

May 19, 2020

The Board of Public Works and Safety met in regular session in the Council Chambers on Tuesday May 19, 2020 at 9am.

Present: Mayor Dermody, Jessica Romine and Mark Kosior

Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Roger Galloway led the Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

As each Member received an advance copy of the minutes from the May 5, 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

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

Clerk-Treasurer

Claims Approval

Clerk-Treasurer Courtney Parthun presented Payroll from May 15, 2020 in the amount of \$402,598.59.

Motion/Vote – Approve Payroll 5-15-20

Ms. Romine moved to approve Payroll for May 15, 2020 in the amount of \$402,598.59; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and unanimously carried.

The Clerk-Treasurer presented Civil City Claims in the amount of \$320,053.68. She noted these include the May Trash Bill.

Motion/Vote – Approve Civil City Claims

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Civil City Claims in the amount of \$320,053.68; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

The Clerk-Treasurer presented Sewage Claims in the amount of \$86,633.09.

Motion/Vote – Approve Sewage Claims

Mr. Kosior moved to approve Sewage Claims in the amount of \$86,633.09; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

The Clerk-Treasurer presented Water Claims in the amount of \$59,370.13.

Motion/Vote – Approve Water Claims

Mr. Kosior moved to approve Water Claims in the amount of \$59,370.13; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

New Business**Request for Use: Bethany Church**

Bethany Church is requesting to use City property for an outdoor tent and drive in worship services at 9am on the following Sundays: May 24th, May 31st, June 7th and June 14th.

Motion/Vote – Approve Request for Use: Bethany Church

Ms. Romine moved to approve the Request for Use for Bethany Church as presented; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and unanimously carried.

City of La Porte Trash Service

Clerk-Treasurer Parthun presented a request from the Presbyterian Church on 307 Kingsbury Avenue to be added to the City's Trash Service which would be added to their Water Utility Bill.

Motion/Vote – Approve City of La Porte Trash Service: Presbyterian Church

Ms. Romine moved to approve the Request from the Presbyterian Church to add Trash Service to their Water Utility Bill; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and unanimously carried.

Polling Locations

City Attorney Nick Otis asked on behalf of the County to use the following City Properties for Polling Places: Civic Auditorium, Cummings Lodge and Transporte. PPE's will be available for the polling volunteers and the voters. They will be limiting the amount of people in each polling place as well.

Motion/Vote – Approve Polling Locations

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

Baker Tilly Agreement

Clerk-Treasurer Parthun presented a Baker Tilly Agreement and stated they provide us with annual budget support and analysis which is important with a new Clerk-Treasurer. Discussion was held on them attending meetings.

Motion/Vote – Approve Baker Tilly Agreement

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

Agreements of Gifts of Real Estate to Municipality

Mayor Dermody asked the Board to approve the agreements for Gifts of Real Estate to Municipality.

Motion/Vote – Approve Agreements of Gifts of Real Estate to Municipality

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Agreements of Gifts of Real Estate to Municipality; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

Firefighter End of Employment Pension Disability and Request to Fill Vacancy

Fire Chief Andy Snyder reported that Firemen Bruce Jones applied for Pension Disability and his last day was April 30, 2020 so he is requesting permission to fill his vacancy.

Motion/Vote – Approve Firefighter End of Employment Pension Disability and Request to Fill Vacancy

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Firefighters End of Employment Pension Disability and instructs the Fire Merit Commission to begin the necessary procedures to fill any and all vacancies in rank and positions created by this resignation; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and unanimously carried.

First Net

Police Chief Paul Brettin presented a proposal for Internet Services with First Net. They have tested their modems and find no issues with them. They will not lose service in an emergency. The cost is \$40 per unit and they need 40 of them. There will be no change in the monthly charges from what we currently pay with Verizon.

The Clerk-Treasurer stated they have spoken with First Net and have pre-approved all other departments that are interested in switching over.

Motion/Vote – Approve First Net Proposal

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

Maintenance Plan Agreement

City Planner Tom Casey presented a Maintenance Plan Agreement with D.A. Dodd for a Quarterly Mechanical Agreement for City Hall to keep our heating and cooling system in working order including changing filters and maintaining the system to keep in accordance with the warranty.

Motion/Vote – Approve Maintenance Plan Agreement

Ms. Romine moved to approve the Maintenance Plan Agreement with D. A. Dodd as presented; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and unanimously carried.

Job Descriptions

Human Resource Director Jen Noll presented two new job descriptions for the Engineering Department. The first Job Description changes the Administration Assistant to Engineering Coordinator and added another position of Project Engineer. Both Positions have been approved by the City Council.

Motion/Vote – Approve Job Descriptions

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

Unfinished Business

Lakeshore Drive Project

City Engineer Nick Minich stated they have reviewed the bids that came in over budget and recommended to the Board that they rebid the project to keep the integrity of the project and to not go over the budgeted amount allotted for the project. This delay would put the project not being complete until August.

Motion/Vote – Approve Lakeshore Drive Project: Rebid

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

Other Business

Mayor Dermody updated on the following projects: Timba Bakery which we are completing the environmental inspection of the property and when that is complete, we will bid the demolition and hopefully be able to demo in July. Mayor Dermody noted that City of La Porte was granted \$701,000 to spend on how we interact with the public and implementing new procedures due to COVID 19. We would be reimbursed by the County. The Flagherty and Collins Project in New Porte Landing is still moving forward, and it was announced the Rural King would be opening in the old K-Mart building in March of 2021.

Jerry Jackson reported that the lake level is at 798.2 and they have the siphon running. They have literally removed feet of water over the last year and they manage it every day.

Public Comment

Dusty Schoof asked some questions pertaining to the Wastewater claims which the Clerk-Treasurer answered online, and he also asked about the 50/50 sidewalk project. Mr. Minich stated the new position in his department would be helping in that so the project wouldn't start until later this summer.

Councilman Tim Franke asked if the COVID 19 reimbursable expenses would be pre-approved or does it seek approval after the purchases are made. MS. Parthun answered that there are applications to fill out and they would not be spending unless they were sure it was reimbursable.

Dustin Johnson asked about sidewalks to connect 18th Street and Kingsbury Avenue. Mr. Minich stated they are working on the design phase of that project.

Dustin Johnson also asked if golf carts are allowed on City Streets. It was noted that is a City Council decision.

Announcements

Mayor Dermody stated if you need help with cutting your grass or cleaning up your property to please call the Code Department and they will work with you. We want to take pride in how our City looks.

Spring Clean Up has been scheduled for July 13th thru July 17th on yourr regular garbage day

Swearing Ceremony on Police Officers

Chief Brettin Swore in our two new Officers, Jared Schaeffer and Jose Gonzalez outside on the steps of City Hall.

Adjourn

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

Approve: _____
Thomas P. Dermody, Mayor

Attest: _____
Courtney Parthun, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: June 3, 2020