

**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY,
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF HARTFORD CITY, INDIANA
March 1, 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 Kristi Bonewit and Mayor Dan Eckstein. Ms. Pam Weiseman attended via phone. Also present were Savannah Ocasio on behalf of Attorney Brandon Murphy. Attorney Murphy was in attendance after the meeting began. Clerk-Treasurer, Dana Whatley was also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Ms. Bonewit made a motion to accept the agenda. Mayor Eckstein seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 2-0-1.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Ms. Bonewit made a motion to accept the minutes of February 16, 2021 as submitted. Mayor Eckstein seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0-1.

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 2-0-1.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A.) **RE-ADDRESS COVID-19 SICK PAY PROTOCOL FOR MARCH 2021:** Mayor Eckstein made a motion to continue this protocol for at least one more month. We will re-address this issue at the April 5, 2021 meeting. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0-1.
- B.) **EXTENDED SICK LEAVE FOR EMPLOYEE R.J.E.:** There was discussion about this employee's sick leave. The injury occurred at another part-time job that he holds and this is a workman's comp claim that job. He is supposed to go to the doctor later this week. Mayor Eckstein made a motion to approve the extended sick leave pending the receipt of a Dr.'s note by the March 15, 2021 meeting. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 2-0-1.
- C.) **EXTENDED SICK LEAVE FOR EMPLOYEE C.R.:** This employee provided a doctor's note stating a return to work date of 3/17/21. Mayor Eckstein made a motion to approve the leave through 3/16/21. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 2-0-1.
- D.) **EXTENDED SICK LEAVE FOR EMPLOYEE S.M.:** This employee is released and scheduled to return to work the evening of March 1, 2021. Mayor Eckstein made a motion to approve this leave through March 1, 2021. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 2-0-1.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A.) **M. SANDS – ADA UPDATE:** Ms. Sands gave the Board of Works an update on the city's ADA compliance with INDOT. She stated that we are currently considered in compliance and it is an ever evolving work in progress. She spoke about creating a committee of herself, a couple of city employees, a council member, a BOW member as well as a couple of people from the community. She has our Title 6 document filled out and sent to Attorney Murphy for his review.

- B.) J. THOMAS – CURBSIDE PICK-UP PLAN:** Mr. Thomas explained that he was approached by Councilman, Dustin George about coming up with a plan to pick up big extra trash and doing away with the Extra Trash Day that is held annually. He was addressing the Board of Works today to answer any questions they might have. He is going to address City Council this evening at their meeting. Mayor Eckstein made a motion for him to move forward to City Council. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The vote to move forward was 2-0-1.
- C.) MAYOR ECKSTEIN – LAND EASEMENT – ORC REAL ESTATE CONTRACT:** Mayor Eckstein explained that AEP is preparing to do some work and they need to get onto city owned property to accomplish it. They have asked the city's permission to do so. Attorney Murphy has reviewed the contract and has given his approval. Mayor Eckstein made a motion to approve the land easement contract. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 2-0-1.
- D.) T. WILLIAMSON – SEWER TAP FEE DISCUSSION:** Mr. Williamson said he was doing a review of the sewer tap work his department had done over the past year. He said that it's been an unwritten policy that the WWTP fix any sewer tap issue free of charge no matter how old the infrastructure might be. He stated that we can no longer continue to follow this type of policy. He explained that he's approaching BOW and Council this evening just as a discussion point. He would like to see the city make a decision to choose a definitive amount of time to warranty the work that is performed on a sewer tap. He's asking to just re-coup costs for these repairs. He is not proposing a profitable service. He's asked that the BOW and Council give him their input over the next couple of months and come up with an agreed upon policy going forward.
- E.) T. WILLIAMSON – OSHA TRENCH SAFETY SHORING:** Mr. Williamson shared with the BOW that the city does not have any trench shoring abilities to protect his employees in a trench deeper than 5 feet. Most of the sewers they work with are going to be 6 feet or deeper. He stated that he does not feel comfortable risking his staff's lives to do the work without the proper safety equipment. He provided 3 quotes and explained a little bit about each vendor and their quote. He strongly suggested they consider the quote from Ferguson. They are located in Kokomo, IN and both other quotes are out of state. He has done business with Ferguson in the past and they have the least expensive price tag. He also shared that he has the funds to pay for this piece of equipment. Mayor Eckstein made a motion to move forward to City Council. Ms. Bonewit seconded the motion. The vote to move forward was 2-0-1.

BOARD INPUT: None

ADJOURNMENT: With there being no further business, Mayor Eckstein made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:42pm.

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