## REGULAR MEETING - MARION COMMON COUNCIL - MARCH 21, 2023 - 7:00 P.M., CITY HALL

The Common Council of the City of Marion, Indiana met in regular session on Tuesday, the 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2023 at the hour of 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

On the call of the roll the members were shown to be absent or present as follows:

Present: Fordyce, Cline, Luzadder, Henderson, Brunner, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce.

Absent: Stodghill-Weeks.

The minutes of the previous regular meeting of March 7, 2023 were presented. On a motion by Councilman Mike Cline, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman David Cain, the minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Councilman Brian Cowgill said he attended the Board of Works meeting yesterday and it was a pretty quick meeting. They had roll call, approval of their minutes, and then James Loftis spoke on the, from the Street Department, on the money for the park that they've been dealing with. They only got the one bid so they approved it. It's from a company called Miracle and the bid was for \$307,320. And they're hoping to start on that by May is kind of their target date for that. Then Mr. Foustnight spoke on the demolition of two properties – 314 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street and 324 E. 15<sup>th</sup> Street – and they were both approved to get on the list for demolition. Then they had payment of the bills and they adjourned, Cowgill said.

Council President Robin Fouce asked, do they have any other committee reports? She'd like to report that they're happy to announce the Economic Growth Council has a new interim Executive Director. His name is Jacob Evert. He is a CECD, which is Certified Economic Development, so they welcome him, as well as they still have James (Beyioku) with them and they appreciate all the work they're doing. They look forward to good things coming, continuing out of the Economic Growth Council. As well, they need to vote today to add a couple of things to their agenda. They were kind of a little late in getting some of the information but she's happy to report that they have it and so one item would be to add the Vielee General Ordinance 3-2023 (should have been Resolution 3-2023) for the redevelopment area to their agenda. They would need to have a unanimous vote to do that today. So she would entertain a motion for such. Councilman David Cain said he so moves. Councilman Steve Henderson seconded. Fouce said, it's been motioned by Dave Cain, Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Henderson that they add Appropriation Ordinance, or Resolution 3-2023 to their agenda for today. Any questions? Roll call please. Motion then carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Cline, Luzadder, Henderson, Brunner, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None. Fouce said that will be added under New Business or Unfinished Business? City Clerk Kathleen Kiley said, well, it would be new business. Council President Fouce said, new, okay. And then, the second agenda item they needed to add, she's happy to report finally they have the bids in for the Friendship Park, Appropriation Ordinance No. 2-2023. They will resume at 3<sup>rd</sup> reading today for that. And so, she would entertain a motion to add that to the agenda for today. Councilman Henderson said so be and Councilman Cowgill seconded. Fouce said it's been motioned by Councilman Henderson, seconded by Councilman Cowgill to add Appropriation Ordinance 2-2023 to today's agenda. Any question? She'll entertain a roll call. Motion carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Cline, Luzadder, Henderson, Brunner, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None. Councilman Cain said, Madam President, they need to also add Resolution No. 3A. Fouce told Cain that won't go until the 4<sup>th</sup>, April 4<sup>th</sup>. Isn't that right? Mrs. Kiley said, pardon? Fouce said Resolution 3A will be the 4th of April. Kiley said, yeah, they do the declaratory tonight then the confirmatory, which would be actually like their public hearing, at the next Council meeting. Fouce told Kiley, thank you, you can move forward.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

## APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 6-2023 2<sup>ND</sup> READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

The City Clerk read Appropriation Ordinance No. 6-2023 by title only, an Ordinance of the City of Marion, Indiana, appropriating certain funds for the City of Marion, Indiana, and providing for the effective date thereof. From the General Fund to Board of Works Other Services and Charges – Miscellaneous Contractual Services account the amount of \$127,000. Julie Flores, City Controller, told the Council, as Clerk Kiley says, this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and public



## APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 6-2023 Continued

hearing. She would ask that, if possible, that they suspend the rules and pass this tonight so that she can get the bill paid and she will answer any questions they might have, Flores said. Council President Robin Fouce said, okay, the first piece of this they want to do, this is 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and public hearing for this so they want to conduct their public hearing and then they would entertain those motions that so fit. So, tonight they're having a public hearing regarding Appropriation Ordinance 6-2023. Please step forward. You have three minutes to speak. State your name, your address, and any comment you would have regarding this ordinance in particular. Do we have any public comment? Going once, going twice, going three times. This concludes the public hearing portion of their meeting this evening. She would open that the Council would have, would open to the Council any comment regarding this in particular. So, per the request of Controller Flores, she's asking that they suspend the rules so that will be the first piece of it and then the second piece would be to vote to pass it. So she would entertain any motion as they see fit, Fouce said. Councilman David Cain said, Madam President, he moves that they suspend the rules on Appropriation Ordinance No. 6-2023. Councilman Jim Brunner said, second. Fouce said it's been motioned that they suspend the rules on Appropriation Ordinance No. 6-2023 by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Brunner. Any question? No further question, roll call please, which the vote was as follows: Aye: Fordyce, Cline, Luzadder, Henderson, Brunner, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None. Mr. Cain then said, Madam President, he moves that they pass in its entirety Appropriation Ordinance No. 6-2023. Mr. Brunner seconded. Fouce said it's been moved by Councilman Cain that they pass Appropriation Ordinance 6-2023 in its entirety. It's been seconded by Councilman Brunner. Any question? It's been moved, seconded, no questions. She'll entertain roll call, please. Motion carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Cline, Luzadder, Henderson, Brunner, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None. City Clerk Kathleen Kiley asked the Council, at this point, do they want to do the Park Department one since it is 3<sup>rd</sup> reading and unfinished business? Okay, Kiley said.

APPROPRIATION ORD. NO. 2-2023 3RD READING (APPROPRIATION ORD. NO. 7-2023 1ST READING) The City Clerk read Appropriation Ordinance No. 2-2023 by title only, an Ordinance of the City of Marion, Indiana, appropriating certain funds for the City of Marion, Indiana, and providing for the effective date thereof. From the EDIT Fund to Friendship Park Project the amount of \$300,000. Speaking? Who is speaking? Is James here? Oh, he's here. James Loftis is speaking, Kiley said. Loftis told the Council, good evening. It's been a process but they did get their bids put in. They did have a special Park Board meeting the 13<sup>th</sup>, it was passed unanimously. Like Councilman Cowgill said, they did have only one bidder, it was Miracle Equipment. He did talk to them, too, about once the playground is in, having them send him their maintenance program and how they professionally do that so that's what they're going to follow. He did have kind of a generic one that they've kind of laid out for us but once we get our surface in, we'll go by their recommendations. And he does know (inaudible) urethane stuff every couple years. That'll be additional charges but it, it won't be what they're dealing with now, at all. So, but yeah, the price did, the quote they had back in August was \$285,000 so that's why they came for the \$300,000 and then once they got the bids, obviously with the economy and stuff like that, that quote actually came in at \$307,320 so there was a rise in that. So he thinks that was part of the delay in coming back, trying to get the full amount of \$307,320. And actually, Miracle was, like he said, the company that actually put it in so they're very familiar with our parks out there. He would just like to say, the cost of maintaining a park and even building a park is astronomical now. The seven playgrounds they redid the last two years, they were, each piece of equipment was about \$25,000. That's not including the mulch, the timbers and stuff. It's a hefty business when you get into the park. He means, it looks beautiful but there's a lot of dollars wrapped up in that stuff. Honestly, when he got those numbers, it hurt. But it's been a process and he appreciates Mike Graft every step of the way. He appreciates you guys being patient with them and working with them and everything too. It was a learning process so he thinks they're ready to go. He's got their signed bid back from that company, Loftis said. Council President Robin Fouce told Loftis, and more importantly, they got the referral from the Board of Works that they approved that bid. And so, they appreciate his patience and his tenacity in looking to get this resolved and, you know, getting all the paperwork that they needed to support this expenditure and this decision. She thinks they all learned something in this process and they'll make that their template for moving forward on how they go about getting things done here in their processing. So she thinks that's good. She would open the floor for any

