

August 20, 2015

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 member Curtis attending. Board member Jeffries was not present. Others attending were Acting Supt. Moss; Gene Carroll; Chief Beloit; Chief Dixon; Comm. Dieterle; Judy Thomann – Lochmueller Group; Amanda Green-Adams – Code Enforcement; Tony James; Geneva James; Bldg Comm. Willis; Kent Ahrenholtz and Laura Spradley – fHg Architectural Salvage; Corey Woolsey – Mount Vernon Democrat; and arriving during the meeting, Lois Gray – Posey County News.

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 Mayor Tucker, who then 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 requested action on the claims presented.

Board member Curtis moved the claims presented be allowed for payment. Seconded by Mayor Tucker, who then 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 Districts.

Chief Beloit stated he has set the date for interviews for the position of police officer – September 3, 2015 at 2:00 pm at City Hall.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Chief Dixon stated, as a reminder, the Open House for the new Police and Fire Station will be next Thursday, August 27, from 4:00 to 8:00 pm.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Acting Supt. Moss started his report by stating Lochmueller has offered to help them with some things like educational programs, permits, documents, employee training, and just wastewater operations in general.

Lois Gray arrived at the meeting.

Acting Supt. Moss they can do all of this work for \$7,500.00.

Mayor Tucker asked if there is a contract that needs to be signed ?

Ms. Thomann stated they are presenting a general services agreement which allows in emergency situations, like now with Supt. Givens hospitalized, small services to be completed without having to draft a new contract for every situation. She added this would cover the water and the wastewater. It is for smaller purchases, work orders, which will be reviewed and approved by the Mayor.

Board member Curtis stated if the men need help, the Supt. is gone, there are still regulations that have to adhere to. He then moved the Board approve the general services agreement with Lochmueller, Work Order #1, for \$7,500.00 for services from August 20 to October 2, 2015. Seconded by Mayor Tucker, who then 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.

Acting Supt. Moss added he is good with it.

Mayor Tucker then signed the agreement.

Ms. Thomann stated Work Order #2 concerns their permitting work for the NPDES permit. On the administration side. Lochmueller can help them with that, as Mr. Moss and Mr. Carroll will assistance in taking care of that. She added this work will be on an hourly basis, with a not-to-exceed amount of \$7,500 and goes from August 20 to November 30, 2015.

Board member Curtis stated he really appreciates the position that Acting Supt. Moss and Mr. Carroll are in right now, and will move that Work Order #2 be approved, on an hourly basis, not-to-exceed \$7,500.00. Seconded by Mayor Tucker, who then 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.

Acting Supt. Moss continued his report by stating their safety equipment is out of date, and they especially need emergency equipment when going down into manholes, etc. He then handed Board a list of needed equipment.

Board member Curtis asked if these are things they had already discussed ?

Acting Supt. Moss replied yes.

Board member Curtis stated these are things they have to have.

Mr. Carroll stated Ms. Bethel found many of the items cheaper on line (about \$3000) than the original prices. He added they do need other things, but this will get them started.

Board member Curtis moved the list of safety equipment as provided be purchased from Fastenal, at a not-to-exceed cost of \$6,000.00. Seconded by Mayor Tucker, who then 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. Carroll stated in reference to the utility truck they have been discussing for several weeks, he does have some better quotes. He added they have discussed various options with the Board and he believes they have come up with a reasonable solution.

Board member Curtis asked if Mr. Carroll was comfortable with the option he has chosen and if he is confident it will be the job.

Mr. Carroll and Acting Supt. Moss replied yes.

Mr. Carroll added it will pull the trailers as well as the jet machine.

Board member Curtis stated he is good with this. They have done the research, so he is OK with the purchase.

Mayor Tucker agreed they have done everything the Board has asked of them.

Board member Curtis added the equipment they have now is not what they need. He then moved the purchase of the Elpers utility truck at a cost of \$74,352.89 be approved. Seconded by Mayor Tucker, who then 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.
Board member Curtis added, use it safely and maintain it.

