

October 2, 2014

The Board of Public Works & Safety met at 4:00 pm on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Tucker presiding and members Jeffries and Curtis attending. Others attending were Chief Beloit; Chief Dixon; Comm. Dieterle; Supt Givens; Supt. Gray; Robbie Buchanan – Evansville Western Railroad; Loretta Gottman and Cindy Naab – Friends of Park; Lois Gray – Posey County News; and Jamie Grabert – Mount Vernon Democrat.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minutes of their previous meeting and by asking if there were any corrections or additions. He added if not, he entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented.

Board member Curtis moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented. Seconded by Board member Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated before they continue with the Agenda, he knows Mr. Buchanan pulled off a job to come here and he would ask that he be allowed to address the Board ?

Mr. Buchanan stated in reference to the crossing at W. 4th Street, the parts were delivered to day and they should start working on installing the new crossing on October 20. He added they crossing they are going to install is very durable, it is real good, solid concrete. He added each panel weighs 9,000 pounds. He added he wants to thank the city for their patience while they work to replace that.

Board member Jeffries asked how long the work should take ?

Mr. Buchanan replied about two days and after that work in complete, they will move on to work on the Lower New Harmony crossing. Hopefully those will be both be done in the same week.

Board member Curtis stated as the 4th Street crossing is actually a state highway, he will move that they allow the closing of Lower New Harmony Road while the work to replace that crossing, October 23 – 25. Seconded by Board member Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Buchanan thanked the Board and left the meeting.

Mayor Tucker requested action on the claims presented.

Board member Curtis moved the claims presented be allowed for payment. Seconded by Board member Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the reports of the Departments.

Chief Beloit stated he got permission at a previous meeting to send some officers to intox certification in Plainfield on October 8 and 9. He added some are still going but not the same ones, he just wanted to Board to be aware.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Chief Dixon stated he has no report.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Supt. Givens stated the State is encouraging submittal of their reports via electronic filing. He added he enrolled in that early on, though he still has to send in paper reports too until he hears back. Again, he is ready to send electronically and like anything else, he is sure there will be some glitches early on, but hopefully this will save them some money in postage.

Supt. Givens continued his report by stating he has been working with Asst. St. Comm. Miller and Comm. Dieterle on a 30" line by West Elementary School, and he has been storing the dirt from this project at the plant, but they will move it back when they are done. He added they have also hung door tags at E & S Housing in reference to the smoke testing they will be doing.

Board member Curtis asked if they will be having a meeting after that is done to discuss the results ?

Mayor Tucker replied yes and added it will be here at City Hall to discuss the project and the results of the smoke testing and how they need to proceed.

Supt Givens then stated he had been thinking about the dirt he has out at the plant, and wondered what he could do with it all. He added that Attorney Higgins said we would need a resolution if we would decide to let folks have some of it.

Board member Jeffries stated he is sure the city can find a good use for it.

Board member Curtis agreed and added they can always use it as fill for when they starting tearing down the buildings downtown. He added it isn't hurting anything being there, he feels Supt. Givens should just hang on to it.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Comm. Dieterle stated, as Supt. Givens reported, they started on the storm water project and have run about 260' of pipe there at the trailer park. He added they have about 700 more feet to go to get to the creek.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any Legals for consideration ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Board ?

Cindy Naab approached and stated there is river erosion in Mount Vernon.

Loretta Gottman stated this is not a new topic.

Ms. Naab stated as members of Friends of the Park, they need direction, as they are concerned about this. She added they wanted to make the city aware of the situation and she has contacted the Soil and Water Conservation District concerning programs for cities that are on rivers with erosion. She added the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) was also contacted and she spoke with an Ashley Haviland, who specializes in lake and river enhancement, funded through boat registration fees

in Indiana. That is where their budget comes from. Ms. Haviland visited with them and was totally shocked by the erosion and gave them some measures that they can put in place immediately to help. Ms. Gottman stated the first is to take out the trees that are within a 20 foot radius of the bank. She wondered how they go about doing that, as she recommends that be done.

Board member Curtis replied he believes they would need to contact the Army Corps of Engineers before they proceeded with that.

Ms. Naab stated that doesn't seem to be the case, in fact, Ms. Haviland told them the first two measures the city can do on their own, and money is available to do something about the erosion as well.

Ms. Gottman stated the money is in the form of a grant, which will be awarded next July, and no permit will be needed.

Ms. Naab stated the second measure they could take immediately is to permanently park on barge there on the bank. Until they find out what they can do for a long term fix.

Ms. Gottman added they will put this all in writing and send it to the Board. She then stated October 13 at 1:00 pm there will be a meeting at Mount Vernon Barge – they seemed to really be on board with the idea.

Ms. Naab added from there, they can apply for a grant and if accepted, an environmental engineer will conduct a feasibility study on various scenarios. The cost of that will run around \$15,000, but after accepted, \$13,500 of that will be covered. They can then go over the scenarios. The project would be divided up into phases, \$100,000 per phase, and no matching funds are required. She added IDNR would get all of the permits for them and Ms. Haviland would be the project manager. She then stated Ms. Haviland is willing to meeting with any group, etc. to discuss all of this.