## APPROPRIATION ORD. NO. 2-2023/APPROPRIATION ORD. 7-2023 Continued

comment or question if they have any. Councilman? Councilman Mike Cline said, looking past this, they're going to include all the proper maintenance and stuff in future budgets, right? Loftis told Cline, absolutely. That's something they'll add into the park budget there. And obviously, he will have, through his department, they'll do the maintenance of it because like, as of two years ago, if we did their maintenance program, it was like \$60,000 every five years. We can do the same work for a quarter of that. But the problem is, previously, they didn't do the work and that's how we got to where we're at now. So but yeah, all those expenditures will be put in the Park Department. That way we don't ever run into that problem again because that is, Friendship Corner, everybody's been there. It's the biggest, best known, well used park we have. But absolutely, he'll be back in front of them again to get some money, Loftis said. Fouce said, Councilman Cowgill? Councilman Brian Cowgill said Mrs. Kiley said \$300,000. The bid is \$307,000 so what is the amount that they're.....? City Clerk Kathleen Kiley said, well, the original ordinance is \$300,000. The only question she would have about trying to amend to add that is it was advertised for public hearing under the \$300,000. Fouce said the second advertisement wasn't, is she right? City Controller Julie Flores said she thought she brought a corrected ordinance downstairs. Deputy Clerk Debbie Goodman told Flores she did but she was told not to put it on the agenda. Flores said, and she advertised the \$307,320 for April 4<sup>th</sup>. Fouce asked, so is everybody clear on that? They are voting on today, if they so decide to, \$307,320. They had a slight increase and so that is what they would be voting on. This is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading so do they have any comment from anyone? Any further comment? Barring no further comment, she would entertain a motion on Appropriation.... Mrs. Kiley said, okay, she has another question. So it's on 3<sup>rd</sup> reading but she (Flores) said she advertised it for April 4<sup>th</sup> so they haven't had the advertisement in the paper for the \$307,320 yet. She's confused. Fouce said she thought she read that they did. Kiley said she said April 4th. It's not due to be advertised until April 4th. Is that right, Julie? She's still confused, Kiley said. Mrs. Flores said she believes the first ordinance is dead because it's for the wrong amount. She brought a corrected one down, #7. Mrs. Goodman told Flores, right and she was told not to place it on the agenda. Flores said, oh, she was told not to place it on the agenda? Well, she created a new ordinance for \$307,320 to be presented tonight and then a public hearing on April 4<sup>th</sup> for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. So she doesn't know what happened. Kiley said, okay, but this was on 3<sup>rd</sup> reading and they were planning to pass it tonight. Ms. Fouce said so the old amount would be the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading. They would do this as 1<sup>st</sup> reading? Okay, okay. So let's, sorry about the confusion. They want to make this their first reading for this \$307,320. Is everybody clear on that? Mrs. Kiley said the ordinance number is going to be Appropriation Ordinance No. 7-2023. Fouce said, okay, they'll make that correction. Everybody please know it's 7-2023 and Kiley added, and the amount is \$307,320. Fouce said, and it's advertised for public hearing April 4th at their next meeting. So he's got to stick with them one more go around, James. Loftis said, he's hanging in there. Kiley said she thinks they've got it now. Fouce said they've got it. Thank you for saying that though. They want to do it the right way so thank you for saying that. So barring no further discussion, they are on 1st reading so she'll entertain a motion for whatever they so pleasure. Councilman David Cain said, Madam President, first of all, thank you Mr. Loftis for going the extra mile, for getting the bids in and working with Mike and going the extra mile. They appreciate that. So, at this time, he'd like to make a motion to pass Appropriation Ordinance No. 7-2023 to 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and public hearing. Councilman Cline seconded. Council President Fouce said Appropriation Ordinance 7-2023, a motion's been made to pass it to 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and public hearing by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Cline. Any question? No question, roll call please. Motion carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Cline, Luzadder, Henderson, Brunner, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2-2023**

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 2-2023 by title only, a Resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the Indiana Department of Transportation for a grant under Sections 5311/5339 of the Federal Transit Act, as amended. Chuck Martindale told the Council, and Jeff Edwards, the Manager of Marion Transit, good evening. They're here seeking their approval for their authorization (inaudible) the Transportation Department of the City of Marion to file a grant application on behalf of the City Transit System operating capital assistance for 2024. They're starting the cycle a little earlier now so this application is due in April and INDOT has set aside federal funds in the amount of

