

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
CITY OF HOBART, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
January 3, 2024**

Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag: Mayor Huddlestun called the meeting to order at 3:30 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: Ms. Galka, Mrs. Longer, and Mr. Huddlestun. Also present: City Attorney McCarthy.

Reading of Minutes: Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Ms. Galka, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of December 20, 2023 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Correspondence: Police Chief Ciszewski stated that the police department has switched to 12 hours shifts and although it is still early, it seems to be going well. Chief Ciszewski also stated that they will be having their appointments of new appointed positions on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 3:00 pm in the Council Chambers.

Approval of Register of Claims and Payroll Claims: Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Ms. Galka, to accept and sign the register of claims and payroll claims as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Ms. Galka, seconded by Mrs. Longer, to approve the agenda as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Tabled: Consideration of Construction Inspection Contract: 61st Ave & Marcella Roundabout: Mr. Huddlestun stated that he has not had a chance to go over this contract and asked that this item remain on the table. This item will remain on the table.

NEW BUSINESS:

Acceptance of Uniform Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement: For Josh Huddlestun: motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Ms. Galka to accept the Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Statement. All aye, motion carried. (2-0) Mr. Huddlestun abstained.

Request for a Sidewalk Waiver: re: 667 N. Hobart Rd.: Pete Voris was present in person representing Mark Foreit until he arrives at the meeting. Zoning Administrator Connor Miller stated that part of his site plan approval was the sidewalk waiver for ADA compliance. Ms. Galka stated that this was discussed at the Plan Commission and approved with the waiver. Mrs. Longer asked if they knew that the waiver was good for one year or until such time the City determines that a sidewalk needs to be put in at the cost of the owner. Attorney McCarthy stated that this item be deferred down on the agenda until Mr. Foreit arrives.

Consideration of Board of Works Appointment to Plan Commission for 2024 (1 year term): Ms. Galka accepted a request to remain on the Plan Commission. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Huddlestun to approve Maria Galka as the Board of Works Appointment to the Plan Commission for 2024. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Consideration of 2024 Crossing Guard Contracts: Police Chief Ciszewski stated that the crossing guards are very loyal employees, and they are looking for more crossing guards. Attorney McCarthy stated that she

has reviewed the employment agreements, and all are in order. Motion by Ms. Galka, seconded by Mrs. Longer to approve the 2024 crossing guard agreements as presented. All aye, motion carried. (2-0) Mr. Huddlestun abstained.

Request for a Sidewalk Waiver: re: 667 N. Hobart Rd.: Mr. Foreit was present for this matter. Mrs. Longer stated to Mr. Foreit that the waiver was good for one year or until such time the City determines that a sidewalk needs to be put in at the cost of the owner. Mr. Foreit did not know that, but he is okay with the stipulations. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Ms. Galka to approve the sidewalk waiver for one year or until such time the City determines that a sidewalk needs to be put in at the cost of the owner. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

UNSAFE BUILDING AUTHORITY BUSINESS:

Update on Unsafe Building / Fine Payment Status: 4035 Missouri St., Indiana Land Trust: Ibrahim Yoldash was present for this matter. Attorney McCarthy stated that Mr. Yoldash requested this be added to the agenda regarding a fine that was imposed due to the failure to obtain an occupancy permit by December 1, 2023 and the fine was to be paid by December 31, 2023 and it was not. Mrs. Longer stated that the fine was imposed on August 16, 2023 which Mr. Yoldash was present. The motion was made to show substantial compliance, the fine of \$500.00 to be paid by December 31, 2023, and the Board would have waived the fine if an occupancy permit was obtained by December 1, 2023. Mr. Yoldash stated that he was waiting for a phone call from Karen Hansen to schedule the inspection with the Building Inspector. Mr. Yoldash stated that the home is ready for occupancy. Karen Hansen stated that there was communication on December 18, 2023 from the legal department that Mr. Yoldash was requested to call. Karen did contact Mr. Yoldash and asked if the work was complete, and he stated it was complete. Karen stated that no occupancy permit has been applied for. Motion by Mr. Huddlestun, seconded by Ms. Galka to leave the fine in place and to work with the Building Department to get the final inspections done and obtain an occupancy permit. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Announcements: Mr. Huddlestun announced that the January 17, 2024 meeting of the Board would be cancelled and the next Board of Works meeting will be February 7, 2024 at 3:30 pm.

Jake Dammarell from BF&S stated that the INDOT letting process for the 61st & Marcella roundabout will take place on January 16, 2024. The bid process will take place and be awarded to the lowest and responsible bidder at which the City will deposit with INDOT, 20% of the low bid. Jake stated that with the contract being tabled, and inspections are needed for the project, no reimbursements will be done until the agreement is signed and approved. The utilities are initiating work and still have a lot of work to do. Mr. Huddlestun stated that a special meeting may be called if necessary.

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

Adjournment: Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Ms. Galka, to adjourn the meeting. All aye, motion carried. (3-0) The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.


SECRETARY


PRESIDING OFFICER