

**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY,  
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT  
MEETING MINUTES  
CITY OF HARTFORD CITY, INDIANA  
DECEMBER 18, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME:** Mayor Dan Eckstein welcomed everyone and called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Works and Public Safety at 5:00pm.

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Eckstein, Ms. Pam Weiseman, and Ms. Kristi Bonewit were present. Clerk-Treasurer, Dana Whatley, was present. Attorney Brandon Murphy attended via ZOOM.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Ms. Weiseman made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 3-0.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 4, 2023:** Ms. Bonewit made a motion to approve the minutes of December 4, 2023 as submitted. Ms. Weiseman seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 3-0.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:** Ms. Bonewit made a motion to accept the claims totaling \$803,075.26 as submitted. Ms. Weiseman seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 3-0.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**A.) CHIEF CROUSE – EMPLOYEE D.J. UPDATE:** Chief Crouse stated that employee D.J. has been released to work. This update was taken under advisement and no action was needed.

**B.) EMPLOYEE M.M. DISCUSSION:** Police Chief Crouse presented an issue to the Board of Works regarding immoral conduct (i.c.36-8-3-4) by employee M.M. Chief Crouse gave his recommendation of termination for employee M.M.

Ms. Weiseman stated that she had reviewed the information that Chief Crouse had provided along with the past information from the last hearing. She stated she had no additional questions at this time.

Mayor Eckstein made a motion in support of Chief Crouse's recommendation to move forward with termination. Ms. Weiseman stated that she did not take this decision lightly but will second the motion. The vote to approve termination was 2-0-1. Ms. Kristi Bonewit abstained from voting.

Attorney Murphy stated for the board's information that he will send a notice to employee M.M. of his rights. He stated that the letter would be out by the end of the week. Attorney Murphy stated that he would keep the board updated with any added information.

**C.) ANIMAL SHELTER CONTRACT:** Mayor Eckstein explained that the City Council did approve the funding in the amount of \$45,000 for the 2024 Animal Shelter Contract. He stated that the Board of Works needs to work out the details of the contract. After extensive discussion, Ms. Kristi Bonewit made a motion to approve a one-year contract with the following stipulations.

1.) They are to have our maximum number of animals for the \$45,000 be 167 with the breakdown of 50 cats and 117 dogs to make up that total. Ms. Bonewit also stated that the \$270 fee per animal for any overage needs to be removed from the contract. The board would also like a monthly report on all animals that are picked up by the shelter that are billed towards this contract. The report should include:

- 1.) What type of animal picked up?
- 2.) Where was it picked up?
- 3.) Date and Time of pick up.
- 4.) Has this animal been picked up by the shelter more than once (repeat offender)

Mayor Eckstein seconded this motion. The vote to approve was 3-0. Clerk-Treasurer Whatley was instructed to send Attorney Murphy a copy of the proposed contract for revision.

**NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

**BOARD COMMENTS:**

**A.) MAYOR ECKSTEIN:**

- 1.) He reminded everyone of the employee Christmas dinner on Friday, 12/22/23 at noon at City Hall.
- 2.) He also reminded everyone of the Christmas parade on Wednesday, 12/20/23. Line up at 5:30pm at the 4-H building and the parade will begin at 6:00pm.
- 3.) He also explained that there is a special Council meeting on Tuesday, 12/19/23 at 6pm to discuss encumbrance for the Department of Public Works CCMG grant match. He excused all department superintendents from this meeting except for Mr. Thomas.

**B.) CLERK-TREASURER WHATLEY:** Ms. Whatley explained that she was getting ready to advertise for the entire year's Board of Works and Council meeting dates. There is one conflicting date on Tuesday, 1/16/24. Both she and the mayor will be out of town at training, and she asked if the board would be willing to move this meeting to a special date just to approve the docket for payment. The board decided to hold this meeting on Friday, 1/12/24 at 12 noon at city hall to approve this docket.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With there being no further business, Ms. Bonewit made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.

**FOLDER 2/REC 34**

