

# McCordsville

ESTD  1988

## INDIANA

Town Council Special Meeting Minutes

March 26, 2024

Town Hall – 9:00 am

- Council Members Present: Greg Brewer, Scott Jones, John Price, Bryan Burney (via zoom) and Chad Gooding (via zoom until 10:15 am)
- Employees: Paul Casey, Ryan Crum, Tim Gropp, Jimmy Bell, Erik Pullum
- Clerk-Treasurer: Stephanie Crider
- Town Attorney: Beth Copeland

### **Noise Ordinance Discussion**

- Mr. Brewer started the meeting by asking questions of the sound expert, Nick Olson.
- Mr. Olson explained the differences between different decibels as well as the differences in what music produces what decibels. He also explained that decibels are not measured on a linear scale.
- Mr. Price presented some information about some research that he has completed, and Mr. Gropp emailed the information to those not present.
- Mr. Olson further explained the complexity of sound.
- Mr. Brewer asked for clarification on several items in the proposed Ordinance.
- Mr. Burney asked about the bass specifically and its specific nuisance to residents.
- Mr. Olson explained that in larger venues the ability to lessen the bass is easier due to the amount of money that these venues have because they are hosting events more regularly. Mr. Gropp asked about changing the location of speakers at certain venues to lessen the bass.
- Mr. Olson further explained the processes behind sound at different venues.
- Mr. Jones asked specific questions regarding the 64 dB number.
- Mr. Price explained more of the research that he did using the Town's decibel reader.
- Mr. Jones questioned some of Mr. Price's research regarding ambient noise and the proposed noise ordinance decibel level.
- Mr. Price asked further questions of Mr. Olson.
- Mr. Borrmann had questions for Mr. Olson regarding dB(C) levels and if that is preferable to measure sound instead of dB(A).

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- Mr. Olson further explained the complexity of this process.
- Mr. Brewer engaged in further discussions with the Council members.
- Mr. Gooding stated his concerns.
- Mr. Price referenced 2018 council meetings where they held public hearings and several noise complaints.
- Mr. Brewer explained that he would be more inclined to have a nuisance ordinance.
- Mr. Burney specifically asked questions of our Town Attorney regarding nuisances.
- Ms. Copeland stated that the town would not need a noise ordinance to create a nuisance ordinance. She also quoted state law regarding nuisances.
- Mr. Burney further explained his stance on the issue and questioned whether this process should be a graduated step process.
- Ms. Copeland explained the steps that could be taken if the town decides to follow the graduated step process.
- Mr. Gropp explained that the new ordinance cleans up the old ordinance.
- Mr. Brewer stated that the new ordinance has too many variables to consider.
- Mr. Gropp asked for direction from the Council.
- Mr. Brewer stated that he would like the committee to clean up the updated noise ordinance that they have been working on.
- Mr. Price stated that they were all in agreement that the current ordinance that is in place is broken and that they need to fix the decibel level, where it is measured, and the hours.
- Mr. Jones stated that they need to fix the decibel level listed in the working ordinance.
- Ms. Copeland explained her stance on the issue.
- Mr. Jones suggested repealing the noise ordinance and writing a nuisance ordinance.
- Mr. Brewer suggested that the committee clean up the working ordinance to bring it back in the May Council meeting.
- Mr. Brewer stated his stance on how he would vote if the working noise ordinance was brought to a vote in April.
- Mr. Burney questioned what sense of responsibility as Council members do they have to act.
- Ms. Copeland provided the options for what actions can be taken at the next meeting.
- Mr. Brewer elaborated on his perception of the noise ordinance and nuisance ordinance.
- Mr. Jones asked about the special exception for noise in the special events policy.
- Mr. Price explained the problems with the committee and establishing these ordinances because of differences of opinion.

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- Mr. Brewer stated he does not want any of these ordinances to impede a normal resident's planning of events at their own home.

### **Adjournment**

- Motion by Mr. Price to close the work session. Jones. 4-0 11:29 am

### **Minutes Approval**

These minutes approved this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April.

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**Greg Brewer, Council President**

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Stephanie Crider, Clerk-Treasurer**