

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY  
CITY OF HOBART, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA  
April 6, 2022**

**Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag:** Mr. Snedecor 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: Mr. Lain and Mr. Snedecor. Absent: Mrs. Longer. Also present: City Attorney McCarthy.

**Reading of Minutes:** Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Snedecor, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of March 16, 2022 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

**Correspondence:** There was no correspondence.

**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. (2-0)

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Snedecor to approve the agenda as presented. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Review/Update: Code Violations/Junk & Parking issues: Alfred Kirkland, re: 1500 E. 6<sup>th</sup> St.: Code Enforcement Officer Tyler Wilk:** Mr. Kirkland was present and stated that the items have been cleaned up. Officer Wilk was not present in this matter. Mr. Snedecor stated that he was at the property today and it appeared the property was cleaned up and advised that before this matter could be dismissed, it will need to be confirmed by Officer Wilk that Mr. Kirkland is indeed in compliance. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to rescind the \$1,000.00 fine and set this matter for compliance review at the April 20, 2022 meeting. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

**Order to Appear: Property issues: Nick Karounos, re: 236 Main Street:** Jim Pappas, Managing Partner was present in person. Jim stated that they will be doing the work for 236 and 238 Main St. at the same time. Permits have been pulled and brick has been purchased, but the electrical supplies are about 4 weeks out. Nick will be coming in on Monday to take the General Contractor test so the license can be obtained. Mr. Gralik noted the electrical meters on the backside of the building will need to be relocated as the wall needs to be replaced. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to set this matter for update at the May 4, 2022 meeting as well as bringing in proof of contract with a timeline when the work will be done. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

**Order to Appear: Property compliance: Tomas Gielazyn, re: 512 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St., and 347 / 349 Main St.:** Mr. Gielazyn was not present. City Planner Ross Pietrzak stated that the building is secured and closed up and the owner is working with the Historic Preservation. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to set this matter for review and update at the April 20, 2022 meeting. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

**Continued: Request to Eliminate Parking Space: re: Center Street parallel to mailboxes: Sandra Paulson:** Mr. Snedecor said that eliminating this parking place makes sense. When exiting the lot, it does cause an issue with vision of the cross traffic. Public Works Director Kelly Smith stated that once the weather permits, the curb can be painted yellow for "no parking". If the yellow paint on the curb is not

working and being recognized as "no parking" further action can be taken. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Snedecor to approve the painting of the curb yellow from entry to exit on the City parking lot on Center St. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Request for Temporary Sign Placement throughout the City: Letter Carrier's Food Drive May 2022:** Laura Daley: Laura Daley was present in person and stated that the placement of the signs will be in the same locations at the previous years. There will be a total of 23 signs that will be put up a week before the drive and taken down at the end of the day of the Food Drive and a list of the sign placements will be provided to the City. There will also be a banner placed on the fence by the old sewer plant. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Snedecor to approve the Letter Carrier's Food Drive signs placed throughout the City. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

**Request for Stop or Yield signs: N. Shelby Place and E. 38<sup>th</sup> Place:** Veronica Cogdill, 620 Spencer Place: Chief Ciszewski stated that he reviewed this matter and current stop sign placement is troubling and is an accident hazard and recommends a three-way stop be in place at this intersection. A stop sign should be placed North and South on Shelby and East on 38<sup>th</sup>. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Snedecor to approve the additional stop signs placed at North and South on Shelby and East on 38<sup>th</sup>. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

**Request to remove trees from easement: Chris Richardson, re: 525 W. Third St.:** Per Mr. Snedecor these trees are already being removed as part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street improvement program and this item can be removed from the agenda. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Snedecor to remove this item from the agenda. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

**Request for Low Ground Clearance signage: Wisconsin & Colorado RR Crossings Norfolk/Southern:** Phil Gralik: City Engineer Phil Gralik was present and stated that an email was received from INDOT and stated that signage is needed to mark them as Low Ground Clearance as certain trailers, trucks, etc. can get hung up on the tracks. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to install the Low Ground Clearance signage as recommended by INDOT. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

**Request for Use of Easement for access to Temporary Model Parking Plan: Derrick Hoffman, D.R. Horton:** City Engineer Phil Gralik stated that a paved surface would be recommended to make this ADA compliant and a performance bond be issued by DR Horton to cover removal if needed. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to approve the Temporary Model Parking Plan and a performance bond with the request that D.R. Horton provide the necessary passage for ADA requirements where the parking spots will be so ADA requirements are met to connect the sidewalks. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

**Request for Approval of Concrete Replacement on City property: re: rear of 322 Main St.:** Joe Kenjic: Teddian Jackson was present for this matter. He was under the impression that the sidewalk was part of their property, but it is City property. The sidewalk has no public thoroughfare. City Planner Ross Pietrzak stated the design is being reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission this month. Mr. Jackson asked if there was a way that the sidewalk ownership can be transferred from the City to the building. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to continue this matter to the May 4, 2022 meeting so Attorney McCarthy could do legal research to see if there are any restrictions or covenants or anything that would give some guidance as ownership was done some time ago. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