Ms. Gottman stated once the study is done, they will get the cost of the phases of the project. She added they can apply for a DNR grant and put willows down there, though that would be temporary fix. They would need to be trimmed so they do not end up in the same boat they are in now, as those trees are top heavy – again, a temporary fix. The best, permanent fix would be to tier off the bank.

Ms. Naab agreed and added from the top, down – it needs to be graduated.

Ms. Gottman stated that is a great process but it costs more and they would also need an engineer in grading/sloping.

Ms. Naab stated the DNR has a list of contractors that meet their construction standards as well.

Ms. Gottman stated she is sure they could get some local to bid on this, and that would be cheaper.

Board member Curtis stated this DNR person - has she indicated that money would be available for an engineering study ?

Ms. Naab replied yes, \$13,500 – just apply and be accepted.

Board member Jeffries stated it sounds like it doesn't cost anything to apply.

Board member Curtis stated they apply, and if they are accepted....

Board member Jeffries stated then the out of pocket to the city would be around \$3,000. But then they have to be concerned about what the engineer recommends.

Ms. Naab stated they are going after three scenarios, from cheapest to the best.

Board member Jeffries asked if Ms. Haviland will be at the October 13 meeting ?

Ms. Gottman replied being that is a Holiday, she will try.

Ms. Naab asked if there were any questions ?

Mayor Tucker stated they have to do a study, does the application have to be in by a certain time ? January maybe ?

Board member Jeffries stated they really do need a time line.

Ms. Gottman asked if there is an issue on the city end of the number of open grants they can have ?

Mayor Tucker replied no and added most are also an 80/20 match. He then added if there is money out there, not to exceed \$100,000 per year, they can apply each time.

Ms. Gottman added they are not out anything.

Mayor Tucker stated if the study is done, and if they are approved, they then apply for the grant and see where they go from there.

Ms. Naab stated they actually apply first, then do the study, and then find out if they are accepted. They apply first.

Board member Curtis asked if they can stop the process after the study ?

Ms. Naab replied she will have to ask Ms. Haviland.

Board member Curtis stated he wants to be sure there is still an out if the city can not come up with the additional money.

Ms. Naab stated she understands that and they will ask Ms. Haviland just to verify. She then stated once they apply and the decision is made to accept the city or not, IF accepted, the city gets the \$100,000.00.

Board member Curtis stated he would really for them to check that to be sure, and again, he would really like to see some paperwork.

Ms. Gottman stated she has also talked to IDEM (David Carr) and they are interested in helping. She then asked if they have the OK for the tree removal and if so, how do they pursue that. The meeting October 13 is set, and can they proceed with the grant and they will see about the trees.

Ms. Naab asked if it was ok to apply ?

Board member Jeffries asked through the DNR and is it the city that actually has to apply?

Mayor Tucker replied the city may have to apply, and then he asked if they would want to try to meet with Ms. Haviland before the October 13 meeting ? He then agreed that something needs to be done about the erosion, but a lot of this needs cleared up first.

Board member Jeffries stated no cutting of trees just yet.

Supt. Gray stated they have already been given permission, they were just told they have to leave the stumps, the Army Corps of Engineers has no problem with this.

Board member Jeffries stated they shouldn't be overly hasty here.

Ms. Naab stated there are also some saplings on the bank in back of the amphitheater that need topped out.

Comm. Dieterle stated he was going to the trees down that are already leaning.

Ms. Naab stated she will arrange a meeting with Ms. Haviland and get the dates out to the Board. She added she will also get with Ms. Willis and the grant application. She then stated they can reschedule the October 13 meeting due to the Holiday. She then questioned the Board's feeling on the placement of the barge. Again, she will shoot for the 22nd and Ms. Haviland and Mount Vernon Barge.

Board member Jeffries stated they need that meeting to turn assumptions into facts.

Mayor Tucker stated he likes what Ms. Gottman and Ms. Naab are saying, it sounds good, and the city will do something. He knows that Supt. Gray has been working on this as well. He then asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any Old Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business ?

Chief Dixon stated he has pay requests on the police and fire station, which he then gave to the Board. He stated he also has some change orders. He stated the first is for TMI – metal on the sides of the bays – added to the rough carpentry trade package now with an increase of \$14,000 – which they will then deduct from the finished carpentry trade package. He stated the second change order is for Sanders, an increase of \$4,400.00 for brand new 2" copper line from the main to the meter to the building to the truck bays and installation of back flow. He added there were \$5,000 on allowances, so off the \$9,000, there is a net change order by \$4,400.00.

Board member Curtis moved the Board accept the change orders, as presented. Seconded by Board member Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated they need official action on the October 30 meeting. He added there will be no meetings for the Utility Board or Council on that date as it will be the meeting of the month. Board concurred to cancel the October 30 meeting, with payment of claims as needed.

Mayor Tucker stated also under New Business, he was approached by Gene McCoy of the Faith United Methodist Church to close Wolfen Street between 2nd and 3rd Streets on October 31 from 4:00 to 5:30 for a safe trick-or-treat. He added Comm. Dieterle can drop barricades off.

Board member Jeffries moved permission be given. Seconded by Board member Curtis.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated if there was no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn.

Board member Curtis moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Board member Jeffries.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

John Tucker
Mayor

ATTEST:

Cristi L. Sitzman
Clerk-Treasurer