

City of LaPorte Board of Public Works and Safety

December 30, 2009

Convene

City of LaPorte Board of Public Works and Safety met in regular session in the Board Room on December 30, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. Attendance: Mayor Chroback, Present: Mr. MacLennan, Present: Mr. Clingerman, Present.

Pledge

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Chroback.

Minutes

As each Board member received an advance copy of the minutes from the previous meeting, Mayor Chroback stated they would dispense with the reading of same and asked if there were any corrections or additions.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. MacLennan moved to approve the minutes as presented; motion seconded by Mr. Clingerman and unanimously carried.

Petitions & Comments

None

Claims Approval

Mr. Clingerman moved to approve Water Claims in the amount of \$39,567.40; motion seconded by Mr. MacLennan and unanimously carried.

Mr. Clingerman moved to approve Wastewater Claims in the amount of \$38,913.97; motion seconded by Mr. MacLennan and unanimously carried.

Teresa Ludlow, Clerk-Treasurer, noted payroll claims made up the majority of both claim totals for Water and Wastewater.

Mr. Clingerman moved to approve 4th Quarter Payroll in the amount of \$2,657.08; motion seconded by Mr. MacLennan and unanimously carried.

Mr. Clingerman moved to approve Civil City Claims in the amount of \$10,275.76; motion seconded by Mr. MacLennan and unanimously carried.

Restricted Funds

The Clerk Treasurer reported the City has received a total of \$614.80 from residents for the Police and Fire Restricted Accounts.

2009 Tax Anticipation Warrants

The Clerk-Treasurer reported she received an e-mail from the Indiana Bond Bank indicating the roll-over rate for the 2009 Tax Anticipation Warrants is 2.4%, however, at this time it is unclear as to whether that is the fixed rate for the City or if it is the rate for all the entities in the pool. She stated when the City initially borrowed money from the Indiana Bond Bank we were unable to be included in the pool due to the taxing situation in the County.

The Clerk-Treasurer stated she received a copy of a letter addressed to, Craig Hinchman, County Auditor, from the Indiana Bond Bank regarding LaPorte County taxing authorities that are participants in the Bond Bank's 2009 Note Program with outstanding tax warrants. The letter reiterated the importance of tax distributions being made in such a fashion that they can repay their warrants.

NEW BUSINESS

Traffic Appeals

The Violations Department presented an appeal from Dan Strieter, 1006 Lincolnway, for parking in the alley behind his building in June, 2009. The ticket has since been turned over to collections. Mr. Strieter requested clarification of the law as he was parked behind his business. Tom Heath, Assistant Chief of Police, explained blocking an alleyway was a violation because streets and alleyways are public right-of-ways. He explained the Police Department has always used leniency for business owners who are loading and unloading merchandise in the alleys, but all-day parking is a different story. Discussion was held regarding what constitutes loading and unloading. Mr. MacLennan advised Mr. Strieter to appeal to the Bid District and then the Traffic Commission to initiate any changes he wishes to implement regarding parking for business owners. Mr. Strieter inquired about the use of orange parking stickers on vehicles in front of businesses. Lou Ann Jacobs, Violations Department, explained those stickers are residential parking permits sold to residents who live in apartments above businesses, or just apartment buildings in general, who do not offer parking to their tenants. They are not allowed to park on Lincolnway, but they are entitled to park on all other streets.

Mr. Clingerman moved to deny the appeal as presented; motion seconded by Mr. MacLennan and unanimously carried.

The Violations Department presented an appeal from an individual who sold her car, however the plates were never changed to the new owner. It was noted by the individual that she has not received payment for the car and is in the process of trying to locate the new owner. In the meantime, the car has been ticketed twice, and she received the statement for the tickets since she is still listed as the owner. The Violations Department is recommending the tickets be reduced from \$45.00 to \$10.00 each.

Mr. MacLennan moved to uphold the recommendation of the Violations Department and reduce the tickets to \$10.00; motion seconded by Mr. Clingerman. Mr. Clingerman amended the motion to include the stipulation this is a one-time offer and recommended the car be reported as stolen; amendment seconded by Mr. MacLennan and unanimously carried.

Department Reports

Mayor Chrobak noted the Board of Works will conduct an Executive Session following today's meeting.

Water Department: Todd Taylor, Director of Water, reported they repaired a hydrant that was hit by a

semi at the northeast corner of Lincolnway and Indiana Avenue at the overpass. He stated the hydrant was previously relocated to make it less vulnerable. Mr. Taylor reported normally the City does not get reimbursed for the expenses incurred; however, this time the trucking company called and asked that they be sent an invoice.

Boston Street Press Release

Mayor Chrobak reported a press release will go out today announcing the Boston Street Project will begin on Monday, January 4, 2010, with various streets closed. She stated the project is expected to last 18 months and will be done in three phases.

Mayor Chrobak announced Jack Rosenberg will be returning to the Board next week and welcomed him back. She thanked Dale Clingerman for stepping in during Mr. Rosenberg's absence and the hard work and dedication he gave during that time.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Mr. MacLennan moved to adjourn; motion seconded by Mr. Clingerman and unanimously carried.

Signatures

APPROVED: _____
Kathleen A. Chrobak, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Teresa L. Ludlow, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: January 6, 2010