

Board of Public Works & Safety Meeting
Tuesday, July 22, 2014 - 1:30 p.m.
Ligonier City Hall · 301 S. Cavin St. · Ligonier, IN 46767

Call to order by: Mayor Fisel

Roll Call

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

Minutes from previous meeting of July 9, 2014

Motion to approve: Tom Janes

Second: Earle Franklin

Vote: All Ayes

Citizens Comments

Jerry Donley, 9292 N 600 W, Ligonier

Jerry was questioning the storm water charges on his bill. The charges are by ordinance and are not related to an individual property – but to quality of life for the community.

Jerry also questioned the fire protection fee on the bill. This is for hydrant maintenance and is also by ordinance.

Jerry asked why the fire department does not bill for service when attending to a fire. The matter will be researched to see if this would be feasible.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business

▪ **Sidewalk Issue**

Chris Fought was present to address an issue with the sidewalk replacement at his home. The city's street department will remove public sidewalks at no charge to residents; we do not remove private sidewalks and driveways. However, we do not have a written agreement.

Chris asked the department to remove his sidewalks. Street Superintendent Mike Burdette was on vacation and in his absence, department personnel met with Chris regarding the details of the project which included public and private sections of sidewalk. Both agreed as to what would be removed. However, certain portions agreed to were private and not eligible. When Burdette discovered what was happening, he stopped the removal of the private walks.

Fought addressed this issue and offered to reimburse the city \$75, the cost the contractor would have charged him to remove the portion of private sidewalk city workers removed. It was the feeling of the board that the cost of the street department removing the sidewalk was undervalued as our costs would have been much more than \$75.

During removal of the public sidewalk, removed pieces of concrete were placed on existing sidewalk Fought had not intended to replace. This caused breakage in the sidewalk, requiring replacement at a cost of \$3.24/sq ft. Fought asked the board to reimburse him for approximately \$350 to cover the cost of the replacing the broken sidewalk.

After further discussion, stating she felt there was negligence on the part of both the city is damaging the sidewalk and on Fought for allowing city employees to remove sidewalk he knew was not part of the program and undervaluing the cost of that removal:

Motion to consider the issue a wash and not allow payment to Fought for the replacement of the damaged sidewalk: Patty Fisel

Second: Tom Janes

Vote: Janes – Aye

Fisel – Ayes

Franklin – Nay

Motion to develop written policy for the city to contribute to the replacement of sidewalks in the public right of way: Patty Fisel Second: Earle Franklin Vote: All Ayes

▪ **Contract Change Order – 2014 Paving Program**

In the original contract, milling on Martin Street was not included but is necessary due to the level of the street. The contract change order is a net cost of \$3000.

***Motion to approve contract change order #1 for the 2014 Paving Program: Tom Janes
Second: Earle Franklin Vote: All Ayes***

▪ **Republic Services – 2015 Contract Renewal**

The Mayor met with Jim Smith of Republic Services regarding the contract for residential pick up and clean-up days for 2015. The Residential service rate is \$12.98 (a 2.5% increase over the current \$12.69 fee) and rates for clean-up will remain the same. Mayor Fisel made the decision to proceed with contract renewal and signed the contract. She asked the board to ratify the decision.

***Motion to ratify the decision to sign the 2015 contract with Republic Services: Tom Janes
Second: Earle Franklin Vote: All Ayes***

Department Heads and Members of Administration

Fire Chief Jeremy Weaver

- An application to be a volunteer firefighter was received from LaVern Smith. Background check has already been performed.

***Motion to approve LaVern Smith as a volunteer firefighter: Patty Fisel
Second: Earle Franklin Vote: All Ayes***

Street Superintendent Mike Burdette

- Niblock has begun the 2014 Paving Program
- The new dump truck was picked up today and is outside if anyone would like to check it out
- Four quotes for roof repair and façade at the street department were solicited. Only one has been received.

Water Superintendent Jeff Boyle

- Sidewalks and street damaged as a result of digs have been patched
- We have 6 additional digs to do for curb stop repairs which should be completed by mid-August
- Working on meter change outs and hydrant flushing

Public Safety Director/Police Chief Bryan Shearer

- An application for a PT officer was received from Jason Koontz. He has been through training and is a current deputy for Noble County.

***Motion to approve Jason Koontz as a part-time police officer: Patty Fisel
Second: Tom Janes Vote: All Ayes***

Wastewater Superintendent Don Skinner

A report of July activities was presented to the board and Don recapped

- The lateral connection at the old garment building was capped
- Two storm drain inlets have been rebuilt for the street paving program
- Working with staff to evaluate the replacement of storm drains on the north side of the river. Many are very low due to the separation project and need to be raised or modified for public safety.
- Sludge has been moved to the storage tank. We are getting three quotes for hauling sledge.
- Starting the vactor crew on a weekly schedule and will need to set up a program for videoing the lines

- Will need to develop a long term equipment plan
- Sees the need to develop and educate the staff to bring them up through the system
- Met with Triad regarding the new CSO project and plant upgrades

City Engineer Rick Pharis

- The garment and Superior building demolition projects are scheduled to begin the first week of August. A schedule has been received from Beer & Slabaugh on the garment building. We have not yet received Triple Diamond's schedule for the Superior building.

Mayor Fisel's Comments

- The Mayor thanked Chris Fought and commented that she appreciates him and hopes he understands of the decision that was made.
- Thanks to everyone for their hard work and for working together.
- Thanks to Don Skinner for the report

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Patty Fisel

Second: Tom Janes