

**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY,
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF HARTFORD CITY, INDIANA
DECEMBER 20, 2021**

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 Ms. Kristi Bonewit, Ms. Pam Weiseman and Mayor Dan Eckstein. City Attorney, Brandon Murphy and Clerk-Treasurer, Dana Whatley were also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Clerk-Treasurer Whatley stated that the agenda needed to be amended adding Old Business letter (D) for employee M.M. extended sick leave and Old Business letter (E) for Cory Stanley and Jordan Massey extra pay retroactive to 11/22/21.

Ms. Weiseman made a motion to amend the agenda to add old business letter D & E. Mayor Eckstein seconded the motion. The vote to amend was 3-0.

Mayor Eckstein made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 3-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- A.) REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 6, 2021:** There was discussion requesting clarification of new business letter (E) wage increase for J. Reum & D. Chalfant in the WWTP. The effective date of the wage increase was not clear in the minutes.

Ms. Weiseman made a motion to amend the minutes to reflect the motion was approved for 12/6/21. Mayor Eckstein seconded the motion. The vote to amend was 3-0.

Ms. Weiseman made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 3-0.

- B.) SPECIAL MEETING OF DECEMBER 7, 2021:** Ms. Bonewit made a motion to approve the minutes of December 7, 2021 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 \$1,206,758.47 as submitted. Mayor Eckstein seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 3-0

OLD BUSINESS:

- A.) ANIMAL SHELTER CONTRACT:** After some discussion, Ms. Weiseman made a motion to approve a 3 month contract beginning January 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 3-0.

B.) AEP COST SHARING AGREEMENT: Mayor Eckstein stated that we are still waiting on AEP's response to the City's proposal. He made a motion to table this topic until January 18, 2022. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 3-0.

C.) CROWE – WATER RATE STUDY ENGAGEMENT LETTER: There was discussion to the necessity of approving this letter. It was determined that we will indeed need these services. Ms. Weiseman made a motion to approve the Crowe Engagement Letter. Mayor Eckstein seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 3-0.

D.) M.M. EXTENDED SICK LEAVE: Chief Crouse explained to the Board that employee M.M. saw the doctor today and the leave was extended one month. The next doctor appointment is 1/21/22 and if there is no improvement they will possibly do surgery. If surgery is done this employee will be off for 4-6 months.

Mayor Eckstein made a motion to approve M.M.'s leave through 2/7/22. Ms. Weiseman seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 3-0.

E.) CORY STANLEY & JORDAN MASSEY RETROACTIVE EXTRA PAY TO 11/22/21: Ms. Weiseman asked if anyone had clarified the question as to how this pay would be classified. Clerk-Treasurer stated that she spoke with the payroll clerk and she explained that this would be paid as "extra" pay and not overtime.

Ms. Bonewit made a motion to approve the extra pay be paid retroactive to 11/22/21. Ms. Weiseman seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

A.) NEW PHONE SYSTEM/INTERNET QUOTES: After review and much discussion Ms. Weiseman asked if we could reach out to Comcast and obtain a quote of COAX internet vs. Fiber internet that has already been quoted. Clerk-Treasurer Whatley said she would reach out to them for a different quote. Ms. Bonewit made a motion to table this topic until the 1/4/22 meeting. Mayor Eckstein seconded the motion. The vote to table was 3-0.

B.) BLACKFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTRACT FOR 2022: Mayor Eckstein brought up this topic for discussion. He made a motion to table this topic to the 1/18/22 meeting after it could be introduced to City Council too. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The vote to table was 3-0.

C.) DEPARTMENT HEADS – EDUCATION CERTIFICATIONS – PAYMENT FOR 2022: There was a lot of discussion about stipends and certifications and what they exactly mean, how much is paid out for each type. It was decided that stipends are paid out at \$700 each and these are required to do the Department Head's job. Certificates are paid out at \$500 each and these are for extra duty pay, licenses that bring value to the job they do. Mayor Eckstein made a motion to table this topic to the 2/7/22 meeting. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The vote to table was 3-0.

BOARD INPUT:

A.) MS. BONEWIT: She wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

B.) MAYOR ECKSTEIN:

- 1.) Mayor Eckstein brought up the fact that COVID cases are going up. He told the Department Heads that if they feel that their employees are in an unsafe situation or if the employee feels the same then mask up. He stated that it's not mandated but at the discretion of the Department Head.
- 2.) He reminded everyone of the Christmas parade on Thursday, 12/23/21 at 6:00pm. He encouraged everyone to participate.
- 3.) He also reminded everyone of the City Employee's Christmas dinner on Wednesday, 12/22/21 at 11:30am being held at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT: With there being no further business, Ms. Weiseman made a motion for adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 5:58pm.

FOLDER 2/REC 151010-001