

**COMMON COUNCIL, CITY OF NOBLESVILLE
JANUARY 11, 2011**

The Common Council of the City of Noblesville met in regular session on Tuesday, January 11, 2011. Mayor Ditslear called the meeting to order pursuant to public notice with the following members present: Mary Sue Rowland, Gregory P. O'Connor, Roy Johnson, Brian Ayer, Dale Snelling, Stephen C. Wood, and Mark Boice.

Also present were Administrative Officer Mike Hendricks, City Attorney Michael Howard, Clerk assistant Dana Fisher, department directors, members of the media, and interested citizens.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: DECEMBER 21, 2010

Mr. Snelling moved to approve the minutes as submitted, second Mr. Wood, seven aye.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 3, 2011 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Mr. O'Connor moved to approve the minutes as submitted, second Mr. Wood, seven aye.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Snelling moved to approve the agenda as presented, second Mr. Wood, seven aye.

PETITIONS OR COMMENTS BY CITIZENS WHO ARE PRESENT

There were no petitions or comments by citizens.

MAYOR'S REPORT TO COUNCIL

Mayor Ditslear stated the Mayor's Report will be given by Mr. Detlef Rathmann tonight. Mr. Rathmann is the Chairman of the Noblesville Community Vision Committee. Mr. Rathmann has a power point presentation which is excellent. It is great information to share with the Council members and the public. The Committee has worked very hard. Mayor Ditslear introduced Detlef Rathmann.

Mr. Rathmann stated it has been 2 years, almost to the day, since the Community Vision Committee last spoke at a Common Council meeting. At that time, a detailed update was provided to the Council. Tonight will be an update on the Community Vision for Excellence Committee. Mr. Rathmann stated tonight he will report to the Council that this Committee is now done. We will be spending some time talking about the next steps. It has been reported that this report will be about the survey that went out. This is only one component of what has been done over the last 3 years. A package of information, including the survey results, should have been included in each Council person's agenda packet. The latest Vision document is included in the package as well as some item by item details of how measurements will be done to bring the community from a very good community to one of excellence. There are 4 overarching goals: education, environment, growth, and people. Education means achieving an educated community of lifelong learners. This is not just about the High School programs, but about lifelong opportunities. Environment is about protecting and enhancing our natural assets. Growth is creating a dynamic and self-sustaining community while retaining and enhancing our distinctive small town atmosphere. There is a balance there to achieve. The 4th goal is people, a compassionate and diverse people striving for community excellence. Mr. Rathmann stated these are the 4 overarching goals with which everything else falls. They all connect and intertwine, none of them stand alone by themselves. There are 4 examples of the details of the measurements or benchmarks in the package. With each of these, we wanted to look at a 3 year time period, the last 2 years and then the future. One of these in the education sector is the percentage of high school students who graduate. In 2010, it was 91%. Dr. Conner's goal is 100%. This is one measurement. Another one that was picked was the greatest distance in miles a Noblesville resident must travel to reach a public park. Right now, it is 3.65 miles. The

