

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY  
VALPARAISO, INDIANA  
September 11, 2020**

The Board of Public Works & Safety of Valparaiso, Indiana met September 11, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in City Hall. Present were Mayor Murphy and Holly Howe. Steve Poulos was absent. Mayor Murphy called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed for the tragedy of 9/11.

Holly Howe moved that the minutes of the August 28, 2020 meeting be approved, seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved.

Holly Howe moved that the claims be approved for payment subject to appropriation balances, seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved.

**Bid Opening for TOD Parking Lot Lighting Project**

Stu Summers advised only one bid has been received. He recommended that rather than opening the bid and coming back in two weeks for awarding, that the Board approve the bid today contingent on review and approval by the American Structure Point engineer and NIRPC Procurement Officer.

Modern Edge LLC	\$140,787.49
-----------------	--------------

Holly Howe moved to accept the bid of Modern Edge LLC in the amount of \$140,787.49 contingent on review and approval by American Structure Point engineer and NIRPC Procurement Officer, seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved.

**Utility Board Member – Kari Bennett**

Alina Hahn requested approval and signature of a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement for Kari Bennett. Kari is an employee of Centier Bank and Centier Investment Services.

Holly Howe moved to accept the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement for Kari Bennett, seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved.

**Ransom Road Safety Improvements – Change Order #4**

Don McGinley requested approval of Change Order #4. Don recommended approval and signing of Change Order #4 with a cost increase to the project. Funding for this change order is pending the INDOT determination of two contractor claims.

Holly Howe moved to accept Change Order #4 for the Ransom Road Safety Improvements project, seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved.

### **Site Work Applications**

Mike Jabo requested approval of a Site Work Application by Hoosierland for IFN in the right of way at 2401 North Calumet Avenue. The Engineering office has reviewed and approved the application.

Mike Jabo also requested approval of a Site Work Application by Direct Line for Maplenet at 470 Vale Park Road. The Engineering office has reviewed and approved the application.

Holly Howe moved to approve the Site Work Applications of IFN and Maplenet, seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved.

### **Quality Inn Hotel**

Mike Jabo requested approval of the settlement amount and for the City to make funds available for the purchase of the property. The final settlement amount is \$3,450,000.00. The initial payment of \$2,860,000.00 is to be paid within 30-days of execution of the Agreed Order. The balance amount of \$590,000.00 is due within 60-days following the initial payment. The City will pay its local funds for 100% of the right of way acquisition cost, then file a claim with INDOT, receiving 100% of the claim amount in return from INDOT.

In 2016 the City had an agreement with INDOT wherein INDOT relinquished rights to Highway 130 and in exchange granted over \$22 Million to the City to be used to improve intersections, pathways, connectivity, all along Highway 30. This is part of that agreement. The purchase will be 100% reimbursed.

Holly Howe moved to approve the settlement amount of \$3,450,000.00 and for the City to make funds available for the purchase of the property, seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved.

### **Agreement for Professional Communications Services – Kim Ranegar**

Attorney Patrick Lyp requested approval and signature of an Amended Agreement for Professional Communications Services with Kim Ranegar. It was determined paying by the hour did not work out to the same amount as was agreed upon for a monthly fee. This Amendment changes the payment to a flat monthly fee instead of an hourly fee.

Holly Howe moved to approve the Amended Agreement for Professional Communication Services, seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved.

### **Unsafe Building Status – 756 Franklin Street**

Attorney Estrada reported they are still waiting on NIPSCO to turn off the gas at this property. Once that happens the structure will be demolished.

### **Unsafe Building Status – 353 John Glenn Drive**

Attorney Estrada reported the owners have applied for permits for work to be done. An engineering report has been provided. Enough work has been done to continue this matter to the next Board of Works meeting.

### **Unsafe Building Status – 1756 Harrison Blvd**

The property owner is waiting for the contractor to arrange a time to finish the repairs. The roof has been repaired.

### **Unsafe Building Status – 1209 Lincolnway**

Vicki Thrasher reported G E Marshall has begun work on removing the retention wall and grading.

Attorney Estrada advised no action is required on any of the above status reports.

### **Request for Road Closures**

- Approval for Back the Blue Rally taking place on Sunday, September 20, 2020 starting at 10:00 am.
- Approval for street closure for a ribbon cutting ceremony taking place on Thursday September 17, 2020 from 4:30-7:00 pm

Attorney Patrick Lyp advised the organizers of Back the Blue Rally have not received approval from the County for use of the Courthouse Square property.

Holly Howe moved to approve the request for Back the Blue Rally contingent on them receiving approval from the County, seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved.

Holly Howe moved to approve the request for Prudential Office Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on September 17, 2020, seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved.

### **Fire Territory**

Attorney Lyp advised the Bank has asked that the Board of Works ratify the Mayors signature giving Chief Dutz the authority to sign on behalf of the Valparaiso Fire Department.

Holly Howe moved to ratify the certification of the Mayor for the Chief to have authority to sign on behalf of the Valparaiso Fire Department, seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved.

### **Right of Way Dedication - Culvers**

Attorney Lyp advised that in 2001 there was a right of way dedication granted to the City by a property owner. It was the intent of the property owner to transfer the property. The language in 2001 used “dedicated” instead of transfer. The County Auditor has asked that the language be changed.

Holly Howe moved to accept the right-of-way dedication, seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.