Acting Supt. Moss continued by stating he has the quote from HydroMax concerning the lift station on Smith Road. He added it is a different, more detailed quote. As a result, the price went up a little bit. Board member Curtis stated he would like Lochmueller to review this. He added he has no question that it needs work.

Acting Supt. Moss replied that is fine.

Board member Curtis stated it is still a better price than the \$134,000 originally quoted.

Acting Supt. Moss next stated the diesel battery at Mill Creek blew up. He added they need to get them ready for winter. He stated he went ahead and made contact with KM Specialty Pump and they will be down tomorrow to start on this. He then gave Board estimated cost of repair.

Board member Curtis move the repair and clean up of the batter spill, plus supplies, be approved with KM Specialty Pump, at a not-to-exceed cost of \$5,500.00. Seconded by Mayor Tucker, who then 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 asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Comm. Dieterle stated he would like approval to use the city credit card at AT & T for Don Rye to upgrade his phone. He has had his current phone for two and a half years and he is starting to have issues with it. He added AT & T is having a sale right now, \$399.99 for the phone with a \$100.00 rebate, which he will use to get a waterproof case.

Board member Curtis moved permission for the credit card use and upgrade be given, not-to-exceed \$450.00. Seconded by Mayor Tucker, who then 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.

Comm. Dieterle stated he has a request for a block party on September 26 in the 1200 block of Locust Street. He added he will drop the barricades off.

Comm. Dieterle stated he also has some street/curb cut permits. One is Washington and Grenada. The cut will be flush and should be no issue. The other is at 329 E 4th Street – Derrick Wells’s new office. He will be putting in angle parking at his building, which he will be paying for, but he will need to cut the curb. Again, the cut will be made flush with the street. He added he has no issues with the requests. Board consented to both cuts.

Comm. Dieterle continued by stating he has received complaints on the 300 block of W. 2nd Street where a homeowner has removed the sidewalk at his residence and replaced it with nine evergreen trees. He added he is not sure whose jurisdiction this falls under and he needs some advice.

Mayor Tucker replied he believes that is an Attorney Higgins question and he suggests that he contact her.

Comm. Dieterle concluded his report by stating Main Street is striped now and the turn lanes should be put in shortly.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker stated they are now ready for the Legal portion of the Agenda, with the first item being to open quotes for a salvage contractors for the BEP.

Bldg. Comm. Willis stated she went out for quotes/RFP's, but only had respondent. She added she used Evansville's paperwork and tweaked it for Mount Vernon. She stated she also talked with EDC members Ashworth and Adams as well as Attorney Trent VanHaaften, who ok'd the papers.

Mr. Ahrenholtz thanked the Board for the opportunity to quote this project. He then stated they have worked salvage on 50 to 55 houses in Evansville, as well as the Doane house here in Mount Vernon. He added Ms. Spradley is looking into opening a salvage store in New Harmony.

Ms. Willis stated several people have come forward wanting items in the old police and fire station building before it is demolished. She added the city can not let them in as that would be a liability to the city should the building prove to be unsafe. She stated fHg Salvage takes that liability off of the city.

Board member Curtis asked what happens to the structure after they have done the salvage.

Mr. Ahrenholtz replied they seal up the building as best they can. The doors, windows openings, etc. They try to make it as secure as they can.

Board member Curtis asked if they have had any issues with anything ?

Mr. Ahrenholtz replied not really as most of the homes they go in to are not in the greatest of shape. He added if they are ready for demo/salvage, they really are in bad shape. He stated they look for architectural elements like doors, windows, sinks, etc.

Mayor Tucker stated he wished the city did not have to be working on a BEP, but it happens. Many of the historical properties in town are in disrepair, and if some items from those properties can be reused, that is great.

Ms. Willis agreed and added it is a good opportunity to save some of that history.

Mr. Ahrenholtz added the most popular items are doors.

Mayor Tucker stated this will also keep some of this out of the landfill as well as preserving history.

Ms. Willis stated she has an agreement, memo of understanding, which Mr. VanHaaften has reviewed, though Attorney Higgins has not.