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idea behind these benchmarks is, what goal do we want to achieve in 2011 and beyond. Does the City Council want that number to be 2.65 and what is it going to cost to get there in terms of capital improvements and operating budgets. Another example is the unemployment rate of Hamilton County. In 2009, the rate was 6.5%. 2010 is yet to be determined. The last example is something that is easy to quantify and is on everyone's mind at times, fire service response times. In 2008, it was 5:51 minutes; in 2009, it was 5:32 minutes; in 2010, it was 5:05 minutes. This is a great trend, exactly what we want to see. The next time the Fire Chief comes before the Council with a request of personnel, vehicles, etc., real data information can go into the decision process. Benchmarking always means benchmarking against ourselves and then comparing ourselves against the best of the best. Mr. Rathmann stated this is finished. What the Committee set out to do in 1993 was completed by December, 2010. There was a period of time in there that not much was done. There are many people to thank. There were dozens, if not hundreds, of people that helped put this process together. From April, 2008 until December of 2010 is when the majority of the work was done and the Committee consisted of Detlef Rathmann, Mary Sue Rowland, Greg O'Connor, Chris Hamm, and Steve Ingram. The Planning Department was instrumental with the help of Steve Huntley, Roger Johnson, Melissa Begley, and Tanya Archer. Many times, there was 100% attendance. We always had a quorum. During the last 3 three years, the Committee had 5 passionate, committed people interested in driving the City to greater heights. Mr. Rathmann wanted to also thank Gary Huff, who was the Town Manager of Fishers, for his help. Once the Committee was structured, we were looking for input. We got that from many, many people. Mr. Rathmann stated he has just been blown away by the expertise and knowledge, dedication and passion from the people that we talked with. This includes Mayor Ditslear and his staff, Council members, school board members and personnel, health care administrators and providers, business owners, and the like really gave tremendous input. This is a great community. One of the groups the Committee met with were the Department Directors for the City. The Committee wanted to know from the Directors if the data we had made sense, if we were measuring the correct things, and what they would do differently. The Committee received feedback from them. The Committee also took a look at the City financials. This included looking at the Capital Improvement Plan item for item to see if it matched up with the vision of the Committee. It did. There is nothing in there that is somebody's pet project or a favor that was slid in that is not in the plan. Everything matches. This ought to make the Council feel good. Someone should take the time to look at the Operation Budget for the next year to see if it ties together with the City's vision. The Committee then received input from major entities. These included meetings with the Mayor and the Noblesville Chamber of Commerce, Noblesville Schools, Guerin High School, and Riverview Hospital. We asked questions like did the other entities make it easier in realizing the goals of the individual entity's objectives. For example, do the roles of business and government combine effectively to make the objectives in education easier. It all ties together. We need to help each other be successful in our individual endeavors. Community citizens are, of course, the backbone of where we are. The Committee did 2 things; we wanted input from the individual within our community. We held public forums. We had a number of ways to communicate; by website, email, voicemail, regular mail, and the media. We had speaker's bureaus. Mr. Rathmann stated the Committee did get some good input from these sources, but not much of it. In August of 2010, we conducted a national citizen survey through an independent agency. The agency sent out 1,200 randomly selected sets of the survey; 361 or 32% were returned. This is a reasonable number from a survey standpoint. Noblesville was benchmarked with 500 other communities. The same survey was also placed on our City website. Anyone could complete the survey and all citizens were encouraged to do so. 1,119 surveys were returned from the City's website. That response was tremendous. Whatever input that was received from the survey was put into our data and introduced into the Vision statement. The purpose of this is to identify community strengths and opportunities for improvement and assure a match up with the Noblesville Community Vision for Excellence. This is why we did the survey. We wanted to see what the community thought of Noblesville, pluses and minuses. It will be introduced into the Vision. The

