City Council Meeting
Minutes
April 24, 2020

BOARD/COMMISSION: City Council Meeting
DATE: 4/24/2020
DIRECTIONS: Fishers City Hall

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING, 11:00 am.

1. Meeting Called to Order with the Pledge of Allegiance
   - President Cecilia Coble called the meeting to order at 11am. Present by vis telephone conference call were Brad DeReamer, John Weingardt, Jocelyn Vare, Samantha DeLong, Todd Zimmerman, Selina Stoller, David George, and Pete Peterson. Others present were Mayor Scott Fadness, City Clerk Jennifer Kehl, Chris Greisl, Deputy Mayor Elliott Hultgren, Steve Orusa, Ed Gebhart, Megan Baumgartner, Eric Pethel, and Ashley Elrod.

2. Consent Agenda:
   a. Request to Approve the previous meeting minutes: Regular Meeting - April 20, 2020
      - Pete Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes from April 20, 2020. Selina Stoller second the motion. There was no remonstrance and all members voted yay.

REGULAR AGENDA

Government/Miscellaneous

3. R042420 – A Resolution of the City of Fishers Establishing a Health Department: - Signed Adoption
   - Mayor Scott Fadness discussed the statistics and challenges in Fishers and Hamilton County for COVID-19 since it reached Hamilton County on March 6, 2020
   - Mayor Fadness stated that the services are not duplicated. Fishers will collaborate with Hamilton County Health Department to provide services to Fishers residents. We can contract with the county to do the work that Fishers can’t do. All tax dollars that went to Hamilton County Health Department to pay for their services will now go to Fishers.
   - Cecilia Coble asked members if they had any questions or comments:
     o David George asked if the free tests were for any resident symptoms or not. What if the tests changes, can our current lab still do the testing? Is there a quota of tests that must be done for the lab to do the tests? What will the business have to pay for the testing? Will the city health department be handling all the functions required? What is the future of the health department if things go back to normal? Is there a limit on the business loans? Where will the funds come from?
     o Todd Zimmerman - Is the 2 million a one-time allotment for testing or will it be an annual expense? It is imperative for us to act now and not wait for the federal, state or county government. This is not a critique of each entity. We are responsible for our citizens.
     o Brad DeReamer - We need to get going. Is the resident testing for those within the corporate boundaries?
     o Mayor Fadness said only tax paying Fishers residents.
     o Samantha DeLong - Where will the Health Department be located?
Mayor Fadness said the department will be in Fire Station 91.

John Weingardt - The tax revenue will be about $500,000 annually from the county back to Fishers to offset cost of the Health Department.

Jocelyn Vare – Why is the city health department needed? What deficiency with the county health department have you experienced? Will local control do better?

Mayor Fadness said there has not been a deficiency or about what has been done or not done. It gives the city the opportunity to customize services and look forward. It will help educate us. It will help take some of the workload off the county.

Mayor Fadness sent a letter to the board of the Health Department on Thursday to advise them of the city’s intentions.

Ed Gebhart said we need to be prepared for the next round of the virus and collaborate with others.

Jocelyn Vare asked for the vote to be postponed one week so more conversations can be had.

Pete Peterson did not have any comments or questions.

Selina Stoller – It is important to do the testing and capture the data.

Pete Peterson made a motion to approve resolution R042420, a Resolution of the City of Fishers Establishing a Health Department. Selina Stoller seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken by City Clerk, Jennifer Kehl.

Cecilia Coble, Brad DeReamer, John Weingardt, Samantha DeLong, Todd Zimmerman, Selina Stoller, David George, and Pete Peterson voted yay. Jocelyn Vare voted nay. The vote was 8 yay and 1 nay. The motion passed.

**Budget/Financial**

4. **R042420A – A Resolution of the City of Fishers Establishing a Local Fund to Support the Health Department:**

- Signed Adoption

  Mayor Fadness said we will be partnering with Community North for the COVID-19 testing. Mid America Clinical Laboratories will be doing the lab tests. Two million will be used from the surplus to pay for the testing and PPE supplies.

  Fishers residents will be tested for free. Businesses can have their employees tested but will have to pay for the services.

  The City of Fishers will be partnering with One Zone to assist with small business loans.

  $500,000 will come from the sale of the Meyer Najem building and is not tied to any general operating fund.

