

**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY,
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF HARTFORD CITY, INDIANA
December 7, 2020**

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: Members present were Kristi Bonewit, Pam Weiseman and Mayor Dan Eckstein. Also present were Attorney, Brandon Murphy and Clerk-Treasurer, Dana Whatley.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mayor Eckstein proposed to amend the agenda and add letter "E" under new business for DPW Supervisor J. Thomas to give a presentation for a proposed purchase of a new garbage truck. Mayor Eckstein made a motion to amend the agenda. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Mayor Eckstein then made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Ms. Weiseman seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 3-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Ms. Bonewit made a motion to accept the minutes of November 16, 2020 as submitted. Mayor Eckstein seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 3-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Ms. Bonewit made a motion to accept the claims as submitted. Mayor Eckstein seconded the motion. The vote to approve the claims was 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

A.) WWTP EMPLOYEE: Attorney Murphy stated that no action can be taken in reference to the employee from the Wastewater Treatment Plant with the current employee handbook in place. Mr. Murphy recommended that the Board of Works and City Council consider amending the language of the handbook to read if an employee is placed in a diversion program, veteran's court or drug court program which would result in a dismissal of a case, then the Board of Works could take action on the employee while the case is still pending. Mr. Murphy said that upon Board of Works recommendation this topic can be taken up with City Council for approval. Ms. Weiseman made the motion that the proposed amended language be adopted by City Council. Mayor Eckstein seconded. The motion carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

A.) SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO CORRECT ERROR FOR WWTP EMPLOYEE C. SULLIVAN: Clerk-Treasurer Whatley stated that when the payroll clerk was going over the salary ordinance in preparation for the new 2021 budget, she noticed a mathematical error in which Mr. Sullivan only was given a 2% increase instead of the approved 3%. Ms. Whatley asked the board to amend this so that the salary ordinance will reflect the correct salary including the approved 3% increase. Ms. Weiseman made the motion to approve the amendment. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The vote to amend passed 3-0.

B.) WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FARMLAND: Mayor Eckstein stated that the Light family has farmed this property for many years. It was decided last year to take bids on who would farm this land and the Light family won the bid. Mayor Eckstein suggested that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the city allow the Light family continue to farm the land for 2021 with the same contract terms as 2020 for one more year. He stated we would look at the situation again before going into 2022. Mayor Eckstein made the motion to let the Light family continue to farm the land in 2021 with the same contract terms as 2020 for one more year. Ms. Weiseman seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 3-0.

C.) WAGE INCREASE FOR C. STANLEY UPON COMPLETING THE 2ND SEMESTER OF THE APPRENTICE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT: Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor, T. Williamson explained to the board that Mr. Stanley has completed the required 2,000 hours and has completed all online learning and seminar classes for the 2nd semester of the apprentice program. Mr. Williamson is requesting the pre-approved .27 cent hourly rate increase beginning with pay week of December 7, 2020. Ms. Bonewit made the motion to approve the rate increase. Mayor Eckstein seconded the motion. The vote to grant the pay increase was 3-0.

D.) LONG TERM INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR EMPLOYEE S.M.: Chief McKissack stated that employee S.M. has been on medical leave since 11/1/2020 and this employee has given verbal update that as of the last doctor visit there is a potential return to work after 1/7/21. It was decided to grant leave through next Board of Works meeting on 12/21/20 so that the most current documentation can be provided by the employee's physician for board review. Ms. Weiseman made a motion to grant leave through the next Board of Works meeting on 12/21/20. Mayor Eckstein seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

E.) DPW – PROPOSED NEW GARBAGE TRUCK: DPW Supervisor J. Thomas addressed the Board of Works about the status of one of the city's aging garbage trucks and the need to purchase a new one. He presented the top three bids he had obtained. One is a 2019 new truck and two more 2022 trucks. His recommendation was the 2019 truck that has everything the DPW needs and more. He stated that it only has 1,700 miles and has never had a piece of garbage run through it. This truck is the least expensive of the 3 and is available for immediate possession. This truck has a full factory warranty. The other two bids for the 2022 models are comparing apples to apples. The drawback to the two newer models is obviously price and 5 to 9 months for delivery time. Mr. Thomas provided paperwork from Citizen's State Bank stating that the interest rate 3.1% or less. He also explained that he has funds in the sanitation savings account to put a down payment of \$50,000. He also shared that he has a line item for equipment purchases that has annual funds that can support the loan payments. He invited everyone to come out and see the new truck as Shane from Best Equipment Co. will have it outside City Hall during the meetings this evening.

BOARD INPUT: Mayor Eckstein explained that after the hard year we've all had, we are all in need some excitement and something to look forward to. He invited Ms. Cheri Brown from the Purdue Extension Office to share about an upcoming opportunity for the community get involved and have some

holiday fun. Ms. Brown explained that she has been working with Staff Sgt. Langston from the Indiana National Guard on a “Merry Covid Christmas Parade”. She explained this will be a parade of cars driving along a parade route led by the Fire Department and Santa Claus. There will be free milk & cookies for all occupants of each car along with the first 50 cars receiving a commemorative ornament provided by ADM custom creations. This parade will follow along a parade route that will potentially have a scavenger hunt and tour many of the beautifully decorated homes, in our community. Ms. Brown said this is a project that is still in the works and evolving daily. She said there will be more specific details coming out soon. They plan to have this parade on December 23rd lining up at the Armory/4-H grounds at 5pm and parade starting at 6pm.

ADJOURNMENT: With there being no further business, Mayor Eckstein made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:35pm.

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