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areas of measurement are community quality, community design, public safety, environment, recreation and wellness, community inclusiveness, civic engagement, and public trust. These were all measured within the survey. The remarkable thing is that both surveys were almost identical in every item. Both surveys indicated that 91% responding feel the quality of life in Noblesville is good or excellent. When surveyed about staying in Noblesville for the next 5 years, 90% responded very or somewhat likely. The most favorable items about the City from the survey are the City's cleanliness, its overall appearance, image and reputation, public safety, place to raise kids and retire, sense of community, strong trust in local government (City, County), overall direction the City is going, and value of services received for taxes paid. The feedback was outstanding about the service they receive and the contacts encountered from City employees. It went way beyond any of the other 499 cities we were compared to. The least favorable items listed in the survey were ease of rail travel in the City, ease of bus travel, employment opportunities – job growth too slow, traffic flow on major streets, and public meeting attendance and civic group participation. These are least favorable in comparison to the other 499 cities. Mr. Rathmann stated the primary purpose of the survey was to help with the development of the Vision statement. At the same time, we invited City government to ask questions of the citizens. We put 4 policy questions on the survey. The details are in the report. One question was concerning how citizens would feel about a charge for trash pick-up. Another question dealt with long range community projects. These included a City civic center, extensive Downtown historic renovation, South 10th Street corridor enhancement, White River Trail, and Midland Trail. The third question concerned a ground level commuter train. The fourth question dealt with reductions in City services. There were several listed and the citizens were asked to rank them in order of importance. Mr. Rathmann stated the Committee has put the information together. The Committee has gotten a lot of input. That phase is done. It has now been given to the Council, both in great detail and in summary. These are the things that, when accomplished, will make the City one of excellence. The people that do these kinds of things are already very good and they strive for excellence. They are governments, businesses, not-for-profits, health organizations, education units, etc. Now, a change needs to take effect. This Committee has done just about everything it can do. Now it is time for someone to drive this, to make these things happen. Needless to say, there have been a number of meetings with Mayor Ditslear to discuss this. The Mayor is driving this thing. Mr. Rathmann stated we need to identify a person who will lead this. Their responsibilities will include working with responsible entities for all benchmarks and assisting in moving those benchmarks, and developing necessary actions. The actions are recommendations that come from the Committee and include establishing a Job Creation Council consisting of education, business, and government. This needs to be done in a systematic way so that in good times and bad times there are job creation opportunities. We need to establish a volunteer network headed by a volunteer coordinator. This could be done by applying for a grant for a volunteer coordinator. The coordinator will connect the groups with the volunteers. We need to establish a Civic Center feasibility task force. The survey indicated a Civic Center may be a good idea. Another step is to coordinate and expand continuing and non-traditional education. This is a big factor. We talk about lifelong learners being important. There is so much out there that is available. The last two steps are unifying the efforts by many to assist the marginalized and needy, and coordinate community wide health promotion and awareness. It is a moral and God given responsibility that we have to help those who need help. This is a massive undertaking and it won't get done overnight. Mr. Rathmann stated this whole document and process is a living document that will go on forever. We may never achieve excellence in the City but we will always strive for it. The volunteer coordinator would report to the Mayor's office. The Committee needs to be restructured. A new ordinance is needed. The Committee would be structured with 6 positions. The Chair – appointed by the Mayor, Superintendent – Noblesville Schools, Administrator – Riverview Hospital, Executive Director – Noblesville Chamber of Commerce, and President – Noblesville City Council. All six have accepted this responsibility and are in place. The new Committee would meet semi-annually for 4 hours each time. The legwork would be done by the leader/development director. The Vision Committee

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responsibilities would be review measurement/benchmark status, accountability, adjust the Vision document, prepare status of the community, Mayor, and City Council, and spearhead the next citizen survey. Mr. Rathmann stated last year someone of significant stature within the community indicated that this is great work but needed to be shelved until the economy picked up. Mr. Rathmann stated his response is this will help drive the economy of the community. The vision that we see and response that we have should improve the quality of anything and everything we do, including education, environment, government, healthcare, etc. This should reduce costs. The volunteer coordinator and the volunteer efforts can be a tremendous reduction to costs for the City in a number of areas. Delivery is a term for the products and services that we provide. They should be first rate. Everything we do should be for the benefit of the people of Noblesville. Mr. Rathmann stated this has been a tremendous experience. It has been wonderful getting to know and working with all of the people on the Committee and within the City. We think this is how the City needs to operate moving forward. If it does, we will have the best quality, at the lowest cost, with the best delivery, and the most satisfied people you will ever see in any community. Mr. Rathmann thanked everyone for their time.

Mayor Ditslear thanked Mr. Rathmann. Mayor Ditslear stated Mr. Rathmann and the entire Committee have put so much work into this project. Mayor Ditslear stated he is very proud of the dedication of the Committee. It will be a challenge, but we look forward to that challenge.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Boice thanked Mr. Rathmann for the presentation. The Committee has put in a great deal of time and has done a tremendous job. For the citizens who would like to see a copy of the survey, they are available on-line.

Mr. Boice stated he has handed out the committee assignments and the liaisons.