  Cecilia Coble asked members if they had any questions or comments:

  - Jocelyn Vare said she agrees with the free tests for the residents, PPE kits, the loans to small businesses, tracing and tracking but not the health department

  - There were no other questions or comments from the other city council members.

  Pete Peterson made a motion to approve resolution R042420A, a Resolution of the City of Fishers Establishing a Local Fund to Support the Health Department. Todd Zimmerman seconded the motion.

  A roll call vote was taken by City Clerk, Jennifer Kehl.

  Cecilia Coble, Brad DeReamer, John Weingardt, Samantha DeLong, Todd Zimmerman, Selina Stoller, David George, Jocelyn Vare and Pete Peterson voted yay. There was no remonstrance and all members voted yay. The motion passed.
REGULAR ITEMS

5. Any other Unfinished / New Business
   o None

6. Community Comment
   o See attached

7. Meeting Adjournment
   o Todd Zimmerman made a motion to adjourn at 12:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]

Jennifer L. Kehl
City Clerk
Formstack Submission For: Public Meeting Comment Form
Submitted at 04/24/20 9:08 AM

Name: STEVEN IRVIN

Address: ACUITY ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS, LLC
7965 E 106TH ST SUITE 128
FISHERS, IN 46038

Email: IRVIN@ACUITYES.COM

Please select the meeting to which you would like to submit a public comment:

Special City Council Meeting - 4/24/2020

Project Name/Number: Create a Health Department

Redevelopment Commission Comment:

Town Hall Building Corporation Comment:

Public Works & Safety Board (4/13/2020) Comment:

City Council Comment:

Board of Zoning Appeals Comment:

Nickel Plate Review Committee Comment:

Plat Committee Comment:
Acuity Environmental Solutions supports the creation of a Fishers Health Department. One of the biggest challenges for people living and working in Fishers is the fear of the unknown with respect to COVID19. Knowing if we are positive or negative for COVID19 provides either an alert to seek early tele-medicine supervision, or helps a "negative" person to heighten awareness of their environment and emphasis on avoiding exposure pathways. We also support the Fishers Health Department move towards testing for virus antibodies.

Would you like to receive email communications and updates from the City of Fishers?:

Yes
Name: Jeff Holmes
Address: 818 Sunblest Boulevard
         Fishers, IN 46038
Email: jeffholmes@alumni.purdue.edu

Please select the meeting to which you would like to submit a public comment: Special City Council Meeting - 4/24/2020
Project Name/Number: COVID-19 Recovery Plan - Fishers Health Department Formation
Special City Council Meeting Comment

To all present for the Fishers City Council meeting held on April 24 at 11:00 AM -

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment. My name is Jeff Holmes. I have lived in Fishers for 15 years. During that time I have seen many changes; some of those changes have been wonderful and some have been somewhat less than wonderful. I have graciously withheld my views on municipal government for those 15 years but recent developments have prompted me to speak out.

I am providing comment today on the subject of the proposed COVID-19 recovery plan. Specifically I am writing to state my views on the proposed formation of a Fishers Health Department. Both a Hamilton County Health Department and a State of Indiana Department of Health already exist and, in my humble opinion, the formation of a Fishers Health Department is an example of broad local government overreach and frivolous spending.

Quoting the website, "www.fishersrecovery.com" which details the framework of the plan, "The Fishers Health Department will manage the operations of extensive contact tracing to limit additional infections in our community using advanced data analytics and technological solutions in addition to traditional contact interview methods." First of all, the two departments listed above are already doing that. Secondly, I have rarely seen such a large accumulation of hot button buzzwords in one sentence. Quite honestly, it sounds like someone trying to sell something which cannot stand on its own merit. Additionally, the remainder of that website doesn't appear to be a proposal worthy of a $2.5 million dollar price tag.

Quoting Mayor Fadness in an Indianapolis Star article from 23 April, "For far too long municipalities and mayors have only focused on the infrastructure, public safety, and economic development of their cities." I would like to see Mayor Fadness’ focus stay on those subjects, letting the already well-formed and highly functioning departments of the county and state do their jobs.

