

Opening

The City Council of the City of Independence, Kentucky met on Monday, January 5, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the auditorium of Simon Kenton High School, 11132 Madison Pike, Independence, with Mayor Christian J. Moriconi presiding. Mayor Moriconi called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll was called and the following Council Members registered present: Mary Pat Behler, Margaret Cook, Carol Franzen, Michael Little and Donna Yeager. Council Member Jim Bushong was absent. Also present was City Attorney, Jed K. Deters.

Proclamation presented to Simon Kenton High School Football Team

Mayor Moriconi presented a Key to the City and Proclamation to the Simon Kenton High School football team to commend them on their successful season winning the regional championship trophy and going on to compete in and win the school's first ever semi-final championship game which qualified them to play in the state championship game held on December 13, 2008. Mayor Moriconi applauded the team members and head Coach Jeff Marksberry and his coaching staff on their achievements and the positive recognition they brought to our community. Coach Marksberry thanked Mayor Moriconi and the City Council.

Approval of the December 1, 2008 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Mayor Moriconi called for a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 1, 2008. Council Member Behler so moved, with second by Council Member Franzen. Roll was called and answered with four ayes and one abstain voiced by Council Member Cook. Motion carried 4-1.

Proposed Ordinance – Intent to Annex New Section of SR17 – 1st Reading

Mayor Moriconi presented to Council a proposed ordinance that would document the City's intent to annex approximately fifty-three acres of ground being the right of way of relocated KY17 south from Fowler Creek Road. He stated that by annexing these right of way parcels the City would control future developments on this road. Mr. Groth, City Administrator, commented that the annexed areas total five sections along the new SR17 starting at the southerly corporation line of the City of Covington and continuing on past McCullum Road.

There being no comments from Council, Mr. Deters gave the proposed ordinance a first reading. Mayor Moriconi advised that the City would not be annexing private properties along this road, just the right of way.

Resolution No. 2009-R-01 – Approving a Revised Personnel Policy Handbook

Mayor Moriconi presented to Council Resolution No. 2009-R-01 which would adopt a revised Personnel Policy handbook. Mr. Deters read Resolution No. 2009-R-01.

Council Member Franzen moved to adopt Resolution No. 2009-R-01, seconded by Council Member Behler. Council Member Little asked a couple of questions regarding probationary periods and cell phones as a taxable employee fringe benefit. There being no further discussion, roll was called and answered unanimously. Motion carried 5-0.

Resolution No. 2009-R-02 – Supporting Simon Kenton High School Principals of Engineering Class “Safety Zone” Project

Mayor Moriconi presented Resolution No. 2009-R-02 that would support the proposals of the Principles of Engineering Class of Simon Kenton High School for the installation and initiation of a “safety zone” on SR17. Mayor Moriconi reminded Council that this project was presented to the City at the last meeting. He stated a copy of this Resolution would be sent to the State. Mr. Deters read Resolution No. 2009-R-02.

Council Member Yeager moved to adopt Resolution No. 2009-R-02, seconded by Council Member Little. Roll was called and answered unanimously; motion carried 5-0.

Proposed Ordinance – Zoning Text Amendment to Adopt Model Sign Regulations

Mayor Moriconi presented to Council for a second reading a proposed ordinance that would adopt a zoning text amendment deleting current sign regulations and inserting new model sign regulations. He stated that due to the length of the document, lingering concerns by Council regarding some of the proposed text changes, and the seating of a new member of Council at this meeting that it may be best to delay the second reading of this ordinance until next month. He stated that Council needs to be comfortable in adopting these proposed regulations and suggested that Council send all their concerns and/or questions to the City Administrator who will meet with the NKAPC staff to get answers. Mayor Moriconi stated that most of the cities in Northern Kentucky have adopted this model sign text, except for the City of Independence. He stated he is comfortable with holding off on taking action on this until next month.

City Administrator Report – Dan Groth

Mr. Groth reported that a symposium for local government officials will be held this Saturday, January 10th at the Sanitation District's meeting room.

Council Member Behler asked if the City has discussed additional street lighting on the new section of SR17. A brief discussion ensued about ways to make this new stretch of roadway safer for motorists. Suggestions included more lighting and directional signage to the business district on the old section of SR17. Mayor Moriconi commented that he would also like to fund new city entrance signs in the 2009/2010 budget.

Municipal Order 2009-MO-01 – Appointment of Council Member Behler to OKI Board

Mayor Moriconi presented to Council a Municipal Order that would approve his appointment of Council Member Behler to represent the City on the OKI Board of Directors.

Council Member Little moved to adopt Municipal Order No. 2009-MO-01, seconded by Council Member Franzen. Roll was called and answered unanimously. Motion carried 5-0.

Attorney's Report – Jed K. Deters

Mr. Deters stated he did not have anything to report.

Mayor's Report – Christian J. Moriconi

Mayor Moriconi announced that he would be hosting the Northern Kentucky Mayor's Group for their monthly meeting on Saturday, January 16th at 9:00 a.m. at the Senior Center and encouraged the Council Members to attend this meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Council Member Franzen moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Yeager. Motion carried with all ayes and the meeting ended at 7:31 p.m.

Christian J. Moriconi, Mayor

Attest:

Patricia H. Taney, City Clerk