Mr. Boice stated at this time he would like to present the Stake in the Ground Award. Every year the Common Council presents a Stake in the Ground award. It is basically an acknowledgement for the employee of the year. The Council makes nominations and votes for the person they think did the most outstanding job for the City and its citizens over the year. In 2010 there were a large number of employees that stepped up. Many people did a great job and did a whole lot of things with a lot less money and assets that were provided. The Council is very proud and it was a difficult task in choosing one individual for the Stake in the Ground award. With all of that said, there was one person that did stand out. Mr. Boice stated that he could not imagine anyone wanting to tackle the budget that everyone knew was ahead of them last year. We all knew it was going to be difficult and decisions had to be made that were not going to be easy. This person jumped into it and really put all of his efforts into making it work. He computerized it, which made it easier for all of us. The most impressive part of it was, he was able to keep the Council, Mayor, Department Directors, and employees as happy as possible while bringing down the budget. Mr. Boice stated he is pleased to present the Stake in the Ground award to Administrative Officer, Mike Hendricks. Mr. Hendricks accepted the award and thanked all of the Council members.

Mr. Boice stated he would like to present a plaque to last year's Council President, Roy Johnson. Mr. Johnson did a fantastic job last year. He ran all of the meetings very efficiently, was always prepared and professional. Mr. Boice stated that all of us thank him for all of the hard work that he put in.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Mr. O'Connor moved to approve the claims as presented, second Mr. Wood, seven aye.

PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED ORDINANCES

#46-12-10 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE #46-12-10, ADOPTION OF A PRELIMINARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND THE INCLUSION OF A "SCHOOL USE" AS A GOVERNMENT USE OVERLAY, A PART OF THE CORPORATE CAMPUS PLANNED DISTRICT FOR PROMISE ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 1,500 FEET NORTH OF THE INTERSECTION OF PROMISE ROAD AND 146TH STREET, EAST SIDE (STEVE HUNTLEY)

Mr. Huntley stated the primary issue for this ordinance is allowing a school into the Corporate Campus area. This is also the adoption of the site plan for the elementary school with the accompanying variances. Mr. Huntley stated any deviations from standards are variances. If the requirement is 10 trees and you only have 9, that is a variance. Many of the variances here are dealing primarily with landscaping. There is one that addresses two driveway cuts. That made sense in this case due to the configuration of the school. Mounding along the street is something that the City typically requires but in this case is one of the variances. All other items are expected to be in compliance with the ordinance. This has been forwarded from the Plan Commission with a 9-1 favorable recommendation. Mr. Huntley stated Mr. Church is representing the School Board and is here to answer any specific questions. Mr. Church stated this particular project is the only school site on the east side of S.R. 37. As part of the planning process, we have seen growth moving east and the acquisition of that site took place a number of years ago with the expectation that as development continues and neighborhoods are established on the east side of S.R. 37, school children would be coming out of those neighborhoods. Those children need to be in a safe environment and be bussed as short a distance as possible. There are approximately 570 children already living in those neighborhoods. The challenges to the school corporation in meeting the needs of those families and children and the community as a whole is not something that happens overnight. It comes about with thorough and long term planning. Mr. Church stated the Government Overlay District was designed to try to ameliorate the conflicts that can and do occur between two elected bodies that are charged by statutory responsibilities to accomplish certain things. It is the hope of the School Board that the GUO is a good way to meet those objectives. The 11 variances are out of hundreds of development standards that have to be looked at as part of the development process. Mr. Snelling called the question. The following roll call vote was recorded.

AYE: Brian Ayer, Roy Johnson, Gregory P. O'Connor, Mary Sue Rowland, Dale Snelling, Stephen C. Wood, and Mark Boice

Seven aye, motion carries

NEW ORDINANCES FOR DISCUSSION

#1-1-11 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE #1-11-11, AMENDMENT TO THE ADOPTED PRELIMINARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE CUMBERLAND POINTE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT, SPECIFICALLY REGARDING THE CUMBERLAND POINTE APARTMENTS AND THE LOCATION OF TWO IDENTIFICATION SIGNS ON PROPERTY LOCATED SOUTH OF GREENFIELD AVENUE, NORTH OF CUMBERLAND POINTE BOULEVARD AND EAST OF CUMBERLAND ROAD (STEVE HUNTLEY)