In closing, I'm asking for a "no" vote with regard to the Fishers COVID-19 recovery plan in its entirety. To me it just feels too full of fluff, pork and half-formed ideas. There are plenty of things Fishers can do right now but the recovery plan as it currently exists isn't it.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jeff Holmes

Would you like to receive email communications and updates from the City of Fishers? Yes
Name: Steve Andresd
Address: 7699 Prairievie Dr  
           Fishers, IN 46038
Email: steve@ace-air.com

Please select the meeting to which you  
would like to submit a public comment: Special City Council Meeting - 4/24/2020

Project Name/Number: Special City County meeting

Special City Council Meeting Comment: The city does not need to be spending 2 million dollars on a city health  
department. We have that already with the county.

Would you like to receive email  
communications and updates from the  
City of Fishers?: Yes
Name: Andy Murphy

Address: 16593 Grappa Trail
Fishers, IN 46037

Email: andymurphy@sbcglobal.net

Please select the meeting to which you would like to submit a public comment: Special City Council Meeting - 4/24/2020

Project Name/Number: Dates above have passed since this email was sent to us.

Special City Council Meeting Comment: Our property taxes in Britton Falls have gone up each year. In our area (Olio Road and 126th) the last 4 years. We have an abundance of schools and churches that are in our backyard that pay no taxes. What is the plan to bring tax relief to our area and city? Britton Falls is an excellent place to live, but we are concerned that the tax increase will price is out of our homes.

I thank you for addressing these concerns with your thoughts. Right now, many businesses in our area may go under and that will cause even more problems for home owners. How can we help you, Mayor Fadness? Would love to see you run for Governor one day or another higher office.
Sincerely, J Murphy
317-432-9804

Would you like to receive email communications and updates from the City of Fishers? Yes
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>John Biermann</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>12305 Blue Springs Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fishers, IN 46037</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jbiermann@me.com">jbiermann@me.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Please select the meeting to which you would like to submit a public comment</td>
<td>Special City Council Meeting - 4/24/2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Name/Number</td>
<td>City Health Dept proposal</td>
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<td>Special City Council Meeting Comment</td>
<td>This proposed city health department is a clear duplication of services provided by the county and state. It is a waste of taxpayers' money. At the very least the proposal should not be steamrolled for a vote so quickly with the council members and public limited in the time it can gather more information. I would call on the mayor to show more professional leadership, delay action, and share the information he has with everyone in the city, since it impacts every resident. We need time to digest whatever information he claims supports this idea.</td>
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I heard today from Mayor Fadness that part of his reopening plan includes a City Health Department. How is this not a complete duplication of services which are already provided at the county, state, and federal level? The cost, as I understand it will be $2M annually! What services will such a department provide which is not already covered through the previously mentioned departments? Surely, as our local businesses struggle and as organizations are plagued with gathering restrictions, there are better uses for taxpayer dollars than inflating the city government of Fishers. As a taxpayer, citizen, and believer of fiscal responsibility, I cannot support this agenda item, and I very strongly request this vote be delayed so that City Council can make an informed decision in the days and weeks to come. We have survived without a City Health Department before and can live without one for another month or two as the council members research and determine the effectiveness of such a department.
Name: Jack Russell
Address: 8770 North Street
         Fishers, IN 46038
Email: jack@onezonecommerce.com

Please select the meeting to which you would like to submit a public comment: Special City Council Meeting - 4/24/2020

Project Name/Number: R042420A - A Resolution of the City of Fishers Establishing a Local Fund to Support the Health Department.

Special City Council Meeting Comment: Hello Council Members,

We ask that you vote yes to R042420A - A Resolution of the City of Fishers Establishing a Local Fund to Support the Health Department. During these difficult times our business community, both small and large, have stepped up significantly. As we begin to reopen the Fishers Community we believe that this resolution provides a future focused solution to businesses.

Small businesses around the world have been hit hard. We are proud to partner with the City of Fishers on the Start-Up and Recovery Loan Program. We believe a program like this can help small businesses in Fishers. Our business owners are our neighbors, friends, and such a key piece of what makes Fishers such a special place to live, work, and play. This program and each piece of the resolution is letting the businesses in Fishers know that the city is here for them.

Again, we ask you to vote yes to R042420A - A Resolution of the City of Fishers Establishing a Local Fund to Support the Health Department.