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## RESOLUTION NO. 2-2023 Continued

approximately \$800,000 and state funds in the amount of approximately \$300,000 for a total of \$1,094,791 to reimburse the city for up to 75% of the operating cost of Marion Transit for 2024. This will be the 43<sup>rd</sup> time that they've come before the Council to get these funds during his tenure here at the City of Marion. So, Jeff and he will try to answer any questions that they might have, Martindale said. Council President Robin Fouce said, thank you. She'll open the floor for any questions, comment. Councilman David Cain said, Madam President, Mr. Martindale, he does this city such a wonderful job. He can't say enough. Mr. Martindale told Cain he enjoys working for the city, sometimes. Cain said their bus department would not be here without him, he'll put it that way. Martindale said, well thank you but he thinks the people that run the bus system and operate the bus system do the job. He just does the paperwork. Fouce asked, any further comment or question? Mr. Edwards, would he have any comment to say? Mr. Edwards said, yeah, good evening. You know, when he talks, he likes to just talk about his bus drivers, dispatchers, and mechanic. Like Chuck said, they're the ones that keep them rolling. They come in every day. He thinks they might be the only system that rolls out at 7:00 a.m. and they have to roll out at 7:00 a.m. Everybody else can come in and get their orders and go but 7:00 a.m., they roll out every day. He just wants to uplift them, let everybody know that that's who keeps them going and they plan on continuing to do that in 2023, 2024 and on. Mr. Martindale said they're also seeking their approval to, and part of this grant application would be to try to get, try to apply for two handicapped vans that's available through the State QPA, Quantity Purchase Award, a blanket purchase order at the state. They're smaller vehicles. It's a more effective use, a more economical use, rather than the 16-passenger body on chassis vehicles that they're using now for their Americans with Disabilities Act complimentary para-transit service every month. So they think, they hope they have a chance for that. Those vans are projected to cost under the QPA about \$70,000 apiece. 80% of the money would come from federal funds that are going to be, they hope to be allocated. The remaining 20% will come from, probably half of that will be from the state allocation and then the other 10% will be from City of Marion local share. And if they have the money, they'll be able to use their space advertising revenues that they generate under a revenue sharing agreement with the firm that does their space contracting for them on the exterior of their buses. You know, they have 12 billboards running around Marion, six per day, all day long. And that generates revenue and is part of their contract. It doesn't cost us anything but we get 50% of the revenue, the proceeds. So it's a win-win for us. Those funds go into a restricted fund just for the Transportation Department and they can only use those funds for operating capital expenses at the Marion Transit System, Martindale said. Mr. Edwards said he knows they've had buses all along but he thinks it's just, you know, looking outside the box, they're going to try to get the vans and see how that works. He thinks, for the ADA, it'll work pretty good. Fouce asked, will those vans be in addition to the buses or will they eliminate two buses for the two vans that they're getting? Martindale told Fouce, well they have 12 vehicles. Their peak service requires six vehicles, sometimes seven, depending upon how many calls they have for the Americans with Disabilities Act service and so they have some spares. They have four 2016 models with about 120,000 miles apiece on those and then they have four 2017 models with about 100,000 miles on those chassis and then they have four '19 model vehicles so they have a blended average vehicle life, as far as the mileage and all that, the fleet itself is averaging about 90,000 miles per unit and the depreciable life of them is 100,000 miles. So they'll probably take two of the '16's, put those up for sale through the Board of Works, because it gets to be quite a maintenance expense to operate those things, Martindale said. Fouce said she likes the idea of (inaudible) the pursuit of accommodating the handicapped and doing everything. She thinks the access for the handicapped will be easier in those vans. That's not to say they don't help them in what they have now but we, as a city, have great strides to make in accommodating and helping our handicapped and disabled and so kudos to them for taking the lead on that. She'll entertain any other questions or comments. If not, she'll entertain a motion, Fouce said. Councilman David Cain said, Madam President, he moves that they pass Resolution No. 2-2023. Councilman Brad Luzadder seconded. Fouce said it's been moved by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Luzadder that they pass Resolution 2-2023. Any question? Roll call please. Motion carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Cline, Luzadder, Henderson, Brunner, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None. Martindale said, thank you very much. Fouce said, thank you for everything you do.