Mr. Snelling moved to introduce Ordinance #1-1-11, second Mr. Wood. Mr. Huntley stated this is a project that has been in Noblesville for several years. A new owner has recently taken over the project. A management company is now managing the apartments. They are requesting a change in the signage package that was originally

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approved. Because of the structure of the approval process, any changes in the original approval must go back before the Plan Commission and on to the Council. The specific issues are two signs that they would like to have approved. The Plan Commission has forwarded this to the Council with a 10-0 favorable recommendation. Mr. Huntley stated Mr. Gordon Byers is representing the owner and is here to answer any specific questions the Council may have. Mr. Byers stated it is a lengthy process to change the signage in a PD. It is serious. The owner has met and worked through the issues with staff because it was important to have their full support. This project was in distress when it was acquired from a lender. The first thing the new owners have done is to up the occupancy from 70% to almost 100%. There are 208 units. They have spent approximately \$100,000.00 in landscaping on their own. They have noticed that residents and visitors expressed that it was unclear what the project was or where it was. Staff supported these expressions. It had bad signage. The owners have proposed 2 signs. The northern sign is off of Greenfield Avenue. The complex is on about 30 acres. The first sign is approximately 37 sq. ft. The sign is not retail. It is simple and tasteful. Its purpose is to provide notification to visitors, emergency personnel, bus transport, etc. Mr. Byers stated this amendment to the PUD is appropriate to add the two new signs to give this project the appropriate signage that should have been put in place originally.

#2-1-11 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE #2-1-11, ADOPTION OF A PRELIMINARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND CHANGE OF ZONING FROM "R1 SINGLE-FAMILY LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL" TO "R1/GUO RESIDENTIAL/GOVERNMENT USE OVERLAY" FOR THE NOBLESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LOCATED AT 18111 CUMBERLAND ROAD (STEVE HUNTLEY)

Mr. O'Connor moved to introduce Ordinance #2-1-11, second Mr. Wood. Mr. Huntley stated this request is to convert the High School zoning from the residential classification to "residential/GUO". The specific purpose is to allow for the expansion of the High School on the southwest corner of the building, as well as adding a second floor on the northwest portion of the building. Because of the zone classification, the GUO process is encouraged so Council can review the process rather than the BZA. This has been forwarded from the Plan Commission with a 10-0 favorable recommendation. Mr. Huntley stated Mr. Church is here to answer any questions from the Council. Mr. Church stated this is basically adding a second story and a small other addition to the High School, as well as getting the GUO district for the High School.

#3-1-11 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE #3-1-11, ADOPTION OF A PRELIMINARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND CHANGE OF ZONING FROM "R2 SINGLE-FAMILY LOW TO MODERATE DENSITY RESIDENTIAL" TO "R2/GUO RESIDENTIAL/GOVERNMENT USE OVERLAY" FOR HINKLE CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LOCATED AT 595 HARBOUR DRIVE (STEVE HUNTLEY)

Mr. O'Connor moved to introduce Ordinance #3-1-11, second Mr. Ayer. Mr. Huntley stated this item is the same as the other two. It is establishing the GUO district. Hinkle Creek Elementary has not been a GUO in the past. The purpose of this is to add a connecting corridor between the old Tri-County School building and the elementary school building. This item has been forwarded from the Plan Commission with a 10-0 favorable recommendation. It is a very small addition to the building that will not require any other activities. Mr. Church stated this is a success story for all of us because, when Tri-County went out of business in Noblesville, that building became available at the same time when building pressures on the school system were being felt most severely. The school corporation is incorporating that building into Hinkle Creek. The change is essentially a connection of the two buildings. There is not much outside structural difference. This ordinance will also bring it within the GUO district.

