

**April 7, 2020**

The Board of Public Works and Safety met in regular session in the Council Chambers on Tuesday April 7, 2020 at 9am.

**Present:** Mayor Dermody, Jessica Romine and Mark Kosior

**Absent:** None

**Pledge of Allegiance**

City Attorney Nick Otis led the Pledge of Allegiance

**Approval of Minutes**

As each Member received an advance copy of the minutes from the March 17, 2020 meeting, Mayor Dermody noted they would dispense with the reading of the same and asked if there were any additions or corrections.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Minutes**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the minutes as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

Mayor Dermody thanked Councilman Tim Franke owner of Duneland Media for volunteering to keep City Hall virtually available.

Public Comments will be coming in during the meeting and we can address any questions during unfinished business.

**Clerk-Treasurer**

**Claims Approval**

Courtney Parthun, Clerk-Treasurer, presented Civil City Claims in the amount of \$687,521.56. She noted this included 2020 Workers Compensation, General Liability Insurance and April Trash Service.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Civil City Claims**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Civil City Claims in the amount of \$687,521.56; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

The Clerk-Treasurer presented Payroll from March 20, 2020 in the amount of \$396,098.20.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Payroll 3-20-20**

Ms. Romine moved to approve Payroll for March 20, 2020 in the amount of \$396,098.20; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and unanimously carried.

The Clerk-Treasurer presented 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Payroll in the amount of \$1926.88.

**Motion/Vote – Approve 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Payroll**

Ms. Romine moved to approve 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Payroll in the amount of \$1926.88; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and unanimously carried.

The Clerk-Treasurer presented Payroll for April 3, 2020 in the amount of \$381,185.10.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Payroll 4-3-2020**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve Payroll for April 3, 2020 in the amount of \$381,185.10; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

The Clerk-Treasurer presented Water Claims in the amount of \$200,204.22. She noted this includes 2020 workers comp and general liability insurance.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Water Claims**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Water Claims in the amount of \$200,204.22; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

The Clerk-Treasurer presented Sewage Claims in the amount of \$199,888.14. She noted this includes 2020 Workers Comp and general liability insurance.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Sewage Claims**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve Sewage Claims in the amount of \$199,888.14; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

**New Business**

**Request to Use: Red Wine and Brew**

City Attorney Nick Otis asked on behalf of Bethany Lutheran Church to use Stone Lake Beach for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Red Wine and Brew on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Request to Use: Red Wine and Brew**

Ms. Romine moved to approve the Request from Bethany Lutheran Church to use Stone Lake Beach for their Red Wine and Brew Event on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and July 3<sup>rd</sup>; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and unanimously carried.

**Amend 2020 Holiday Schedule/BOW Schedule**

The 2020 Holiday Schedule was amended moving the primary election day off from May 5<sup>th</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup> which in turns changes the BOW schedule to a regular meeting on May 5<sup>th</sup> and Changes the June 2<sup>nd</sup> to June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Amended 2020 Holiday Schedule/BOW Schedule**

Ms. Romine moved to amend the 2020 Holiday Schedule/BOW Schedule as presented; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and unanimously carried.

### **Independent Contractor Agreement Amendment**

Attorney Otis stated they needed to amend the new Communications Director, Jessica Bruder, start date and asked for that approval. Mayor Dermody thanked the UEA, La Porte Health Care Foundation and Bert Cook from L.E.A.P in helping with their support for this position and helping contribute to fund the position.

### **Motion/Vote – Approve Independent Contractor Agreement Amendment**

Ms. Romine moved to approve the Independent Contractor Agreement Amendment as presented; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and unanimously carried.

### **Permission to Sign Development Agreement with Flaherty and Collins**

Tom Casey, City Planner, stated the Flaherty and Collins Development Agreement provides for an Arts Development Complex to be built in NewPorte Landing. It is due to start construction on July 6<sup>th</sup> and finish 10 months later with 200 one- and two-bedroom apartments and 5,000 sq. ft of retail space with one or two tenants.

Mayor Dermody and Attorney Otis thanked the entire team for all their work on this project.

### **Motion/Vote – Approve Permission to Sign Development Agreement with Flaherty and Collins**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve permission to sign Development Agreement with Flaherty and Collins as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

### **First amendment to Purchase Agreement of 403/405 Lincolnway.**

Attorney Otis stated this purchase agreement was previously approved by the Board of Works. This is the former Lady Rose Property and the adjacent property. The amendment is to allow additional time for purchaser to demo the properties in the event the demo teams are not working due to Covid 19.

### **Motion/Vote – Approve First Amendment to Purchase Agreement of 403/405 Lincolnway**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the first Amendment to Purchase Agreement of 403/405 Lincolnway as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

### **Authorize Sale of Fire Station Property**

Attorney Otis asked permission to put the property of the Fire Station on Boyd Blvd out for Bid. He noted they will not sell the property until the new station is done on Daytona Street. The City is also responsible for the Demolition of the Boyd Blvd Station.

### **Motion/Vote – Authorize Sale of Fire Station Property**

Ms. Romine authorized the Fire Station on Boyd Blvd to be put out to bid as presented; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and unanimously carried.

**La Porte Waterworks BAN (Bond Anticipation Notice) Extension Engagement Letter**

Attorney Otis stated this is an agreement to retain Barnes and Thornburg for the BAN Extension.

**Motion/Vote – Approve La Porte Waterworks BAN Extension Engagement Letter**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the La Porte Waterworks BAN Extension Engagement Letter as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

**Request to Solicit for Quotes for Cash Rent of Arconic Property**

Wastewater Director Jerry Jackson requested permission to solicit quotes for cash rent for the property that we acquired from Arconic which is south of Walmart.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Request to Solicit Quotes for Cash Rent of Arconic Property**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Request to Solicit Quotes for Cash Rent of Arconic Property as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

**Family First Corona Virus Response Act**

Human Resource Director Jen Noll presented a temporary City Internal Policy from April 1<sup>st</sup> thru Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 regarding FMLA which includes Emergency Family Leave and Emergency Leave regarding Covid 19.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Family First Corona Virus Response Act**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Family First Corona Virus Response Act as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

**Request to Bid Lakeshore Bid Trail Project**

City Engineer Nick Minich requested permission to Bid the Lakeshore Trail Project. The bidding process will be done virtually, and the bids are due in two weeks with the recommendation coming at the first meeting in May. This project is funded by the Healthcare Foundation of La Porte.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Request to Bid Lakeshore Trail Project**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Request to Bid the Lakeshore Trail Project as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

**Chessie Trail Phase: Lochmueller Group Contract Amendment**

Mr. Minich presented a Lochmueller Group Contract Amendment for the Chessie Trail in the amount of \$72,800. This is the design phase and our 20% will be picked up by the Healthcare Foundation of La Porte. Any Right of Way acquisition will be the City's responsibility.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Chessie Trail: Lochmueller Group Contract Amendment**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Lochmueller Group Contract Amendment for the Chessie Trail as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

**Request to Quote Lakeshore Drive Stormwater Improvements**

Mr. Minich requested permission to Quote the Lakeshore Drive Stormwater Improvements.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Request to Quote Lakeshore Drive Stormwater Improvements**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Request to Quote Lakeshore Drive Stormwater Improvements as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

**Pay Applications #3 and #4 for New Fire Station**

Mr. Minich presented Pay Application #3 in the amount of \$211,457.15 and Pay Application #4 in the amount of \$174,949.49. Larson Danielson has been a good job and are looking at an estimate finish date sometime around July/August.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Pay Application #3 and #4 for New Fire Station**

Ms. Romine moved to approve the Pay Application #3 in the amount of \$211,457.15 and Pay Application #4 in the amount of \$174,949.49; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and unanimously carried.

**NIPSCO Service Contract for New Fire Station**

Mr. Minich asked approval of the NIPSCO Service Contract for the New Fire Station. This allows service to the new Station and there is no cost to the City.

**Motion/Vote – Approve NIPSCO Service Contract for New Fire Station**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the NIPSCO Service Contract for the New Fire Station as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

**North South Connector MOU with La Porte County**

Mr. Minich stated they do not have a formal MOU drafted yet, but is asking the Board to Allow the Mayor, City Attorney and the City Engineer to finalize the MOU and approve the City of La Porte's contribution not to exceed \$66,000. This project will help with removing truck traffic from Lincolnway.

**Motion/Vote – Approve North South Connector MOU with La Porte County**

Ms. Romine moved to approve the North South Connector MOU with La Porte County as presented and allow the City to contribute the amount not to exceed \$66,000; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and unanimously carried.

**Recommendation Park Street Preliminary Engineering Services**

Mr. Minich stated they received 10 letters of interest which were scored and the highest score going to Troyer Group. Mr. Minich is asking permission to enter into an agreement for

Engineering Services pending INDOT review. If INDOT improved and the City can not come to an agreement with Troyer Group, we would move to the next highest score.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Recommendation Park Street Preliminary Engineering Services**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Recommendation of Park Street Preliminary Engineering Services to Troyer Group pending INDOT review; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

**INDOT Des #1702262 Supplemental Contract**

Mr. Minich stated this had to do with our sign inventory and there are still dollars left on the contract and not a lot of work left to do. He would like to sign an amendment with INDOT to use these Federal Funds.

**Motion/Vote – Approve INDOT Des#1702262 Supplemental Contract**

Mr. Kosior moved to approve INDOT Des#1702262 Supplemental Contract as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

**Unfinished Business**

Clerk-Treasurer Parthun asked the Board to retroactively approve the compensation for employees who are staying home due to the Stay at Home Order thru April 6<sup>th</sup> and then approve the extension of said compensation thru April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

**Motion/Vote – Approve Employee Compensation**

Mayor Dermody moved to retroactively approve the compensation for employees thru April 6<sup>th</sup> and extend the compensation thru April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

Mayor Dermody asked the community to keep their area clean, keep La Porte Clean so we all can be La Porte Proud.

Mayor Dermody read a couple questions from the live feed and stated we are keeping up as much business as possible to keep Federal Funds for projects and to keep La Porte moving in the right direction.

Mayor Dermody noted the basketball hoops at Ben Rees Park will be taken down to deter playing during this Stay Home Period, Beechwood Golf Course is closed, and Park Playground equipment is not to be used.

Ms. Parthun stated we are still taking water payments, but there are no shut offs and no late fees being assessed. Payments can be made online and there are forms online if new service is required. Any questions residents are urged to call or email the utility office.

Transporte is Free Monday thru Friday the Month of April from 10am to 3pm. Tuesdays and Thursdays they are only transporting to grocery stores and pharmacies. They will operate on Good Friday from 9am to 12pm.

You can reach LP Hospital if you suspect you have COVID 19 by calling 1-833-576-3627

City of La Porte is limiting the number of people in the stores, Restaurants are still doing pick up or delivery and Trash will only be picked up if it is in a can and remember... NO WIPES IN THE PIPES!!

People still must move their cars because the Street Department are cleaning streets.

Mr. Kosior gave a shout out to who ever maintains the mountain bike trail because it is very well maintained.

Mayor Dermody thanked all the Departments for everything that they are doing and thanked the Health Care Workers for all their sacrifices.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, Mr. Kosior move to adjourn; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

**Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Thomas P Dermody, Mayor**

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Courtney Parthun, Clerk-Treasurer**

**Approved: April 21, 2020**