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### RESOLUTION NO. 3-2023

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 3-2023 by title only, Declaratory Resolution of the City Council of Marion, Indiana declaring economic revitalization area for Ronald Scott Vielee, II, speaking Ronald Scott Vielee, II, or someone else. Council President Robin Fouce said, hello gentlemen. James Beyioku said, hello everybody, thank you for seeing them today. For those of them he hasn't had the opportunity to meet yet, his name is James Beyioku. He's the Project Manager for the Grant County Economic Growth Council and he's here with Scott Vielee to talk about the tax abatement that he is looking to get on the property tax for an investment of about \$250,000 to open a seasonal retail store. The store will provide Halloween decorations and novelties to the people of Marion and beyond as well as make use to one to two currently unused blocks of the city. It would create about five jobs with a total salary of all the jobs combined of about \$30,000 so that'd be about \$6,000 each. It would tear down an existing building and this would create a new building in that location. And Scott is a previous abatement recipient before, Beyioku said. Mr. Vielee said that abatement, the previous abatement was his parents', which he inherited which was a three year abatement that he used year two and three and didn't use year one. So that's, just for the record, that was not by him, Vielee said. Beyioku said, so with the current values of the real estate, it's about \$110,000 with estimated values of proposed project being \$250,000 with net values upon completion to be about \$400,000. And the abatement structure that he is requesting is an eight-year abatement, five years at 100% with year six at 90%, year seven at 70%, and year eight at 50%. He thinks with that, they are open to any (inaudible), Beyioku said. Ms. Fouce said, thank you. She'll open the floor for any discussion. Again, this is for Appropriation Ordinance 3-2023 (should have been Resolution 3-2023) and this is for redevelopment of that area. So today, they're talking about redevelopment so do they want to declare that area a redevelopment area? So she'll entertain any comment, question. Councilman Cline? Councilman Mike Cline said he has a question and, if he already knew the answer, he forgot it and he apologizes. Did this come up in any committee and what did the committee have to say about it? Fouce said, absolutely, thank you for reminding them about the committee. So, it did come up through the Development Committee. As they stated in their last meeting, the recommendation was not favorable for the abatement on this property from the Development Committee. If they recall, they have been kind of down the line in discussing this. They certainly want to support businesses, small business owners in their community, and so they delayed a decision through the Development Committee and revisited it. With the current proposal that they have, that recommendation was unfavorable. Thank you for bringing that to mind. Do they have any further comment or question? Councilman David Cain said, Madam President, and he thinks part of that unfavorable recommendation, he didn't sit on that committee, he did attend the meeting but he thinks they would be setting a terrible precedent for a retail business to grant anything more than a three-year tax abatement that they've certainly done in the past but no more than three years. Just his opinion. He thinks they have to be very, very careful going forward with tax abatements. It's a great tool. He's been a big advocate of tax abatements. He thinks it's a great, you want to call it an investment in the city, he thinks that is, but he thinks they also have to keep them under control. He'd much rather see retail stay at a three-year tax abatement. That's his comments, thank you, Cain said. Fouce said, thank you. Councilman Henderson? Councilman Steve Henderson asked, is it possible that they could amend this to a three-year tax abatement? Fouce said, Councilman Henderson, they, in the committee, discussed it. She means, she's not going to say it's not possible but, as she stated previously, they delayed a decision on the previous proposal and had good feedback with the Growth Council, Mr. Vielee, about the problems with a 100% abatement and this is the proposal that was adhered to. Mr. Vielee asked if he could say something. He thinks that, you know, it might seem a little steep. They're not used to a longer year tax abatement but he thinks they have to have an open mind about this. The business is seasonal. It runs for 30 days, that's it, and then it's done. So, without this, he can't do it. He thinks they need to look further. You know, it's \$40,000 and then after the eight years, they gain \$2,500 more a month back so they get the money back quickly. Okay? The whole payroll thing, it's just not, he means, they can use it, that was the biggest thing was getting the money back in the tax abatement was having a payroll tax and having enough employees. Well, if it was 12 months, maybe it might hit it but it's just not. So he thinks they need to look more towards an open mind that, to the future rather than just three years. They're going to be around for a while, Vielee said. Fouce said, thank you. Do they have any further comment from the Council? Barring no further comment, she would entertain a motion regarding this appropriation ordinance (should have been resolution), 3-2023. Councilman Brad Luzadder said, before the vote, Madam President, if she would. Fouce told Luzadder, yeah. Luzadder said, it's not (inaudible) and he'll be very vocal publicly, he has been Scott Vielee's friend forever. He