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#4-1-11 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE #4-1-11, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NOBLESVILLE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SEWAGE WORKS REVENUE BONDS (MIKE HOWARD)

Mr. O'Connor moved to introduce Ordinance #4-1-11, second Mr. Johnson. Mr. Howard stated this ordinance authorizes the bonds to fund the next phase of the City's storm water project. The primary project is the centralized storage tank. This is basically a huge underground storage tank that will intercept storm sewer overflows and minimize flows into the river. Costs associated with that are listed under Alternate #1. Alternate #2 of the project adds a \$4 million digester. Whether or not the alternate is awarded will be based on how competitive the bids come in at and the interest rates. This will be a phase that is funded with existing revenues. There will be no rate increases. Mr. Howard stated we are waiting for the year end reports, but there is approximately \$3.2 million in cash. The balance will be with a bond. The first phase can be funded with existing revenues. We must have 125% coverage of net operating costs to be on parity with the City's other bonds. Mr. Howard stated the other terms are bond provisions that have been in all the other bond documents before the Council. Mr. Hendricks will explain what a digester does and why we need one. Mr. Hendricks stated the main part of the project is labeled as Alternate #1. This is the underground storage tank. The Long Term Control Plan was approved September, 2007. This is Division II, Phase 3 of that plan. Division I, Phase 3 was the Maple Street line that has been completed. The underground storage tank will connect that phase with the line that winds along the river and around the cemetery. This is in compliance of the Long Term Control Plan. The schedule that was approved by the State in the agreed judgment is for construction beginning in May. We will be a couple of months ahead of schedule. Alternate #2 is the additional digester. Currently, there are two. The expansion of that process is needed. This will help the Plant get to a higher level of biosolids, which will help us reduce expenses in operations beyond what has been done with the addition of the dryers. This reduces the volume in weight. Mr. Hendricks stated the Plant was sending 15-17% solids to the landfill. Now, after the greenhouses have been put in place, the Plant is sending 75% solids. That much water has been removed and we are no longer paying to dispose of it. This is a significant reduction in costs. Mr. Wood asked if this is all part of State and Federal requirements under the Clean Water Act. Mr. Hendricks replied yes. Mr. Wood asked if these were all non-funded requirements. Mr. Hendricks responded that is correct. Mr. Wood asked if there would be penalties if the City does not do this. Mr. Hendricks replied yes. Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Hendricks to give a quick re-introduction into how all of this was mandated. Mr. Hendricks stated that process began in 1998. It began with characterizations and engineering studies. The City then quickly went through negotiations with the State. After our Long Term Control Plan was submitted, we received notification that we were on a list to negotiate with the EPA. This meant we were going to a Federal level. The State was having issues with getting their approvals done in a timely manner. Mr. Hendricks stated the City went to the State with our Plan ready to go. After many meetings, we were able to negotiate with the State and keep it at that level. The City received a State agreed upon judgment versus a Federal consent decree. In total, this is a \$67 million plan. The City was able to negotiate a 15 year life span for that agreement. We are currently 4 years into the plan. The financially heavy side of the projects are all at the beginning of the plan. This phase will be winding the financially burdensome parts of the plan down. Towards the end of the plan, the costs of the projects will go down. Mayor Ditslear stated this is a Federal unfunded mandate. This is something that is forced, rightfully so, but with no check attached to it. The EPA has said sewage cannot get into the river. The taxpayers will bear the brunt of that. The City was aggressive in getting an agreement with the State and thus guaranteeing our judgment would be in effect and continue, as opposed to newer, more demanding rules could take effect and be more costly. Another plus in these negotiations was that we were able to spread this out over 15 years. These were both very important points that were negotiated in the settlement. Mr. Johnson stated that was what he wanted to convey; this is mandated with no money attached to it. Mr. Howard stated going back even further; the Federal Clean Water Act requires discharges from sewer plants to be

