

**Board of Public Works & Safety
and
Park Authority Meeting
Wednesday, June 26, 2019 – 10:00 a.m.
Ligonier City Hall · 301 S. Cavin St. · Ligonier, IN 46767**

Call to order: Mayor Fisel

Roll Call

Present: Board Members Earle Franklin, Tom Janes, and Mayor Patty Fisel
City Attorney Steve Clouse and Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn

Minutes from previous meeting of June 12, 2019

Motion to approve: Earle Franklin Second: Tom Janes Vote: All Ayes

Citizens Comments

Ramiro Macias, 424 W. Long Drive

Mr. Macias has a problem with his utility bill. Last winter had a problem with the building at 911 Gerber St. There was a leak in the back of the building. The total bill is over \$7,000 and normal bill is about \$79 per month. Asking for help with a payment plan. Water is currently disconnected. Wants to see what we can do to help. Can we let him make payments?

Water Superintendent Jeff Boyle commented that one of the lines in the back of the building was leaking. Troy Arnold of the Water Dept. went to check after they called, and water was spraying outside the building, so it did not go down the sewer. The back of the building is empty.

Motion to allow the water to be turned on until we can get the additional information needed to discuss further: Earle Franklin Second: Tom Janes Vote: All Ayes

Phyllis Hile, 407 Grand Street

Mrs. Hile commented that the Board of Works Meetings are always in mornings when many people work. Is it possible to have one meeting a month in the evening so that others can attend?
City Attorney Clouse commented that meetings are set for the year in advance. Mayor Fisel commented that the board can consider the request.

Barbara Wallace, 1101 W. Second Street

Mrs. Wallace commented that she had a small complaint regarding street sweeping. There is no set schedule of when they come around with the sweeper so they can move the vehicles. Can they schedule a day or time?

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette commented that they normally sweep every other Thursday or Friday depending on when his staff is able to due to other workload. They will consider setting up a schedule.

Unfinished Business

Eagles Nest Sewage Bill

At the meeting of June 10, 2019, this issue was tabled. The Eagles Nest representatives were not at today's meeting. Wastewater Superintendent Kenny Sprague said he spoke with them and the part necessary for the repair is in, but it will not be installed until later in July. The board earlier determined to set a flat fee of \$5,000 for the July billing to allow time for the repair. They will consider a request to do the same for the August billing if the repair is not completed in time for the August billing.

***Motion to table the issue to next meeting: Tom Janes
Second: Earle Franklin Vote: All ayes***

New Business

Police Dept. – Recommendation for SRO Position

The School Resource Officer (SRO) position was advertised in the News Sun and applications were taken for one week. We had specific requirements spelled out to qualify for the position. One application with all of the requirements met was received.

Chief Shearer made the recommendation to hire Christopher Shearer for the new SRO position at West Noble School Corporation for the south campus. He is academy trained, a 13 year veteran officer with 6 years as an SRO in Kendallville. He has previously been a part-time officer for Ligonier. Chief Shearer added for the record that Chris is his cousin, and this relationship does not fall under the nepotism law.

The board gave Chris an opportunity to speak. He commented that he appreciated the opportunity to apply for the position and would look forward to working in the Ligonier community again.

Motion to approve hire of Chris Shearer to fill the new SRO position: Patty Fisel

Second: Tom Janes

Vote: All Ayes

Chief Shearer thanked the board and reminded them that West Noble School Corporation pays 50% of wages and benefits of the current SRO and will do the same for the new SRO position.

Chief Shearer asked the board that to approve a start date for Chris Shearer of 7/13/19 and due the fact that he is a 13 year police veteran, he not be considered probationary first class and his starting wages are those of a first class patrolman.

Motion to approve a start date of 7/13/2019 and wages at the first class patrolman: Patty Fisel

Second: Earle Franklin

Vote: All Ayes

Pay App #2 – API Construction

Pay Application #2 from API Construction for the Community Crossings paving project was received. The amount of the application will close out the grant portion which is \$2451.71. The balance due to the contractor is from a change order of \$51,085.58.

City Engineer Rick Pharis commented that he has asked API to reseed the yards that were seeded in late spring. The time frame for this will be August to October since summer is not a good time to do so.

Motion to approve Pay App #2 for API Construction in the amount of \$2,451.71: Tom Janes

Second: Earle Franklin

Vote: All Ayes

Department Heads and Members of Administration

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette

- Getting ready to repair the sidewalk on main due to the damage from the storm and the uprooted tree.

WWTP Superintendent Kenny Sprague

- Jacob Snyder started two weeks ago and is doing well.
- We are operating the sludge press. Discovered additional savings by using a different type of polymer.
- The garage project is set to start in mid-July.

Park Director Travis Brimhall

- Trying to learn the processes at the Park Department.

Building Inspector/Board Member Earle Franklin

- Received clearance from the state for the foundation of the fire station.

Board Member Tom Janes

- Welcome Travis and Chris.

Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn

- Welcome Travis and Chris.


Mayor Fisel's Comments



- Received a call from executive director of Northeast Solid Waste with concerns about the new compost. Believe we addressed most of the issues. The main concerns were with getting the grinding equipment into the area. Use of the new entrance off Third Street should take care of the problems. There are some concerns with people on the track while they are grinding, and this will be addressed.

Adjournment @ approximately 10:30

Motion to adjourn: Earle Franklin

Second: Tom Janes


Barbara Hawn, Clerk Treasurer



Patricia Fisel, Mayor