokes.

Member Laura Sauerman stated that there was one denial. Zack then amended his motion to include the one denial. Member Dawn Stokes then amended her second motion to also include the denial.
Mayor Uran then went on to explain how we keep a watchful eye on our abatements and how successful they are.

Even with the Covid Pandemic last year, the majority if not all the submissions are exceeding what their expectations were as far as employees and keeping Economic Development vibrant in the City of Crown Point.

N. REPORTS AND MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Adam said there was a question online about any mention of the City following the Governor’s orders and doing away with the masks? Mayor Uran responded that we will continue to follow the Governor’s orders and we will not deviate from that. He encouraged everyone to follow personal responsibility.

Special Events Director Diana Bosse gave her update.

Hoosiers, age 16 and over are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Appointments can be scheduled through the State of Indiana website at www.ourshot.in.gov or call 211.

We are excited to welcome back our seniors to Bulldog Park to resume their weekly activities. We are working with each group to ensure everyone’s safety.

Tuesday Talks with Mayor David Uran is returning to live “in person” setting tomorrow, Tuesday April 6th. City Officials will gather at Cross Point Church located at 214 S. Court St. at 11 a.m. to discuss City related topics.

The Parks Department is still accepting registrations for the Little Dribblers Basketball Program for children in preschool – 8th grade through Friday, April 9th. For more information residents can visit our website or call 219-661-2272.

The 2nd annual Spring Home Decorating Competition registration is currently available on our website through this Friday, April 9th.

An interactive map of all the participating homes will be posted on our website beginning April 12th. Online voting will also take place April 12th – 23rd. The winner of this contest will be recognized at the May 3rd City Council meeting.

Mayor Uran reiterated the recognition of all the athletic achievements.

Mayor Uran asked Clerk Dave Benson to update the Council on the remodeling progress on the first floor of City Hall. Clerk Dave did so and invited everyone downstairs after the meeting to see the progress.

Next Regular Council Meeting Monday, May 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
O. ADJOURNMENT

Member Andrew Kyres motioned for adjournment, seconded by President Scott Evorik.

Motion carried by voice vote.
Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

SUBMITTED:

[Signature]
David B. Benson, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED:

[Signature]
David D.F. Uran, Mayor

**Audio available upon request**