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fishable and swimmable. The water that goes into the river is most likely cleaner than what was in there before. The City's problems are associated with the fact that, not only are we a growing community, but we have an old combined sewer system where the rain water from certain parts of our City goes into the system and treated like everything else. IDEM indicated for years before this the City's sewer bills were much too low according to the censuses conducted and could be raised for the separation project. Mr. Howard stated citizens do not like the increases in the sewer rates but this has been a very cost effective procedure. Mr. O'Connor asked once this specific project is done, what percentage of the Long Term Control Plan would be complete. Mr. Hendricks responded the Plan would be just past the halfway point. It is the middle part of Phase 3 of a 5 phase plan. Mr. O'Connor asked what the total cost was. Mr. Hendricks replied \$67 million. This includes the Plant expansion in Phase 2. Mr. O'Connor asked what the reduction in costs would be with the addition of the digester. Mr. Hendricks responded that it will not be so much a reduction in costs as it is an expansion of volume. The community is growing. We need more space. We could get by with taking the waste to a landfill, but not for long. The digesters that the Plant does have will need to be rehabbed. They are about 15 years old. Once the new digester is in place, one of the older ones will be drained, rehabbed, and the internal piping replaced. Mr. O'Connor asked if the Plant would gain any efficiencies. Mr. Hendricks replied yes. We will have more volume as well so everything will be able to work longer. Mayor Ditslear stated this would position the City to be able to handle the new businesses and developments and growth that come to the City. Mr. Ayer asked if any bonds are close to or pass redemption that could be refinanced into this package to give the City additional interest savings. Mr. Howard replied no, the call protection on bonds is 10 years and there is nothing out there eligible. Mr. O'Connor stated that part of the City's overarching goal for the environment is what we are releasing back into the river.

MISCELLANEOUS

- #1 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH WAYNE TOWNSHIP, INDIANA FOR THE PROVISION OF ADVANCE LIFE SUPPORT (ALS) SERVICES TO WAYNE TOWNSHIP (CHIEF GILLIAM)

Chief Gilliam stated this is a creative solution to a problem that will allow the Noblesville Fire Department to use its existing resources more productively and help out a neighbor. Chief Gilliam stated a while ago, representatives from Wayne Township approached the City about the possibility of Noblesville providing their advance life support (ALS) for EMS. EMS is provided to 2 components. One is basic life support (BLS), the other is ALS. The primary difference is that ALS requires a paramedic because it includes more invasive procedures such as administering drugs, intubation, and other things that basic EMT's are not authorized to provide. In order to provide ALS, you must be certified by the State and be an ALS provider. Wayne Township is unable to obtain that certification for themselves at this time, nor can they pay a private ALS provider to provide that service any longer. Chief Gilliam stated Noblesville did not seek out this agreement with Wayne Township. They approached us. The City is primarily doing this to be good neighbors, and at the same time we can bring in a little additional income. Chief Gilliam stated to enter into this agreement, the Department did need to be confident it would not have a negative impact on our services to Noblesville and Noblesville Township and that the amount of money we were charging was fair in relative terms. The quality of service we can provide to Wayne Township is not equivalent to what we can provide Noblesville or Noblesville Township simply from a geographical standpoint. We are only providing a small portion of their service. We are not providing fire protection or BLS to Wayne Township. Their personnel will continue to provide those services. They will also respond to all of the ALS runs with Noblesville and provide the transport on those runs. Noblesville will provide the paramedic to elevate it to the ALS level. It is a fair agreement from a cost standpoint. Chief Gilliam stated the Department did a time analysis on how many hours a year we would be in Wayne Township and unavailable to

