

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
CITY OF HOBART, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
July 5, 2023**

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, 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 June 21, 2023 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Correspondence: Mayor Snedecor announced the passing of Retired Police K-9 "Scout" this morning and thanked him and his partner, Simon Gresser, for his years of service both in the Schools and throughout the City.

Mr. Snedecor and the Board thanked the Hobart Chamber and the various City Departments for a successful 4th of July parade and fireworks celebration.

Mr. Snedecor stated there has been some confusion as to the ownership of the streets in The Brickyard by Hidden Lake development located just north of the RR on N. Lake Park Ave. The streets themselves were not finished when the original developer went out of business and were never turned over to the City, nor were the street lights. The City does have ownership of the land but not the roads but due to the fact that there are residents in the completed townhomes along Lakewood Drive, the City has been plowing when necessary to allow for public safety vehicle access if needed. The residents also have City garbage pick-up. Once development begins again by the current owner of the property, the City will require the streets to be completed and the maintenance of the area will be addressed, either via an HOA or added to the City street inventory. Due to the need to clarify the ownership and maintenance of the area, Mr. Snedecor wanted to bring this issue to the attention of the Board. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Snedecor, to acknowledge that the streets within The Brickyard by Hidden Lake have not been accepted by the City but the City will continue to plow as needed to allow for emergency vehicle access and allow the garbage pick-up to continue in the interest of public safety. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

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:

Continued: Update/Review/ Unsafe Building: re: 234 N. Ohio St.: Ronald Wilson was present and stated he has sold the property and all the taxes have been paid with the closing on the property scheduled for today. He noted that all of the paperwork has been filed with the Building Department. He stated the new owners are aware of the issues needing to be addressed with the property. Motion by Ms. Longer, seconded by Mr. Lain, to continue this item until July 19, 2023 Board meeting. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Continued: Update/Status: Unsafe Building: re: 235 Main St.: Attorney Raffai was present along with the representative of Brant Construction who stated that Harold Killian has provided him with a limited POA to move forward with construction. Building Official Karen Hansen noted that Brant Construction failed to get licensed in the City and cannot act as a general contractor on this project. Additionally, Mr. Killian is currently the POA for Mr. Batalis, the owner of the property, it is unclear how he is reassigning his POA. Discussion followed as to the length of time that has passed since the Order of Unsafe Building was issued in August 2022 and the owners continue to delay attempts to rehabilitate the property for a variety of reasons and she recommended the Board move forward with demolition. Discussion followed with Ms. Hansen listing the items from the state statute defining an unsafe building which includes vacant buildings with unsafe conditions that are not maintained. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain, to begin the condemnation proceedings toward demolition of the building, noting that if within 5 business days from today, the owner directly contracts with a licensed contractor, provides proof of payment, and presents a plan for the rehabilitation of the building within the guidelines of the City standards that is approved by the Building Department and the Fire Inspectors, the City Attorney may deem to call a Special Meeting of the Board to reconsider this motion for the demolition of the building. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Continued: Update: Unsafe Building: re: 1317 S. Lake Park Ave.: The owner was not present. Building Official Karen Hansen stated there is good progress being made on this property and recommended continuing this until September 6th for an update to the Board. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Ms. Longer, to continue this item until the September 6, 2023 meeting of the Board. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Continued: Outstanding Fines/Update on 238 Main St.: re: 236 Main St.: John Pappas, representing Cagney's, was present telephonically. He stated the rear wall of the building on 3rd and Main St. is currently under construction and should be finished by next week. The sidewalk in front of the building on Main St. is complete. Mr. Pappas requested 30 days to complete the project and update the Board. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain, to continue this item to the August 2, 2023 Board meeting. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Continued: Consideration of Supplemental Agreement No. 1: 3rd St. from Ash St. to E. Park Ave.: City Engineer Phil Gralik requested this item remain as continued until July 19th as the new agreement is not yet ready.

Continued: Review of Conceptual Design: Dog Park to be located on Front St.: BF&S: Mr. Fulton stated that no updates are yet available on this project and the Board left if continued until July 19th.

New Business:

Request for Sidewalk Waiver: re: 275 E. 13th Place: Grant & Sue Liechty were present and stated there are no sidewalks on 13th Place and their driveway access will take up most of the frontage of the lot. Mr. Gralik stated he had no objections to this request. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to approve the sidewalk waiver for one year or until such time as the City determines the sidewalks must be installed at the owner's expense. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Resolution 2023-03: A Resolution to Approve and Authorize the Execution of a Development Agreement between the City of Hobart and Lineage Logistics, LLC: Motion by Ms. Longer, seconded by Mr. Snedecor, to

continue this item to the July 19, 2023 Board meeting. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Resolution 2023-04: A Resolution Authorizing the Acquisition of an Emergency Command Vehicle for the City of Hobart Fire Department as a "Special Purchase": The Resolution was read. Attorney McCarthy noted this is a special purchase due to the sole source provider for current acquisition as the City also has someone who has offered to provide the outfitting of this vehicle which may not be available in the future. Mr. Snedecor stated that there has been multiple times over the past year that this type of multi-purpose vehicle could have been very useful to the City in certain public safety situations and once outfitted, will be available to be utilized by a variety of departments. Fire Chief Smith noted this vehicle expands the ability of the department to respond with either the dive team or the drone team and in other situations. Motion by Ms. Longer, seconded by Mr. Lain, to approve Resolution 2023-04 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Consideration of Joint Interlocal and Mutual Aid Agreement for the South Lake County Crash Reconstruction Team (SLCCRT): Police Chief Ciszewski stated the County's reconstruction team is not able to help all the various municipalities with reconstruction and this MOU would involve the 3-4 of our officers currently undergoing reconstruction training being deployed to aid with other areas reconstruction teams, allowing them to keep their training fresh while helping teams from Schererville, St. John, Dyer, Cedar Lake, Lowell, Munster and Crown Point in reconstructing fatal accidents that occur in any of these jurisdictions. The current cost of this agreement is \$500 annually which is used to cover the online callout system called Active 911 which will page the members when needed. Motion by Ms. Longer, seconded by Mr. Lain, to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement for the South Lake County Crash Reconstruction Team as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Approval of Advertisement for Bids: Community Crossing Reconstruction of 3rd St. & LaSalle St.: City Engineer Phil Gralik stated this is the re-bid for the Community Crossing Grant project in keeping with INDOT rules and includes both 3rd St. and LaSalle St. as both are part of the grant, and recommending approval. Motion by Ms. Longer, seconded by Mr. Lain, to approve the advertisement for bids as presented. 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 Ms. Longer, to adjourn the meeting. All aye, motion carried. (3-0) The meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

Quinn McDonald
SECRETARY

Deborah Longer
PRESIDING OFFICER