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## RESOLUTION NO. 3-2023 Continued

currently does work for the fireworks company. He's been advised to not vote on this and so he will not be voting on this, he will abstain, but everything in which Scott Vielee touches grows and gets big. He's never, ever seen him do anything normal. And so, everything that he's put forth with this and they've already knocked down the building that was there or lack thereof, the old car wash, and if they haven't been past there, it looks fabulous. Already took care of knocking down an abandoned home that should have been taken down years ago. And so, it's an extreme improvement in their 4<sup>th</sup> District of the city. He's glad that Mr. Vielee continues to make Marion a place where he wants to do business. Thank you, Luzadder said. Council President Fouce said, thank you, Councilman. Just to piggyback off of those comments, as the Chair of the Development Committee, she did recommend or ask Councilman Luzadder to consider if he would recuse himself from the vote due to being an employee of Mr. Vielee and a close friend. And so, the decision was totally his. She respects whatever he chose to do with that but they want to make sure both Councilman Luzadder and any of them are doing an aboveboard process when they address these types of issues so she wants to just have that be a part of the record as well. Did they have any further discussion regarding this? Barring no further discussion, she will entertain a motion. Councilman Brian Cowgill said, Madam President, he'd like to make a motion that they pass Ordinance 3-2023 (should have been Resolution 3-2023) on to 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Councilman Luzadder said, second. Fouce asked, who seconded? City Clerk Kathleen Kiley said Brad. Fouce asked Luzadder, she thought he was recusing himself? Luzadder said he'll abstain from the vote but he thinks the vote needs to take place. He will second the vote. If she wants him to withdraw his motion, he will withdraw the second, Luzadder said. Fouce said, no, she just wants them to be consistent so she's just trying to get a point of clarity. Luzadder said he will withdraw his second for the motion. Ms. Fouce said it's his choice. She's just trying to get, Counselor Harker, she was just trying to get a point of clarity. She thought when you recused yourself, you recused yourself from all the particular ordinance legislation. Is she wrong with that? Council attorney Martin Harker told Fouce, no but, as she stated earlier, it's his decision. Fouce said, his decision, okay. Okay, thank you. Okay, a motion has been made by Councilman Cowgill. Would he like to continue his second or did he want to rescind it, she asked Luzadder. Luzadder said, no ma'am, he went ahead and did that already. Fouce said, he withdrew? Okay. So they have a motion on the floor. Is anyone willing to make a second? Going once, going twice, motion did not carry. Thank you, Mr. Vielee, and the Growth Council. They appreciate their efforts and maybe there's something else they can come back together and do and make happen. Vielee said he'll come back next year. He'll try again next year. Fouce said, alright, stay encouraged.

At this time, Council President Fouce said she would entertain a motion to adjourn. Councilman David Cain said, Madam President, he would like to make a statement please. Fouce said, sure. Cain said, after talking to a lot of business owners, especially downtown, he's been approached it seems like day after day after day and he would like to share many concerns of downtown business owners that they have shared with him and he knows some of the others sitting on this Council. Their concerns which is directly effecting their bottom line, one of those concerns, parking, a lack of proper parking for customers and also their customers being harassed when they park in a poorly marked city owned lot. Many of these are out of town guests that make downtown a destination for shopping or a meal. Their concerns are not being addressed and have fallen on deaf ears. Calls are made to City Hall and no follow up return calls to these business owners are made. And of course, the ongoing blight problem within a stone's throw of downtown is also their concern. Not just blighted homes but piles and piles of trash. Their Council President, Ms. Fouce, has mentioned many times, the system is broken. Well it certainly is and this administration does not have an answer to address these concerns. Enough is enough. Seven plus years under this leadership and it's completely obvious it has been a complete failure. Thank you, Cain said. Ms. Fouce said, thank you, Councilman. Do they have any further comment? Jeff Edwards told the Council, he's sorry, earlier he was talking about his bus drivers. He forgot his Administrative Assistant who he probably couldn't do his job without her, Pam Leming. Fouce said, thank you. Thank you for saying that. She was going to say they really don't have public (inaudible) but thank you for that. Mr. Cain said, Madam President, he doesn't want his comments about Mr. Martindale to slight the bus drivers and.... Pam and he have worked many, many years together back and forth and conversations. The bus system is one of the most professional bus systems in Central Indiana he would say. The buses are very clean, well maintained. The bus drivers, very professional, very safe, so kudos. Thank you, Cain said. Fouce said, motion to adjourn, she would entertain that.

On a motion by Cain, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cline, the meeting adjourned. Time being 7:44 p.m.