

# **City of LaPorte Board of Public Works and Safety**

**June 02, 2010**

## **Convene**

City of LaPorte Board of Public Works and Safety met in regular session in the Council Chambers on June 2, 2010 at 9:00 am. Attendance: Mayor Chrobak, Present: Mr. MacLennan, Present: Mr. Rosenberg, Absent.

## **Pledge**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Chrobak.

## **Minutes**

As each member of the Board received an advance copy of the minutes prior the meeting, Mayor Chrobak stated she would dispense with the reading of same and asked for any corrections or additions.

## **Motion/Vote - Approval of Minutes from May 26th**

Mr. MacLennan made a motion to approve the minutes from May 26th as presented; Mayor Chrobak seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Mayor Chrobak (Yes), Mr. MacLennan (Yes), Mr. Rosenberg (Absent).

## **Public Comment**

None

## **Clerk Treasurer**

### **Claims Approval**

Mr. MacLennan moved to approve Civil City Claims in the amount of \$292,908.33; motion seconded by Mayor Chrobak and unanimously carried. The Clerk Treasurer, Teresa Ludlow, noted the May health insurance and CMAQ Grant for the four new police cars were included in that total. Mrs. Ludlow advised the \$84,899.20 spent for the police cars is 100 % reimbursable from the CMAQ Grant.

Mr. MacLennan moved to approve Wastewater Claims in the amount of \$58,663.54; motion seconded by Mayor Chrobak and unanimously carried. Mrs. Ludlow advised payroll and health insurance made up the majority of the claims.

Mr. MacLennan moved to approve Water Claims in the amount of \$54,210.94; motion seconded by Mayor Chrobak and unanimously carried.

### **Police/Fire Pension Transfers**

Mrs. Ludlow asked the Board to ratify transfers from the Riverboat Fund to the Police and Fire Pension Funds, effective June 1st. The transfers were necessary in order to meet the June 1st pension payrolls and

the money will be reimbursed once the State distributions have been received. The Clerk Treasurer requested \$150,000.00 be transferred to the Fire Pension Fund and \$80,000.00 to the Police Pension Fund.

Mr. MacLennan moved to ratify the transfers as recommended; motion seconded by Mayor Chrobak and unanimously carried.

## **New Business**

### **Traffic Appeals**

Dace Cunningham, 306 Seimetz, appealed a ticket he received for parking in the Monroe Street parking lot without a permit. Mr. Cunningham stated he only parked there for a minute or two and left his vehicle running while he ran into a business while working for the Herald Argus. Even though the lot is clearly marked "Permit Parking Only", Mr. Cunningham felt his ticket should be voided as there wasn't many cars in the lot at the time. Mayor Chrobak noted the Herald Argus parking lot is right next to the City lot and Mr. Cunningham could have easily parked there to avoid a ticket. Mr. MacLennan stated the lot is clearly marked and Mr. Cunningham admitted to such, so he was not inclined to void the ticket.

Mr. MacLennan moved to uphold the recommendation from the Violations Department and deny the appeal; motion seconded by Mayor Chrobak and unanimously carried.

### **Request for Use of City Property**

Dan Reed, representing Sacred Heart Catholic Church, provided Board members with the proper application for use of City property and requested the Board approve the street closures needed for the Sacred Heart Polish Festival to be held July 9th-July 11th. In order to set up and clean up the street closures would begin on Thursday, July 8th at 8:00 a.m. until Sunday, July 11th until 11:30 p.m. and they are as follows:

1. Pulaski Street from Bach to Laurel Street
2. Bach Street from Roosevelt to Park Street
3. Niesen Street from Ellis to Bach Street

Mr. Reed provided the necessary liability insurance as well. Mayor Chrobak pointed out with the Boston Street Project underway, they will have to contend with some railroad crossings that are closed due to such. The Mayor asked both the Fire Chief and Assistant Police Chief if they had any concerns due to the street closures; they both stated they did not. The Fire Chief noted they would have to go around a few streets because of the railroad closings but he was well aware of that. Don Baugher, City Attorney, advised the Board the liability insurance was in the Diocese of Gary's name as well as Sacred Heart so they have to approve the request in both names.

Mr. MacLennan moved to approve the request from Sacred Heart Church and Diocese of Gary for the street closures for the Polish Festival held July 8th through July 11th; motion seconded by Mayor Chrobak and unanimously carried.

### **Health Insurance Plan Amendments**

Matt Cook, Director of Human Resource, presented three amendments to the Board for the City's insurance

plan regarding health, dental and vision cobra options. Mr. Cook stated these amendments were necessary in order to comply with Federal law for the recent stimulus plan subsidy extensions.

Mr. MacLennan moved to approve the amendments as recommended; motion seconded by Mayor Chroback and unanimously carried.

### **CDBG Homeowner Repair Program-Change Orders**

Mary Ann Richards, Program Manager for the Community Development Block Grant Program presented Change Order #1 for 105 K Street in the amount of \$3,260.00 and requested the Board approve same. The contractor on the job, Vic Butcher Construction, needs to repair a porch in order to access the roof safely, as well as mulch the ground area to mitigate lead hazard paint chips that have fallen off the house over the years. Mrs. Richards stated the original contract was in the amount of \$18,390.00, with the change order it becomes \$21,650.00.

Mr. MacLennan moved to approve Change Order #1 at 105 K Street as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Chroback and unanimously carried.

Mrs. Richards presented Change Order #1 at 108 Grandview, which is actually not a dollar change, just a change in the scope of work. Instead of scraping and painting the soffit and fascia for lead hazard reduction, Greentree Environmental has recommended wrapping the area with aluminum siding instead.

Mr. MacLennan moved to approve Change Order #1 at 108 Grandview Street as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Chroback and unanimously carried.

