

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY  
CITY OF HOBART, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA  
April 19, 2023**

**Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag:** Mr. Snedecor called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held with the building open to the public and a call-in number for remote public participation.

**Roll Call:** The following members were present: Mr. Lain, Mrs. Longer, and Mr. Snedecor. Also present: City Attorney McCarthy.

**Reading of Minutes:** Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mrs. Longer, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of April 5, 2023 and the minutes of the special meeting of April 12, 2023 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Correspondence:** Mr. Snedecor stated that there was a vehicle/bus accident this morning. There were no injuries reported.

**Approval of Register of Claims and Payroll Claims:** Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Snedecor, to accept and sign the register of claims and payroll claims as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Approval of Agenda:** Mr. Snedecor asked that the ratification of approval be added for the First Group Engineering Contract and the signing of the mylars for Clay Parkway Business Park. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Lain, to approve the agenda as amended. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Unfinished Business:**

**Continued: Update/Review: Unsafe Building: re: 4035 Missouri St.:** No one was present for this matter. Building Official Karen Hansen stated that she spoke to Mr. Yoldash, who is a representative of the property owner and stated he was in a car accident and requested that this matter be continued to the next meeting. Karen stated that she would recommend continuing this matter to the May 3, 2023 meeting of the Board. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mrs. Longer to continue this matter to the May 3, 2023 meeting. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Continued: Update/Review: Retention Pond: Cressmoor Estates:** No one was present for this matter. MS4 Coordinator Tim Kingsland stated that the stop work order has been lifted. Lot 86 and the Retention Pond have been mitigated and they are waiting on the closeout report for lot 86. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Lain to remove this item from the agenda and turn this over to the Building Department and City Engineer for final follow-up as needed. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Continued: Update/Status: Unsafe Building: re: 235 Main St.:** Attorney Riffai and Attorney Robbins were both present for this matter. It was stated that the owner intends to get this property operating again. Attorney Robbins stated that a new contractor has been hired, John Doppler, and is ready to do the work. City Planner Ross Pietrzak stated that he received a phone call months ago to go over what is needed for the Historic Preservation Committee, and he hasn't heard anything since yesterday, when Mr. Killian submitted the application but there was no scope of work listed. Building Official Karen Hansen stated that this property has been in front of this Board 10 times in the last 8 months and there has been no progress after additional time has been given to make the necessary repairs. No permits have been obtained and not one improvement on the property has been made since last June. The structure is unsafe and is a public nuisance. The lack of maintenance has caused this building to fall into disrepair over the years. The property is vacant and not maintained in a manner that would allow occupancy. Due to the deteriorating conditions of the structure, Karen

is requesting removal of this unsafe building and grading of the remaining property. Fire Marshal Ron Reed stated that this building is extremely unsafe and if there was a fire, no firefighters could go inside to fight the fire, they would have to try and fight it from the outside. He stated that this building has a high risk of danger not only to the firefighters, but to the public as well. He recommended demolition of this property. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Lain to schedule a special meeting of the Board for April 26, 2023 at 9:00 am, owners to provide a signed contract with a licensed contractor, including a scope of work including Historic Preservation application and a date of completion. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Update on Compliance of Property Violations: Safe Haven, 7931 Iowa St.:** Mark Mulroe was present telephonically. He stated the cleanup has been happening as well as the work getting started. Mark stated that pictures have been sent to show the progress that is being made. He also stated that the contractor McAlister is done surveying and will be onsite to start working on Monday. MS4 Coordinator Tim Kingsland stated that progress was being made and recommends this be continued for completion to the May 3, 2023 meeting. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mrs. Longer to continue this matter for completion by the May 3, 2023 meeting. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**New Business:**

**Request for Temporary Sign Placement: USPS Annual Food Drive "NALC Stamp Out Hunger" Food Drive May 6 – 13, 2023:** Laura for USPS was present in person. She stated that the signs will be placed in the same locations as the previous years. A list of the locations will be provided to the building department. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mrs. Longer to approve the temporary sign placement for the NALC food drive from May 6-13, 2023. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Request for Block Party: Cypress Lane, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1pm-11pm:** Shannon Markusic was present in person. She stated that the plan is the same as last year. There were no objections from the Police Department or Fire Department. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to approve the block party on Cypress Lane on July 3, 2023, from 1pm-11pm. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

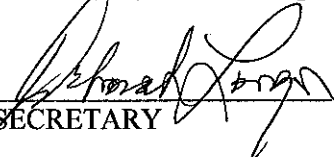
**Ratify: First Group Engineering; Engineering Services Contract: LaSalle to 49<sup>th</sup> Ave.:** Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Lain to ratify the mayor's action in approving the engineering services contract with First Group Engineering for the LaSalle to 49<sup>th</sup> Ave. project with an amount not to exceed \$180,665.00. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

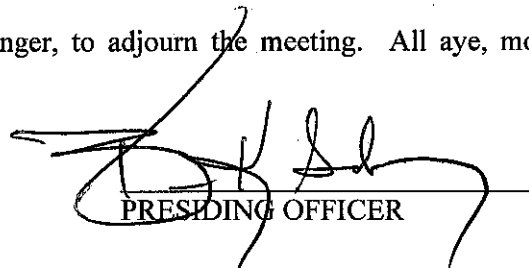
**Signing of Mylars: 1-lot subdivision Clay Parkway Business Park:** City Planner Ross Pietrzak stated the City has 2 bonds on file for this project. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mrs. Longer to approve the signing of the mylars for 1-lot subdivision Clay Parkway Business Park as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Announcements** Councilman Mark Kopil stated that he has received complains of semi-trucks using their jake brakes on Mississippi St. Mark stated he contacted Merrillville and they will be placing signs on the southbound lane and was requesting that Hobart do the same for the northbound lane. City Attorney McCarthy stated that only signs that are within the Uniform Traffic Code can be placed, and the City Engineer can look into this to verify the information.

Mr. Snedecor asked if there was anyone who wished to address the Board and there was no response.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mrs. Longer, to adjourn the meeting. All aye, motion carried. (3-0) The meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

  
SECRETARY

  
PRESIDING OFFICER