**Request to Add Pavement to Property in Easement: re: 177 Fraser Lane: Enrique Lopez:** The owner was not present. Mr. Snedecor stated that parking is a common issue in this area and several houses have improved surfaces in front of their homes. MS4 Coordinator Tim Kingsland stated that he went to the property today and there are a couple of issues, one of which is the profile of the road. There is a low point, so it holds water. Tim recommended that if approved, that the pad have a pitch to the North towards the storm drain and possibly put an additional inlet in the pad itself to catch any runoff from the street. Tim recommends a surface that will allow the water to permeate through to the ground. This project would require a fill permit. Mr. Gralik noted the property extends to the middle of the road in that area but drainage considerations and a fill permit are still required by the City as it impacts the right-of-way. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to approve the request to add pavement to the property at 177 Fraser Lane based on working with the Engineering Department to find an acceptable plan of action for drainage and placement of this parking pad. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

**Request for Street Sign with Street Name: re: 155 S. Illinois St.: Shirley Best:** Mrs. Best was present in person. She is requesting a street sign for the side street of E. 1<sup>st</sup> Pl. as there is no street sign in place. Mrs. Best stated that there are several parking issues and cars block her driveway. Mr. Snedecor stated that on the maps there are no addresses that front the road from Illinois to Indiana and that is why it is practicality used as an alley but it is a thoroughfare according to City records. Chief Ciszewski stated that he will review this further to see how to legally rectify the situation. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to continue this matter to the May 4, 2022 meeting so the Police Chief and any other departments can do some research to look at the easements and improved surfaces as it may result in more than a parking issue. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

**Approval of First Group Contract: 3<sup>rd</sup> St. from Wisconsin to Ash St.; Delaware St. from Home to Cleveland: Phil Gralik:** City Engineer Phil Gralik advised that this is the construction inspection services agreement and is an hourly/not to exceed agreement for these projects. Phil stated that he believes that this will be less than the contract value as he plans to supplement Alex Olesker, Deputy City Engineer to bring the cost down. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Snedecor to approve the First Group Contract as presented with an amount not to exceed \$228,450.00. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

**Review and Approval of Advertisement for Bids: 37<sup>th</sup> Ave. Water Main Extension: Phil Gralik:** City Engineer Phil Gralik stated that this is the ad for bids that will run on April 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> and the bids will be due on April 20, 2022. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to approve the Advertisement for Bids for the 37<sup>th</sup> Ave. Water Main Extension and sealed bids will need to be received at Hobart City Hall, Clerk-Treasurer's office at or before April 20, 2022 at 10:00 am local time. All aye, motion carried. (2-0)

**Announcements:** Dave Vinzant approached the Board with a couple of issues. He wanted a status report on the Boruff property on Ohio St. Building Official Karen Hansen advised that she and Officer Wilk has started the unsafe building procedure for this property. Attorney McCarthy provided an update on this status as well but things are being addressed via the due process procedures.

Mr. Vinzant also is requesting that the intersection of Cleveland and Colorado become a 4 way stop instead of a 2 way which is what it is currently. The homeowner on the NW corner has trailers parked in the road as well as in their yard. This is a dangerous and blind intersection and has been the scene of accidents. There are school children that walk that route as well. Chief Ciszewski has agreed to do a traffic study and bring that information back to the Board for the April 20, 2022 meeting.

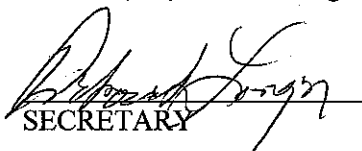
Mr. Vinzant stated that he has had more phone calls regarding the school traffic for Veteran's Elementary. He asked if there was a solution for this as it is becoming more of an issue, especially for those residents on California St. Chief Ciszewski mentioned that he has been working on coming up with solutions to

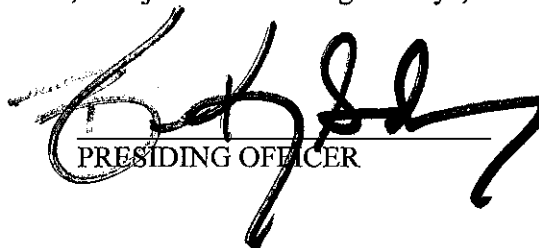
help this issue. He stated that there are 1600' of cars to find a place for. Mr. Snedecor stated that widening Delaware St. is planned for part of this solution and the school is looking at possibly staggered dismissals could alleviate the problem. Chief Ciszewski stated the staggered dismissal would have logistical problems but the department and the school continues to look for a solution. Mr. Vinzant stated the schools should also look at a pick-up lane being installed on/around the field on school property as the City requires of other businesses.

Laura Daley approached the Board and stated that her alley in the 100 block of S. Washington between 2<sup>nd</sup> St. and Cleveland is in poor shape with potholes.

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

**Adjournment:** Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Snedecor, to adjourn the meeting. All aye, motion carried. (2-0) The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

  
SECRETARY

  
PRESIDING OFFICER