

**Board of Public Works & Safety
and Park Authority Meeting
Wednesday, August 30, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.
Ligonier City Hall · 301 S. Cavin St. · Ligonier, IN 46767**

Call to order by

Roll Call

Present: Board Members Tom Janes, Ron Terry, and Mayor Earle Franklin
City Attorney Jack Birch and Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn

Minutes from previous meeting of August 8, 2023

Motion to approve: Ron Terry Second: Tom Janes Vote: All Ayes

New Business

Park Dept. – Pickleball Court Quotes

Quotes from Niblock (the only local company who does pickleball courts) for two pickleball courts of \$115,578 and Young Services for the sidewalks around the courts of \$12,400 were received. A local foundation donated funding for one half of the cost and the balance is in the 2024 budget. The courts will be put in where the shuffleboard courts were. Work will begin the first week of October with the final finish work in the spring. The courts will be able to be used prior to the final finish.

Motion to approve: Tom Janes Second: Ron Terry Vote: All Ayes

Street Dept. – Employee Wage Increase Request

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette requested a \$1.00 per hour raise for a part-time employee who has completed 90 days of service. Burdette commented that he is doing a great job. He has learned maintenance on mowers and street sweeper. Board members discussed resulting in the following.

Mayor Franklin stated we have no provisions to compensate for doing good work. The provisions we have for increases for full time employees relate to specifics such as obtaining a CDL. The employee is scheduled for a 70 cent per hour raise in January with an over the board 4% pay increase.

With that in mind, motion to deny the request: Earle Franklin Second: Ron Terry Vote: All Ayes

Police Dept. – Firearms Purchase

Police Chief Bryan Shearer requested permission to spend \$1,807.80 to be paid from the balance of his firearms budget and trade ins. We currently have off duty firearms for our officers - compatible with our on-duty firearms, and this is what the purchase will be for.

Motion to approve: Tom Janes Second: Ron Terry Vote: All Ayes

Fire Dept. – Equipment Purchase

Fire Chief Jeremy Weaver provided a quote for repairs of the gear box on Engine 26, the 2016 Sutphen. The total cost was \$4,074.81.

Motion to approve: Tom Janes Second: Ron Terry Vote: All Ayes

Comments by Members of Council and Administration

Fire Chief Jeremy Weaver

- Preparing for the festival.

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette

- Preparing for the festival.
- Young Services is doing the 50-50 resident sidewalk repairs.

Public Safety Director/Police Chief Bryan Shearer

- Preparing for the festival.
- October 14 is the date for Public Safety Day at Fashion Farm and Touch the Truck.
- The Annual Police and Fire Softball Game is Sunday, October 1 at 4:00 pm in Kenney Park. We will be doing a food drive for the Food Pantry.
- Thank John Parrish and his park crew with their help on the parade route to get the properties cleaned up.

Water Superintendent Jeff Boyle

- Dixon Engineering will be in to do a final check on the water towers. They will be back again next year to do another inspection.
- We are caught up on meter replacement and currently only have 15 to go to complete all radio reads.
- We filed additional paperwork with DNR usage report – usage in the area of large wells.
- Repairs for the chlorinator will be next week.
- Pulver should be in town shortly after Labor Day to finish Main Street.

WWTP Superintendent Kenny Sprague

- Install the pump and control panel at the Lincolnway Lift Station
- Working with John Nelson and Jonathon Moen of Triad Associates on the WWTP project.

Park Director John Parrish

- Preparing for the festival.
- We will be repairing concrete at the concession stand in Kenney Park next month.
- When we get ordinance violations requiring mowing/yard clean up, we try to contact the homeowner. If they ask for another day, we oblige but let them know it will be the next day. About 1/3 take care of in 24 hours.

Building Inspector Elroy Mast

- Will be out of the office for two weeks from 9/6 to 9/18.

City Engineer John Nelson

- The pre-bid meeting on the WWTP project will be on 9/6 at 1:30.
- Update on the manhole issue on SR5 at Union Street. INDOT issued permits and quotes were received. Want to hold a coordination meeting with Niblock for discussion of the project. The project will take about one week start to finish. SR5 will have one lane closed periodically each day, but the logistics need to be worked out. There will be temporary stoplights. Will set up a meeting with department heads within the next two weeks.

City Attorney Jack Birch

- Jeff – Verizon contract – haven't addressed
The contract is not up – when it is up – they are asking to lower the contract beginning in November. Not at renewal yet – proposed to lower it by 30%. Will ignore it at this time.

Clerk-Treasurer Barb Hawn

- Citywide Garage Sales are September 8 and 9 with no permit necessary.
- City clean up is September 16 at the Wastewater Treatment Plant from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.
- The State Board of Accounts began the examination of 2021 and 2022 this week.

Mayor Earle Franklin

- AT&T called regarding their lines on the Coussen Property, and they were directed to John Piraccini.
- Checked into the police call referred to in the complaint brought to the council regarding the police officer not responding. The police log verified that the officer was at the event center within a minute of the call.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Tom Janes

Second: Ron Terry

Vote: All Ayes

Barbara Hawn, Clerk Treasurer

Earle Franklin, Mayor