Thank you,

Jack Russell
Interim President
OneZone

Would you like to receive email communications and updates from the City of Fishers? Yes
Name: Joe Herink
Address: 10062 Sanger Dr.
         Fishers, IN 46038
Email: herinkjb@gmail.com

Please select the meeting to which you would like to submit a public comment: Special City Council Meeting - 4/24/2020

Project Name/Number: Fishers Health Department

Special City Council Meeting Comment: Please postpone taking a vote on the matter until city council members have enough information to make an informed decision for their constituents.
Name: Donna Moon

Address: 10818 Davis Way
Fishers, IN 46038

Email: dlering@sbcglobal.net

Please select the meeting to which you would like to submit a public comment: Special City Council Meeting - 4/24/2020

Project Name/Number: Special meeting on City Health Department

Special City Council Meeting Comment: The vote on a city health department needs to be studied and vetted before a vote.
1. How is a new city health department going to be funded at a time when the economy is headed for a recession?
2. Would the $2mm be better spent in partnership with the already established county health department - why do we need a city health department when we have a county one?
3. How will we benefit from a city health department?

I feel that this is being pushed through at a time when many citizens of our city are focused on other things in their life missing the opportunity to be educated on this decision. I ask that a vote be delayed until more public discussions and meetings can be held before we make a long term commitment for our city.

Would you like to receive email communications and updates from the City of Fishers? Yes
Name: Matt Burke
Address: 12574 Promise Creek Lane
          Suite 136
          Fishers, IN 46038
Email: matt@rgindy.com

Special City Council Meeting Comment: As alternate to spend city's "emergency funds", have you considered having companies pay a fee per test? As a business owner, I'd be very comfortable with a fee per test of $20-$50.

Would you like to receive email communications and updates from the City of Fishers?: Yes
Name: Dan Shank
Address: 13993 Royalwood Dr
          Fishers, IN 46037
Email: dhshank@hotmail.com

Please select the meeting to which you would like to submit a public comment:
Special City Council Meeting - 4/24/2020

Project Name/Number: Health Department

Special City Council Meeting Comment: Postpone the vote for a city health department. I do not want the city creating new layers of government this quickly before it can be discussed further nor spending new money before we know the economic impact of the pandemic.

Would you like to receive email communications and updates from the City of Fishers? Yes
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<th><strong>Name</strong></th>
<th>Diane Whelchel</th>
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<td><strong>Address</strong></td>
<td>15915 E 126th St</td>
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<td>Fishers, IN 46037</td>
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<td><strong>Email</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:dianwhelchel@hotmail.com">dianwhelchel@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Special City Council Meeting Comment</strong></td>
<td>Why do we need a health department when we are already supported by the county and state?</td>
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<td><strong>Would you like to receive email communications and updates from the City of Fishers?</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Name</strong></td>
<td>Gary Pupurs</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **Address**    | 15451 McClarnden Dr  
Fishers, IN 46040-5509|
| **Email**      | garyrp@gmail.com |
| **Please select the meeting to which you would like to submit a public comment** | Special City Council Meeting - 4/24/2020 |
| **Project Name/Number** | Proposed Public Health Department formation |
Special City Council Meeting Comment

I am opposed to the Council voting today on a new public health department and $2 million in reserves funding, after less than 24 hours notice to council members and the public, and urge the Council to postpone the vote so that a more informed, researched decision can be made.

While we are indeed in a national crisis, testing supplies are not yet widely available today to expand existing testing programs, so taking a week to discuss the merits of this very expensive testing program proposal is warranted and justifiable. A new department deserves public review and public comment for consideration by the Council, even during a pandemic. It could be weeks or months before a completely new department would be effectively staffed and equipped, and the City has not yet announced what the ongoing annual budget for running this new department would cost taxpayers, how the additional future costs will be funded (especially given likely tax revenue shortfalls for at least 1-2 years), or how roles and responsibilities would be split or duplicated with the existing county health department.

I read the City’s testing and recovery plan proposal at FishersRecovery.com, and while the goals and proposed actions are laudable, I see nothing that cannot be accomplished by the existing, experienced staff of the County’s public health department or Fishers’ existing Economic Development office. Nor was any information presented on why Hamilton County itself cannot handle the testing program. The argument that we will not attract future talent, consumers, or economic opportunities without a city health department strikes me as specious. The need for a temporary epidemic testing program and business safety guidelines is not adequate justification to form an entire public health department. It is unclear what the ongoing need for this department would be that cannot be met by Hamilton County, once the world solves the COVID-19 crisis.

