

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY
VALPARAISO, INDIANA
November 10, 2023**

The Board of Public Works & Safety of Valparaiso, Indiana met November 10, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. in City Hall. Present were Holly Howe and Mayor Murphy. Steve Poulos was absent. Mayor Murphy called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion: Holly Howe moved that the minutes of the October 27, 2023 meeting be approved. Seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

Motion: Holly Howe moved that the claims be approved for payment subject to appropriation balances. Seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

Utility Pole Request - NIPSCO

Bill Laird addressed the Board. NIPSCO is requesting to install new utility poles to existing pole lines. The new poles are located at:

Murvihill Road west of Eastport Center Drive
Froberg Road south of Vale Park Road
Campbell Street north of Bullseye Lake Road
Goodrich Road south of St. Clair Road
Near the intersection of Powder Horn Drive and Hemlock Drive

The new poles are needed to install pole mounted equipment. The Engineering Department recommends approval of the new utility poles.

Mayor Murphy – Are these the big poles?

Bill Laird – Some of them are. There are a couple of 45’ and a couple 50’ and a few are over 100’.

Holly Howe – When will these be installed.

Bill Laird – In 2024.

Motion: Holly Howe moved to approve the five poles for NIPSCO as presented. Seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

City Hall 2024 Holiday Schedule

Clerk-Treasurer Holly Taylor addressed the Board. She presented the 2024 City Hall Holiday schedule and the Optional PTO Days where City Hall will be closed.

Motion: Holly Howe moved to approve the 2024 City Hall Holiday Schedule and Optional PTO days. Seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

Utility Box Art Wrap Expansion

Maggie Clifton addressed the Board. The City of Valparaiso and its Art Advisory Committee seek designs from local artists to expand the utility box art program throughout the Valparaiso community. Staff requests that the Board of Works approve the expansion of the utility box wrap program to include any eligible city utility box. Designs will be approved by the Art Advisory Committee. The project will be funded by the Redevelopment Commission.

Motion: Holly Howe moved to approve the expansion of the utility box art program. Seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

NIRPC Amendment 1 for Grant IN-2020-039

Don Lorntzen addressed the Board. This document increases the length of time the City has to draw from Grant IN-2020-039. This will extend it through March 30, 2026. These are operational funds for V-Line and Dash.

Mayor Murphy – Has Attorney Lyp reviewed this?

Don Lorntzen – This is a grant amendment through NIRPC so it does not go through Patrick. It is just for the City to acknowledge they are extending the time frame to draw funds.

Motion: Holly Howe moved to approve the NIRPC Amendment 1 for Grant IN-2020-039 as presented. Seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

Auto Vehicle Locator Contract with Bishop Peak Transit

Don Lorntzen addressed the Board. Double Map has been taken over by TransLoc. They have been unresponsive to requests. Bishop Peak Transit has provided a lower quote. Staff is recommending switching to Bishop Peak Transit for the AVL, Dispatch and Rider App.

Motion: Holly Howe moved to approve the Contract with Bishop Peak Transit subject to review and approval by Attorney Lyp. Seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

Conveyance Agreement

Don Lorntzen addressed the Board. This is new Money from ARPA. It is 100% no match. This is the City share of what was distributed. The amount is \$173,760.

Mayor Murphy – What will the funds be used for?

Don Lorntzen – Reimbursement of operating expenses for the Chicago Dash and V-Line.

Motion: Holly Howe moved to approve the Conveyance Agreement as presented. Seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

Solar Array Procurement & Construction Project -Change Order 22179-City Hall-03

Nate McGinley addressed the Board. During installation of the solar panels on City Hall they encountered issues with clearance around the HVAC and edge of the building. Options were looked at but none resulted in not having less panels. They took the option where the least amount of panels were lost. This went from 107 panels to 100 panels. The panels used have a higher wattage than originally scheduled so the loss of panels is a wash. The City will receive a credit of \$7,447 from Solar Energy Solutions.

Motion: Holly Howe moved to approve the Change Order 22179-City Hall-03 with Solar Energy Solutions. Seconded by Mayor Murphy and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

Request for Street Closures

- Valpo Library Winter Fest, December 1, 2023 1:00 pm-7:30 pm
- Extra Mile, Race the Region Resolution Run, January 1, 2024 9:30 am – 11:00 am
- Extra Mile, Race the Region Valentine Run, February 11, 2024, 8:30 am – 10:00 am

These have been reviewed and approved by all impacted departments.

Motion: Holly Howe moved to approve the Requests for Street Closures as presented. Mayor Murphy seconded the motion and so approved with a 2-0 vote.

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned.