

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY  
CITY OF HOBART, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA  
June 17, 2020**

**Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag:** Mr. Snedecor called the meeting to order at 3:31 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 and Admin. Asst. C. Govert.

**Reading of Minutes:** Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mrs. Longer, to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 3, 2020 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

City Attorney McCarthy advised the public to mute their phones to allow the Board of Works to conduct business and Mr. Snedecor would ask if anyone would like to speak to an issue as the Board went through their agenda.

**Correspondence:** Update: Third Street Bridge Project: Brandon Towle, BF&S, was present and distributed a status update. ICC returned to the jobsite in March and has remained on site with their masonry contractor, Paul's Construction, ever since. After scaffolding was set, Paul's began setting limestone piers and masonry façade over the arch sections. Once complete, they worked on the wing walls and the top of the bridge along the future sidewalk. Moving forward, ICC plans to remove the remaining cofferdam sheets this week. The bases for the railing along the top of the bridge will be installed simultaneously. It is expected that we will begin concrete curbs and sidewalk by the end of the month.

**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:** Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mrs. Longer, to approve the agenda as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Order to Appear: Property Maintenance/Nuisance Violations: Nikola Tomich, re: 2411 E. 10<sup>th</sup> St.:** Mr. Tomich was not present in person or telephonically. Lt. Russo was not present, he provided a written update for the Board: I served Mr. Tomich a letter giving him 10 business days to be in compliance. Upon my follow up on the 10<sup>th</sup> day I found 90% compliance. Based on his efforts I allowed him to continue his own clean-up of the property, as to not incur any further cost to the City of Hobart above what has already been expended. Upon my follow up on June 12, 2020 I found full compliance made. This item can be removed from the Board of Works agenda for full compliance. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Lain, to accept compliance and remove this matter from the agenda upon the recommendation from Lt. Russo. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Update: Unsafe Building: US Bank National Association, re: 1317 S. Lake Park Ave:** Attorney Krenson was present telephonically and gave a brief update noting that the bankruptcy may be dismissed at a June 26<sup>th</sup> hearing for failure to make a payment plan with the trustee. It is their plan to take care of the roof,

grass, and tree issues once the bankruptcy is dismissed. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Lain, to set this matter over for an update at the July 1, 2020 meeting of the Board of Works. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Update: Unsafe Building: Karen Boruff, re: 229 N. Ohio St.:** Ms. Boruff was not present in person or telephonically. Mr. Snedecor noted that the grass had been mowed. Mr. Hannigan said that he has met with Ms. Boruff and Randy Ralls from Service Doctor. The total cost for repairs could amount to \$35,000. Mr. Ralls contacted Mr. Hannigan and as of today there is no formalized agreement. Attorney McCarthy said that the taxes are delinquent and if the property goes to tax sale the City would not be able to claim the money from liens that were filed prior to the sale. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain, to continue this matter to the July 1, 2020 meeting of the Board of works; if there is no formal agreement or contract for repairs at that time, the City will begin the process to demolish the property. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Update: Unsafe Building: Master Guys Demolition, Inc. re: 512 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St., and 347-349 Main St.:** Mr. Gielazyn was present. Zoning Administrator, Mr. Pieterzak stated that the Historical Preservation Commission approved the Certificate of Appropriateness as to the 4<sup>th</sup> St. property with conditions. Mr. Gielazyn took a moment to review the conditions and is willing to comply with the conditions set by the Commission. Mr. Pieterzak noted that the work should be significantly completed within 90 days. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain, to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness with conditions set by the Historical Preservation Commission for the 4<sup>th</sup> St. property and review this matter as to the Main St. property at the August 5, 2020 meeting of the Board of Works. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Update: Site Plan Compliance Issues: Omar Alburei, Hobart Auto, re: 1165 W. 37<sup>th</sup> Ave:** Mr. Alburei was not present in person or telephonically. Mr. Pieterzak said that Mr. Alburei did not file a site plan in time for the last meeting. He noted that the signs have been removed and the cars moved. The next filing date is July 7<sup>th</sup>. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Lain, to set this matter over for an update at the July 15, 2020 meeting of the Board of Works. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Consideration of Contract Extension (1<sup>st</sup> Option) for Disposal of Solid Waste & Recyclables:** Mr. Snedecor noted that this approval is for Option 1 in the current contract with Republic Services from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 in the amount of \$58.85 per ton. Public Works Supt., Mr. Laco recommends approval. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain, to approve Option 1 of the contract with Republic Services d/b/a: Illiana Disposal Partnership from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 in the amount of \$58.85 per ton as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Request for Curb Removal, Repair and Replacement: Accurate Curb Cutting re: 502 Wabash Pl.:** Mr. Pietrzak has reviewed the plans with City Engineer, Mr. Gralik, and they recommend approval. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to approve the curb removal, repair, and replacement as requested. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Consideration of Various Issues: (Tree in Easement, Reduce Easement, Storm Drainage) Ms. Layne re: 3054 W. 39<sup>th</sup> Ave:** Ms. Layne was present and said she would like to have a tree that is about to fall removed from the utility easement. She explained that NIPSCO cut a tree down and never removed it and when it rains it pushes into the standing tree. Mr. Laco said he went to the property to inspect but was unable to access the property. The owner said that if he calls her, she will meet up with him.