Board member Curtis replied she probably needs to.

Ms. Willis added they also meet the insurance requirements.

Board member Curtis moved they approve the agreement, pending., review by Attorney Higgins, then they can move forward. Seconded by Mayor Tucker, who then 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 the next item is a request to salvage items from the old police and fire building, by Architectural Salvage.

Ms. Willis stated they are preparing the building for demolition, Chief Dixon is working on moving the radio tower, and they have now gotten all of the trash out of the building. Architectural Salvage is interested in doing some salvage work there before the demo. She added they have prepared a list of items they are interested in. The city also has a list that want to distribute.

Mr. Ahrenholtz added they are interested in the big dividing door upstairs, as well as the wood paneling , the two pane windows, the stairway and spindling posts. He stated in lieu of payment they would ask that they be allowed to salvage those items.

Mayor Tucker stated as long as the city gets what it needs first. The building was built in 1893 and he does not want to see the stuff go to the landfill.

Board member Curtis moved that as the items left in the building have a value of less than \$5,000, the entire contents of the old police and fire station be declared junk. Seconded by Mayor Tucker, who then 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 the next item is Krowl Law Firm in reference to property on BEP that is in bankruptcy.

Ms. Willis stated she has dilapidated property that is in bankruptcy and she needs to retain a bankruptcy firm to move forward with the hearings process. She stated she has a contract for approval at a cost of \$100 per hour and she estimates the cost to be around \$500 and \$600.00.

Board member Curtis stated this is a standard process. He then moved the contract with Krowl Law Firm be approved. Seconded by Mayor Tucker, who then 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 the next item is Tony James, who has filed an appeal on a weed mowing bill. Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman added Mr. James filed the appeal within the 10 day period.

Ms. Adams approached the Board and went over the packet on the violation, along with the dates, and pictures. After explaining the procedures she followed she added that five days after Mr. James received the notice, she sent the work order to the street department. It was mowed on August 4 and the bill was sent to Mr. James on August 7, which he received on August 11 and on August 12 he appealed.

Mayor Tucker asked if the yard was mowed the same day the work order was issued ?

Ms. Adams replied yes.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions of Ms. Adams ?

There were none.

Mr. James stated his bill is \$214.14. He stated she is saying a letter was sent on July 23, and July 25 Ryan Philips cut the grass for \$40 and he has the bill with him. He added he has a letter from a neighbor stating that the grass was cut by Philips.

Mayor Tucker stated the grass wasn't cut from July 25 through August 5.

Mr. James relied the mower comes every two weeks.

Mayor Tucker stated it should be mowed at least that often – there was a lot of rain during that time and he is sure it grew quicker. Comm. Dieterle was asked when the department gets an order to mow if they take pictures. It sounds like there was a communication breakdown.

Comm. Dieterle replied there were no pictures this time. He then stated if it had been 10 days since it was mowed it was probably high enough to be in violation.

Mayor Tucker stated Ms. Adams does a fantastic job and she crosses her T's and dots her I's. He wondered if there was communication between July 25 and when the city mowed on August 5. How high was the grass ? He stated he is sure it more than likely was as they had so much during that period.

Comm. Dieterle stated his department has been fighting this all summer.

Mr. James agreed.

Mayor Tucker stated there are no pictures from before the city mowed, though the city did in fact mow.

Geneva James stated Mr. Philips mowed her grass the same day he mowed Tony's. Tony has been running from the street department to city hall to try to get this resolved and to try to talk to code enforcement, and she wasn't in. There has been too much running around nothing getting solved.

Board member Curtis stated if all of this happened before July 25 when it was last mowed, was he compliance once it was mowed ?

Ms. Adams replied yes. She added they have had issues at this same address earlier in the year and it was also written off.

Board member Curtis stated this is difficult, and he realizes that Ms. Adams did her job appropriately, but he doesn't feel that the city can charge Mr. James. He then moved the bill be waived. Seconded by Mayor Tucker, who then 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 asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Board ?

There was no response.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any Old Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business ?

There was none.

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 Mayor Tucker, who then 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