Mrs. Richards presented Change Order #1 at 1313 Second Street in the amount of \$1,150.00, to wrap soffit and fascia in aluminum siding instead of scraping and painting the lead hazard area as originally planned. This will fully encapsulate the problem area.

Mr. MacLennan moved to approve Change Order #1 at 1313 Second Street in the amount of \$1,150.00 as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Chroback and unanimously carried.

Mrs. Richards presented Change Order #2 for 1313 Second Street which will not result in a dollar amount change, only scope of work. Greentree Environmental has recommended not painting and scraping the stairwell area, but instead covering the walls with new drywall and paint for lead hazard reduction. A window is also being replaced, as well as some work done on a side porch.

Mr. MacLennan moved to approve Change Order #2 for 1313 Second Street as recommended; motion seconded by Mayor Chroback and unanimously carried.

### **CDBG Liens**

Mrs. Richards presented liens for two properties participating in the CDBG Homeowner Repair Program at 57 Toronto Street and 202 Harrison, and recommended the Board authorize the approval of same. These liens are necessary because the homeowners have been uncooperative and failed to sign promissory notes and deferred mortgage agreements.

Mr. MacLennan moved to approve the placement of liens at 57 Toronto Street and 202 Harrison Street as recommended; motion seconded by Mayor Chroback and unanimously carried.

## **Unfinished Business**

### **Dixon Engineering**

Todd Taylor, Director of Water Department, presented the Board with a contract last week, with Dixon Engineering, for inspection services during the cleaning and painting of the Webber Street water tower. Mr. Baugher stated he has reviewed the contract and recommends its approval. Mayor Chroback advised the contract is not to exceed \$25,875.00. Mr. Taylor advised this is an important part of the entire project as Dixon Engineering will oversee all aspects of the contractors work to be sure it is completed according to specifications.

Mr. MacLennan moved to approve the contract with Dixon Engineering as recommended; motion seconded by Mayor Chroback and unanimously carried.

### **Groundwater Level Monitoring**

Due to the absence of Mary Jane Thomas, Director of Community Development and Planning, Mr. MacLennan presented the contract for 3rd Quarter groundwater level monitoring out at the landfill. He explained the City is obligated by IDEM (Indiana Department of Environmental Management) to test the groundwater levels for eight consecutive quarters. As a member of the Redevelopment Commission, Mr. MacLennan stated the monitoring expenditure was approved at their meeting last week. The funding has been appropriated from the CEDIT Fund and will cost approximately \$23,000.00.

### **Motion/Vote - Authorization for 3rd Quarter Groundwater Level Monitoring**

Mr. MacLennan moved to authorize the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter groundwater level monitoring as recommended by the Redevelopment Commission; Mayor Chroback seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Mayor Chroback (Yes), Mr. MacLennan (Yes), Mr. Rosenberg (Absent).

### **Water Main Bore-Highway #35**

Dale Clingerman, Director of Engineering and Building Services, recommended the Board approve the contract for the water main jack and bore under highway #35 to Woodruff & Sons in the amount of \$44,688.80. Mr. Clingerman stated the contract will be paid for from the Water Department budget.

Mr. MacLennan moved to award the contract to Woodruff & Sons as recommended; motion seconded by Mayor Chroback and unanimously carried.

### **Traffic Lights**

Mr. Clingerman reported he spoke to INDOT about the timing problems of the traffic lights as the Board requested last week and they are not inclined to make changes at this time. He stated as for the report on the signal on Monroe Street, the timing device has been corrected there.

## **Indiana Avenue-Construction**

The other issue Mr. Clingerman was asked to look into was the scheduled structural resurfacing of Indiana Avenue, which he has received conflicting reports on. He was told by the District Office the project would be bid in July, yet it wasn't listed on the bid sheet. Mr. MacLennan asked if this was the resurfacing from Kingsbury Avenue to Lincolnway. He stated it was the same project, but will be a very detailed job. The problems he anticipates are the no-compaction order he anticipates will be hard to order even though it's necessary because of the old utilities under the road, it is needed in order to compact the asphalt properly. Mayor Chrobak stated she has received conflicting reports about the project as well and would try to find out more on her end.

## **Department Reports**

### **City Attorney**

Mr. Baugher reminded everyone there is an Executive Session today following the Board meeting and would like one scheduled next week regarding litigation. Mr. Baugher requested Mr. Taylor attend the Executive Session today.

Mr. MacLennan moved to set an Executive Session immediately following the June 9th meeting regarding litigation; motion seconded by Mayor Chrobak and unanimously carried.

### **Police**

Assistant Chief of Police Tom Heath was happy to announce the four E-85 Squad Cars purchased with CMAQ Funds will be arriving today and the fuel tank is in place and ready.

### **Water**

Mr. Taylor reported his large utility truck is stranded at Boss Industries and needs major transmission work for its power take off. The total repairs are \$6,281.59 and Mr. Taylor provided Board members with a copy of the quote from Inland Power Group for their approval.

Mr. MacLennan moved to approve the repairs as requested; motion seconded by Mayor Chrobak and unanimously carried.

### **Mayor**

Mayor Chrobak reported Friday evening, June 4th, is the first showing of Downtown at the Movies on State Street sponsored by First Trust Credit Union and the Mayor's allotted tourism funds. The movie is "Planet 51" and is free to the public. The LaPorte Rotary Club is hosting the event which will begin at dusk with free popcorn provided by LaPorte Savings Bank and food will be available by BJ's American Café. The car show will once again be on display in conjunction with each of the three movie nights throughout the summer.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. MacLennan moved to adjourn; motion seconded by

Mayor Chroback and unanimously carried.

## Signatures

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen Chroback, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa L. Ludlow, Clerk-Treasurer  
Approved: June 9, 2010