Ms. Layne is requesting a reduction of an easement located on the south side of her property because 8' of

her house sits in the easement. Mr. Pieterzak explained that it is a 30' utility easement. There are utility poles located along the southern property line at the edge of the easement. If the Board is willing to entertain the reduction or vacate request, a partial vacation would be a more advisable route. The Board should also request a plat of vacation by a licensed surveyor and documentation from NIPSCO and any other utilities indicating support for the vacation. The Planning Department can then advise the homeowner as they prepare a complete vacation submittal.

Ms. Layne also would like to have a ditch or pipe installed on the City easement to help prevent flooding of her backyard. Mr. Kingsland, MS4 Coordinator has advised Ms. Layne to have this request be presented to the Hobart Sanitary District for their consideration and review.

Mr. Laco, Mr. Pieterzak and Mr. Kingsland will follow up with the owner.

**Request to Remove Shrubs at Corner of Decatur and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets:** Ms. Rainey was not present in person or telephonically. Capt. Ciszewski said that the shrubs on the south east corner are over-grown, but they are on private property, he suggests a 3-way stop at this location which could solve this problem. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mrs. Longer, to **deny** the request to remove shrubs as they are on private property. All aye, motion carried. (3-0) Request denied.

**Request for Stop Sign: Intersection of 10<sup>th</sup> and Decatur Streets:** Capt. Ciszewski was present and noted that a 3-way stop sign at this location will work, with 2 of the signs being LED flashing for a time to get the public accustomed to new signs. Mr. Laco said he can put up "Stop Sign Ahead" signs between Csokasy and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mrs. Longer, to approve a 3-way stop at the intersection of 10<sup>th</sup> and Decatur Streets as recommended by the HPD. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Signing of Mylars: for a 1-lot subdivision (Hobart Assembly of God Subdivision) at 7545 E. Ridge Road located 0.27 Mile west from the SW corner of Ridge Road and State Road 51, zoned R-2 & B-3, 9.177 acres +/-:** Mr. Pietrzak said the Plan Commission has approved the subdivision and no bond is required. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mrs. Longer, to approve the subdivision and sign the mylars as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Request for Sidewalk Waiver: Hobart Assembly God Church, re: 7545 E. Ridge Rd.:** Mr. Hannigan recommends approval of the sidewalk waiver. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Snedecor, to grant the sidewalk waiver for 1 year or until such time as the City determines the sidewalk must be installed at the owner's expense. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Announcements:** 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 4:35 p.m.

  
SECRETARY

  
PRESIDING OFFICER