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Noblesville or Noblesville Township. The analysis indicated there is a 1 – 1 ½ % probability we would be in Wayne Township when a run occurred in Noblesville. The probability of Noblesville services being impacted is very low. There is a greater probability their service will be impacted by us being on another run in Noblesville or Noblesville Township. Wayne Township is assuming a greater risk than we are. The fees that will be paid to Noblesville will be \$125,000.00 per year. This is an annually renewable contract. It will be paid in the form of \$50,000.00 cash and \$75,000.00 in the form of equipment to be paid semi-annually. We will provide a paramedic in whatever vehicle is appropriate from the nearest available station. Most of the time that will be Station #7. There is a 60 day notice “out” clause. Chief Gilliam stated we are providing a much needed service and we are getting compensated. Noblesville is not adding any equipment or personnel. The only cost to the City for providing this is the fuel and wear and tear on vehicles. This is a win for both sides. Mr. Boice asked if their previous provider was providing ambulance and total life support service. Chief Gilliam responded the private provider was providing ALS service out of the Wayne Township station. The private provider had to commit staff specifically for that purpose, therefore their fees were much higher. Mr. Snelling asked if there was another vehicle besides the big one at Station #7 that could be used for this purpose. Chief Gilliam replied yes, they would be relocating a quick response vehicle (QRV) to that station for this purpose. It is basically an SUV. Mr. Wood asked about the \$75,000.00 in equipment. Chief Gilliam responded this is the only way Wayne Township has the ability to fund part of the agreement. They will be using some of their CUM Fire revenue. This can only be used to buy equipment. They will buy equipment for us that we have already budgeted for. Diane Crim, Wayne Township Trustee, stated she would like to thank the Council for considering this agreement. This has been a long process. Mrs. Crim stated Wayne Township is hoping this agreement will only have to be used for 1 year. Wayne Township is currently trying to establish a fire territory. A fire territory is allowed to set a tax rate to cover these types of services that the Township does not have the ability to do. Mrs. Crim stated hopefully, this agreement would not have to go longer than a year or two. Mayor Ditslear stated he read that some in Wayne Township thought this to be an aggressive move by Noblesville to try and take over Wayne Township. Mayor Ditslear stated he wanted everyone to know this is about helping a neighbor. We are not annexing Wayne Township. The only time that would happen is if someone would want to develop their land and join Noblesville. We are not trying to aggressively take over Wayne Township. Mr. Ayer stated he met with the Mayor and Chief Gilliam about this approximately a year ago when the County announced they were going to stop their payments to Wayne Township for fire protection. Mr. Ayer stated it is important to remember that our firefighters and police officers will respond regardless of this agreement. They are too professional and take pride in their work. They would not let someone’s home burn down or leave an accident unattended. This agreement is a win/win. It is a 1 year agreement. We will be able to determine within that year if it is costing us money or services. Mr. Snelling moved to approve the interlocal agreement with Wayne Township for the ALS services to Wayne Township, second Mr. Wood, seven aye.

**#2 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER WASTEWATER UTILITY OPERATING
BUDGET FOR 2011 (MIKE HENDRICKS)**

Mr. Hendricks stated the Utility’s budget was reviewed internally and then put on the backburner and was not presented to the Council for approval. It has been through the Utility’s Committee. Mr. Hendricks stated Mr. Thompson was very helpful in putting the budget together. Mr. Thompson stated the goal of the Department is to be as efficient as possible. Mr. O’Connor stated the one thing that stood out during the Committee’s review of the budget is that the insurance costs have gone up because the City has added to the size of the Plant. Mr. Hendricks and Mr. Thompson have done a nice job with the

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budget. The Department as a whole does a great job. Mr. O'Connor asked how many employees were out at the Utility. Mr. Hendricks replied 38. Mr. O'Connor stated they control quite a plant. It is a real science that goes on down there and a lot of taxpayer's dollars invested. Mr. Wood stated they also maintain all of the sewer and storm water lines throughout the City. Mr. Ayer moved to approve the Wastewater Utility operating budget for 2011, second Mr. Wood, seven aye.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Wood stated he has had 3 phone calls today concerning snow removal in the City of Noblesville. Everyone was very happy.

Mr. Wood stated he would like to send out best wishes to the Police Officer who was in the accident. Please let us know if there is anything we can help him with. We appreciate his service to the City.

Mr. Boice stated he would like to echo Mr. Woods' comments on the snow removal. Our team was really on it and did a great job.

Mr. Boice stated he did hand out the Committee assignments and the liaisons. Copies are available.

Mrs. Rowland stated she wishes she had something to award Mr. Detlef Rathmann with. What Mr. Rathmann led us through the last 2 years would have easily cost \$250,000.00 from an outside consultant. Mrs. Rowland stated she has never seen a citizen that knew what he knew and shared it with us along with providing much needed leadership. We would never have been able to bring this process through to make the connection to our budget. We now have a playbook. Mrs. Rowland thanked Mr. Rathmann for all of his work. Mayor Ditslear stated Mr. Rathmann is a great contribution to our City. He has helped provide a great roadmap. It will be a challenge, but we now have a working plan of action.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Common Council this 11th day of January, 2011, Mr. O'Connor moved to adjourn, seven aye.

JOHN DITSLEAR, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JANET S. JAROS, CLERK-TREASURER