

Board of Public Works & Safety Meeting - Wednesday, August 24, 2011 - 1:30 p.m. - Audio Available

Call to order by: Mayor Fisel

Roll Call

Present: Board Members Bonnie Edgell, Tom Janes, and Patty Fisel, City Attorney Steve Hagen and Clerk Treasurer Barb Hawn.

Minutes from previous meeting of

Motion to approve by: Bonnie Edgell Seconded by: Tom Janes

Vote: All Ayes

Citizens Comments - None

Unfinished Business

1. Pettit Park Farmer's Market – Pavilion Update

The excavating should commence this week in hopes that the foundation will be started next week. The Farmer's Market will be administered by the Park Dept. We have ad requests to keep the market to home grown or home arts and crafts only – nothing to be bought and resold, or flea market items. We will be drafting policies.

We will check with Maria Marquez on the vendors being sought for the third Fridays event so see if any of them would be a fit for the Farmer's Market as well.

New Business

1. *Command Truck for Fire Dept.*

Chief Weaver requested three quotes for a command truck for the Fire Dept. Only two of the requests were granted. Funds for the project would be taken from unused CEDIT funds that the Fire Dept. did not used in two prior years. Council previously approved proceeding with the necessary steps to appropriate the funds and a public hearing will be held on 9-12-11. The Chief is asking for BOW approval pending the outcome of the public hearing.

Motion to approve the purchase of the command truck subject to availability of funds and additional appropriations at the 9-12-11 public hearing and council meeting by: Tom Janes

Seconded by: Bonnie Edgell **Vote: All Ayes**

2. *Triad Bill for NE Quadrant*

The funding for the engineering portion of the NE Quadrant CSO separation project was originally intended to come from the OCRA grant the City applied for, however, the City did not receive the grant. Jim Frazell from Triad was in attendance and explained that the bill the City just received as part of the engineering contract is not due to be paid until the SRF loan closes early in 2012. They bill the services as they are incurred, but funding is budgeted to be paid from the loan.

Department Heads and Members of Administration

Fire Chief Jeremy Weaver: Jeremy has an application from Kevin Sliter to join the volunteer fire department and is asking for permission to hire. Information regarding the new e-verify system was brought to the attention of the board by Clerk Barb Hawn.

***Motion to hire Kevin Sliter as a volunteer fireman pending authorization from e-verify by: Patty Fisel
Seconded by: Bonnie Edgell Vote: All Ayes***

Police Chief Bryan Shearer: The PD will be losing the services of part-time officer Matt Johnson who has accepted a position as a police officer with Norfolk and Southern. Bryan requested permission to reinstate Chris Shearer, who is currently a full-time officer in Kendallville, as a part-time officer as he is willing to work open shifts when available. Chris is still in the payroll system.

***Motion to reinstate Chris Shearer as a part-time police officer by: Bonnie Edgell
Seconded by: Patty Fisel Vote: All Ayes***

Bryan also mentioned to the board that he will be requesting that Council approve an ordinance allowing work comp wage compensation for police officers and firefighters who are not currently covered under the City's work comp policy due to old statutory regulations regarding pension plans. He will be asking for 100% coverage for up to one year, with the policy modeled after one in place by the City of Auburn, IN.

City Engineer Rick Pharis: Notices were posted regarding the surveying done on the north side of the City. Rick received a call from a concerned resident asking if sewer rates would go up to which he replied that the Mayor was adamant about no rate increase.

WWTP Manager Mark Schultz: Mark contacted Safety Kleen regarding the disposal of fluorescent bulbs at the WWTP and provided the information to the other department heads. A disposal box is purchased upfront and then filled as bulbs expire. The filled box will then be picked up by their driver for proper disposal as these bulbs cannot be thrown away in a regular dumpster.

City Clerk Barb Hawn: Barb informed the Board and Dept. Heads of a recent work comp audit. When a vendor does not provide a certificate of liability and work comp, the City is charged back for coverage of the people doing the work. An example is a \$3700 bill for excavating cost the City an additional \$200 in premiums. The deputy clerk tried diligently to get the certificate to no avail. It was suggested by the agent that no work begin without the certificate and department heads be upfront with new vendors and service staff regarding the necessity to provide the coverage before work begins.

Mayor Patty Fisel: The Mayor provided information regarding a Remembrance for 9-11 being held at the Library. She also provided information from Ruth Elijah regarding the need for additional parade entries. The Noble County Economic Development sent their thanks via the Mayor for the City's financial support through the CREDIT funds of \$10,000. The Mayor sees improvement in the NCED in providing assistance to Ligonier and diminishing the East versus West battle in Noble County.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by: Bonnie Edgell Seconded by: Patty Fisel