Carmel, Westfield and Fishers blend into each other, with extensive travel and commerce between them, so any virus testing solution must be county-wide, not city-specific, if it is to be effective in tracking, tracing, and preventing outbreaks.

I suggest the City and Council instead consider appointing a "Fishers Public Health Liason", perhaps housed in the county’s health department, to communicate and coordinate with Hamilton County, Indianapolis, and Indiana public health officials and departments within City of Fishers, rather than forming a new department.

The City and Council could also consider approving funding grants to assist Hamilton County Health Department with implementing any new COVID-related programs the City desires, including expanded widespread testing, outbreak surveillance, and reporting throughout the county. We should fully explore the viability of such leaner, more agile solutions before agreeing to add new bureaucracy to the city’s administrative structure when
current and future budgets are likely to be constrained.

I completely support additional, ongoing community testing and contact tracing (including random samples of "healthy" asymptomatic individuals, such as by pre-screening dental cleaning patients or random employee testing). Indeed, increased testing and tracing capacity are two of the requirements I need to see before my family will resume spending money at any non-essential businesses, regardless of when the governor or mayor decides to allow them to open.

However, no evidence has been presented so far that this need for testing must be met through a new, inexperienced public health department within the City, when our county's existing department has been already working on COVID-19 for several months and presumably would be better staffed and equipped to implement any new community testing program or business guidelines more quickly, competently, and likely at lower cost.

Thanks for considering my comments in your decision today (and hopefully in your postponed future decision). I look forward to reviewing any additional evidence that could change my mind, and appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts with you.

Sincerely,
Gary Pupurs
Fishers IN
Would you like to receive email communications and updates from the City of Fishers? Yes
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Name</strong></th>
<th>Geoffrey Miller</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Address**     | 9760 River Oak Lane E  
                     Fishers, IN 46038 |
| **Email**       | g.miller24@gmail.com |
| **Project Name/Number** | City Health Department |
| **Special City Council Meeting Comment** | The city should not rush to establish a new health department. The city council should be provided much more information to understand how this would be sustainable investment during this time and in the future, as well as how this effects the services provided by the county health department. Do not rush this decision - other alternatives can be pursued to deliver health services to residents during the pandemic. |
Name: Tina Siefert
Address: 10860 Thistle Ridge
           Fishers, IN 46038
Email: tsiefert@yahoo.com

Please select the meeting to which you would like to submit a public comment:
Special City Council Meeting - 4/24/2020

Project Name/Number: Special City Council meeting to form a City Health Department

Special City Council Meeting Comment:
This is a ridiculous overreach of government power and has been hastily conceived, with little regard to future funding and the effect on taxpayers already burdened by city government overspending. There needs to be a lot more discussion and THINKING before establishing a city department. A task force to work on these issues? Maybe. A whole new department? Absurd.

Would you like to receive email communications and updates from the City of Fishers?
Yes
Name: Traci Hardin

Address: 11787 Lantern Road, Suite 100, Meyer Najem
Meyer Najem
Fishers, IN 46038

Email: trhardin@meyer-najem.com

Please select the meeting to which you would like to submit a public comment:
Special City Council Meeting - 4/24/2020

Project Name/Number: Meyer Najem Construction - (317) 557-4704

Special City Council Meeting Comment: As Fishers continues to grow in both residents and businesses, approving to have a health department is critical to the City's infrastructure systems. The city health department can provide professionals and support needed to ensure both the City & State Health guidelines are implemented and in place for businesses as well as provide those critical services that may be needed during public health emergencies. They can be a partner to the many local schools, health services, social services, retail services including our local police and fire department services.
Name: Dan Harper
Address: 13902 Carolina Ct
         Fishers, IN 46038
Email: dan67harper@gmail.com

Please select the meeting to which you would like to submit a public comment:
1. Special City Council Meeting - 4/24/2020
2. Fishers Board of Health - 4/27/2020

Project Name/Number: RO42420A

Fishers Board of Health Comment: I can't express how disappointed I am with this resolution and if it passes my wife and I vote Democratic straight ticket for Fishers. As a conservative I can't support this or anyone who votes in the affirmative.

Special City Council Meeting Comment: I can't express how disappointed I am with this resolution and if it passes my wife and I vote Democratic straight ticket for Fishers. As a conservative I can't support this or anyone who votes in the affirmative.