

**Board of Public Works & Safety  
and Park Authority Meeting  
Wednesday, December 9, 2020 – 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 November 25, 2020**

***Motion to approve: Tom Janes***

***Second: Earle Franklin***

***Vote: All Ayes***

**New Business**

**301 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St – Request for Reimbursement**

Jorge Lucero had an issue at 301 East Fourth Street and was present to discuss the issue. He is requesting reimbursement from the city for sewer repair he feels is the city's responsibility.

WWTP Superintendent Kenny Sprague and City Engineer Rick Pharis spoke to the issue. In May, Mr. Lucero contacted the city about a problem with a line they found while digging. We could not locate his tap. The contractor he called could not find the line or tap either. He feels he has not been hooked up to city sewer and has been paying the monthly fee for years.

We did get his service hooked up with a new tap which we did not charge for. City Engineer Pharis said the sewer ordinance states that all repair expenses are the owner's responsibility. He also told the board to consider that even if they had not had a line, they would have been responsible to connect to our line as the owner pays for the connect per the ordinance.

***Motion to deny the request: Patty Fisel***

***Motion died for lack of second***

***Motion to table to obtain additional information: Tom Janes***

***Second: Earle Franklin***

***Vote: All Ayes***

**Employee Request**

Vickie Yoquelet presented a request to the board that the board increase her wage to that of a new clerical employee whose starting wage is 17.00 per hour. Vickie has been here almost two years and her rate is \$15.40. Lengthy discussion was held. Board Member Janes stated he does not have a problem with the request but there needs to be some type of uniformity and it puts the board in a situation. Mayor Fisel stated that she felt we have to be fair which resulted in the following.

***Motion to approve Vickie Yoquelet's request for an increase to \$17.00/hour and to investigate the way we proceed in the future: Patty Fisel***

***Second: Earle Franklin***

***Vote: Patty Fisel: Aye, Earle Franklin: Aye, Tom Janes: Abstain as he was not ready to vote***

**December 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting**

The board was asked their preference on holding or cancelling the December 23, 2020 meeting due to the closeness to the holiday.

***Motion to cancel the December 23, 2020 meeting: Earle Franklin***

***Second: Patty Fisel***

***Vote: All Ayes***

**Department Heads and Members of Administration**

**Fire Chief Jeremy Weaver**

- Slowly making progress at the new fire station project.

**Street Superintendent Mike Burdette**

- Busy hauling leaves out of the compost site to farmland.

**Public Safety Director/Police Chief Bryan Shearer**

- Progressing slowly but correctly on the fire station project. Full confidence in the contractor, Schenkel, John Nelson from Triad who is taking care of the daily project inspections and building inspector Earle Franklin with his inspections.

**Park Director Travis Brimhall**

- Road was paved in Woodlawn Park. Pulver's also did some patching around the city.

**Water Superintendent Jeff Boyle**

- Wrapping things up before the cold weather.

**WWTP Superintendent Kenny Sprague**

- Have been doing locates for the stormwater project.
- Happy to see we got the grant for Martin Street that will help some drainage issues.
- Have two employees testing for their license certifications.

**City Engineer Rick Pharis**

- Working on getting the storm sewer project ready to go – should start in January.
- Received the community crossing grant for Martin Street.
- Starting on the fencing for the trail in the industrial park area. No motorized vehicles signs are up.

**Building Inspector/Board Member Earle Franklin**

- Another new home permit in Park Meadow – total of 20 homes so far.

**Board Member Tom Janes**

- Wanted to reaffirm not voting against Vickie but would like to see a procedure in place for everyone.

**Adjournment**

*Motion to adjourn: Patty Fisel*

*Second: Earle Franklin*

  
Barbara Hawn, Clerk Treasurer

  
Patricia Fisel, Mayor