

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY

VALPARAISO, INDIANA

July 11, 2025

The Board of Public Works and Safety of Valparaiso, Indiana met July 11, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. in City Hall. Present were Mayor Costas and Bill Oeding. Katrina Spence was absent. Mayor Costas called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION: Mayor Costas moved to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2025 meeting. Seconded by Bill Oeding and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

MOTION: Mayor Costas moved that the claims be approved for payment subject to appropriation balances. Seconded by Bill Oeding and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

Alley Paving Package – Quote Opening

The Engineering Department requested quotes for its annual Alley Paving on June 27th, with quotes scheduled to be opened on July 11th. Members were provided the improvements map and list. The engineers' cost estimate for the project is \$149,315.00. Bids received were:

Olson Construction	\$180,866.95
Boyd Asphalt	\$148,511.50
Site Services Inc	\$152,800.00
Rieth Riley	\$333,129.50
Milestone	\$187,445.00

Daniela Martins asked to take the bids under advisement and make a recommendation at the next meeting.

NIPSCO –Street Closure Request

NIPSCO is requesting to close Campbell Street and Jefferson Street for the replacement of utility poles and to transfer conductors and wires to the new poles. The poles and equipment are needed to provide service to the new Grand Gardner Hotel.

The closures are scheduled for some time during the week of August 4th through the 8th. Engineering will work with NIPSCO for the exact timeframe and to issue traffic closure notices. Proposed detour routes have been provided. Engineering has reviewed the closures and recommends approval.

Bill Oeding – He asked how many days the road will be closed.

Bill Laird – He has not been given a duration time. He would expect them to have the road open at night and on weekends.

MOTION: Bill Oeding moved that the NIPSCO Street closure of Jefferson and Campbell be approved as presented. Seconded by Mayor Costas and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

Public Nuisance Violation Issue – 452 Chestnut

Vicki Thrasher, Building & Code Enforcement Director, addressed the Board. She has received numerous complaints about the property at 452 Chestnut. Numerous attempts have been made to have the property owner at 452 Chestnut mow the property. She has been unsuccessful. She is asking for permission to arrange mowing of the property. Bill Oeding suggested that she add trimming the bushes on the property to the work to be done.

MOTION: Mayor Costas moved that Vicki Thrasher be authorized to move forward with having the property mowed and bushes cut at 452 Chestnut. Seconded by Bill Oeding and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

Façade Program Agreement, 101 E. Lincolnway

Façade Program Agreement, 103 E. Lincolnway

101 East Lincolnway LLC's scope of work has been refined to bring it into compliance with UDO standards and reduce project costs. The resulting scope is detailed in the façade's improvement plan designed by architect Jeff Lewis with estimates provided also. Included in this grant application, are the facades on Lincolnway and Franklin St., the removal of the non-conforming sign located at the corner of the structure and architectural services.

103 East Lincolnway LLC's scope of work has been refined to bring it into compliance with UDO standards and reduce project costs. The resulting scope is detailed in the façade's improvement plan designed by architect Jeff Lewis with estimates provided also. Included in this grant application, are the facade on Lincolnway, and architectural services.

Building Permit plans will be reviewed and approved by the relevant city departments after the approval of the grant.

For 101 E. Lincolnway Bob Thompson recommends an award of \$87,500 for the facade improvement application of the property. The total project cost estimated and quotes received by Jeff Lewis is \$180,879. This amount includes \$30,000 each for the costs of improving the exteriors of the Lincolnway West and Franklin Street facades, \$20,000 for the removal of the nonconforming projecting sign, and \$7,500 for architectural services. The recommended amount is within the program's reimbursable allowance of 50% of the actual of the actual construction costs for the exterior building improvements up to \$30,000 per façade, 100% of the non-conforming sign removal up to \$20,000 and up to \$7,500 for architectural services.

For 103 E. Lincolnway Bob Thompson recommends an award of \$37,500 for the facade improvement application of the property. The total project cost estimated and quotes received by Jeff Lewis is \$97,349. This amount includes \$30,000 for the costs of improving the exterior of along Lincolnway, and \$7500 for architectural services. The recommended amount is within the program's reimbursable allowance of 50% of the actual of the actual construction costs for the exterior building improvements up to \$30,000 per façade, and up to \$7,500 for architectural services.

MOTION: Mayor Costas moved to approve the Façade Program Agreement for 101 E. Lincolnway and 103 E. Lincolnway. Seconded by Bill Oeding and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

Street Closures

- Valpo Events Wine Fest – July 19, 2025
- Autumn Trail Block Party – August 15, 2025

These have been reviewed and approved by all impacted departments.

MOTION: Mayor Costas moved to approve the requests for street closure as presented. Seconded by Bill Oeding and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

Final Plat of Kinsey Place Subdivision

Bob Thompson presented the Final Plat of Kinsey Place Subdivision. He requested this be approved and signed by Board Members. The Plat Committee and the Plan Commission have reviewed and approved this plat. Bill Oeding disclosed he is actively involved in this project. He is the President of the organization. He receives no compensation from this involvement.

MOTION: Mayor Costas moved to approve the Final Plat of Kinsey Place Subdivision. Seconded by Bill Oeding and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

St. Paul School

Bill Oeding - A group from St. Paul's wants to use a street corner and hand out information. They are requesting July 12th from 11:00-1:00 on the northwest corner of the courthouse.

MOTION: Mayor Costas moved to approve the request of St. Paul's to be at the northwest corner of the Courthouse on July 12 from 11:00 to 1:00 to hand out papers. Seconded by Bill Oeding and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

Bullseye Lake Road Closure

The Engineering Department is requesting a full road closure for NewTech to complete pathway

improvements along the north side of Bullseye Lake Road for a 3-week period. The closure will be Monday-Friday 8am-5pm and open on nights and weekends for pathway improvements along the north side of Bullseye Lake Road.

Bill Oeding requested that the road be closed only when they are working. Max Rehlander advised that is correct and detour routes have already been posted.

MOTION: Bill Oeding moved to approve the request for Bullseye Lake Road to be closed Monday-Friday 8am-5pm and open on nights and weekends for pathway improvements along the north side of Bullseye Lake Road for a 3-week period. Seconded by Mayor Costas and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

NITCO Contract – Downtown Cameras

Paul Pryor – He is requesting approval and signatures on the contract with NITCO for cameras at the major intersections in the downtown area except Washington and Indiana.

Motion: Mayor Costas moved to approve the contract with NITCO for cameras in the downtown area. Seconded by Bill Oeding and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

TO HEAR CITIZENS' FULL COMMENTS, PLEASE REFER TO THE WATCH CITY MEETINGS SECTION OF THE CITY OF VALPARAISO'S WEBSITE (WWW.CI.VALPARAISO.IN.US)

No Public Comments.

There was no further business, and the meeting adjourned.