

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY  
CITY OF HOBART, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA  
January 15, 2020**

**Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag:** Mayor Snedecor called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:** The following members were present: Mr. Lain, Mr. Ehrhardt and Mayor Snedecor. Also present: City Attorney Heather McCarthy, C-T Longer and Admin. Asst. C. Govert

**Reading of Minutes:** Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Ehrhardt, to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting of January 2, 2020 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Correspondence:** Update: Third Street Bridge Project: Brandon Towle, BF&S, was present and distributed a status update. ICC has completed work for the season. At this time, all the precast has been set, conduits installed for bridge lighting and utilities, precast arches backfilled, and stone placed for the road subbase on the bridge. Over the next few weeks, contractors for Frontier, Comcast and Indiana American Water will be on site following their relocation plans. Meanwhile, ICC will continue to maintain erosion control on site and schedule subcontractors for next spring. If weather cooperates progress on the bridge is expected to proceed in March.

Information from NIPSCO re: Renewable Energy Sources was provided to the Board from Director of Development, Denarie Kane. The Board agreed that a presentation would be worthwhile and beneficial and could be scheduled as a joint meeting with the Common Council at a future date.

**Approval of Register of Claims and Payroll Claims:** Motion by Mr. Ehrhardt, seconded by Mr. Lain, to accept and sign the register of claims and payroll claims as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Approval of Agenda:** Mr. Snedecor asked the Board to consider adding approval of the Letter of Intent to purchase a 2019 garbage truck. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Ehrhardt, to approve the agenda with the addition. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Review: Property Maintenance Issues:** Karen, Matthew, and Tiffany Marquiss, re: 225 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.: Lt. Russo said that the house is in foreclosure and still occupied by Mrs. Marquiss. At this point he is unsure of what can be done to have the roof repaired and the tarp removed. Attorney McCarthy said that she will reach out to the foreclosure attorney for a status update. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Ehrhardt, to set this matter over for review at the March 18, 2020 meeting of the Board of Works. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Review Property Maintenance & Nuisance Violations:** Kez Properties LLC, Peter Voris Agent re: 3033 W. 37<sup>th</sup> Ave.: Mr. Voris was present. Lt. Russo stated that progress is being made with just a couple of issues remaining. There are still approximately 7 hot tubs remaining and a trailer parked behind the property. Mr. Voris said he is working on putting up a fence which would enclose the property, he will file a site plan with the Plan Commission and has plated the trailer which he will use for storage. City Planner, Sergio Mendoza, said that if Mr. Voris files by the February deadline this matter could be finished by the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Ehrhardt, to set this item over for review at the March 18, 2020 meeting of the Board of Works with compliance through the Plan Commission. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Review: Unsafe Building: US Bank National Association, re: 1317 S. Lake Park Ave:** The attorney for US Bank said that the bankruptcy case filed by Mr. Tomich is still pending and stays them from entering the property. Discussion was held regarding the unsafe building and whether the City can move forward due to the potential public safety risk. Attorney McCarthy said that she will contact the bankruptcy attorney for an update. Mr. Hannigan noted that this matter is scheduled for a review at the February 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain, to review this matter at the February 19, 2020 meeting of the Board of Works. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Review: Unsafe Building: Jayson Mejia re: 1456 S. Lincoln St.:** Mr. Mejia was not present. Mr. Hannigan said that he did a site visit with Mr. Mejia and 2 more trees and other debris will be removed from the property. Mr. Hannigan noted that Mr. Mejia has permits to do the work and recommends removing this matter from the agenda and turn it over to the building department for follow up. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Ehrhardt, to remove this item from the agenda and show in substantial compliance. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Update: Order to Appear & Show Cause: Unsafe Building: Master Guys Demolition, Inc. re: 512 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St. and 347 Main St. and 349 Main St.:** Mr. Gielezyn was present and said that the commercial buildings have been cleaned up and the water issues next door have been addressed. Mr. Gielezyn also noted that he is waiting on approval from the Historical Preservation Commission to move forward with the 4th Street property. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Ehrhardt, to set this matter over for review at the March 18, 2020 meeting of the Board of Works. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Continued: Consideration of Memorandum of Agreement: Federal Bureau of Investigation/GRIT re: Occupancy Expenditures:** Attorney McCarthy said that Mr. Nichols at the FBI has reviewed the agreement and we are waiting for the signed document. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain, to continue this item to the February 5, 2020 meeting of the Board of Works. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Review: Property Maintenance & Other Violations: Marco A. Tamayo, re: 7197 Mississippi St:** Mr. Tamayo was not present. Lt. Russo said most of the violations involve the Planning and Engineering departments. City Engineer, Phil Gralik, gave permission to Mr. Tamayo to crush the asphalt in order to remove it, however he has been using it to fill holes and burying it in the yard. Zoning Administrator, Ross Pietrzak said that there is still a problem with flooding at the property and they need a site plan in order to see how much of the property has been altered by illegal fill. Mr. Tamayo turned in a site plan which was poorly executed and is required to turn in a site plan executed by a professional surveyor or civil engineer. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Ehrhardt, to set this matter over for review and require the owner to get a certified site plan professionally executed by an engineer or surveyor and provide the site plan or a signed contract by the February 19, 2020 meeting of the Board of Works. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Request for Speed Bumps on N. Illinois St.: Daniel Schenn, re: 124 N. Illinois St.:** Mr. Schenn was not present. Police Chief Zormier and Public Works Supt. Tom Laco do not recommend speed bumps in this location. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to **deny** the request for speed bumps on N. Illinois St. All aye, motion carried. (3-0) The request is **denied**.

**Property Maintenance Issues: Julius Collins, re: 7257 DeKalb St.:** Mr. Collins was not present. Lt. Russo said that the property is coming into compliance and recommends setting this over for review and full compliance at the February 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Ehrhardt, to set this matter over for review at the February 19, 2020 meeting of the Board of Works. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

**Consideration of Approval:** Letter of Intent to purchase a 2019 Freight Liner Garbage Truck: Mr. Snedecor said that the garbage truck is available for immediate purchase and the letter is needed to ensure that we are able to purchase it once the financing is in place. Clerk-Treasurer Longer will look into financing and Attorney McCarthy will draft the resolution which will be on the agenda for the February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Ehrhardt, to approve the letter of intent to Best Equipment and move forward toward the purchase of the 2019 Freight Liner SD108 with a Labrie Helping Hand One Arm Garbage Truck. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

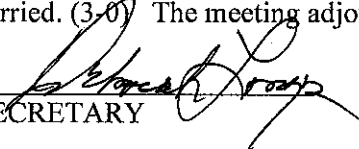
**Announcements:**


Carolyn Kirby, 7201 Mississippi Street, neighbor to Mr. Tomayo said that she is still having flooding issues every time it rains, and he is still burning treated wood which has seriously impacted her health. Mr. Snedecor said that the Planning and Engineering departments are working to remediate the problems and suggested that she may need to consider civil litigation.

David Kruger, 7191 Mississippi Street, neighbor to Mr. Tomayo asked who he is to contact when he observes Mr. Tamayo bringing in illegal fill and other activities. Police Chief Zormier said that he should contact Code Enforcement via email if it is after regular office hours.

Mr. Snedecor asked if there was anyone who wished to address the Board and there was no response.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mr. Ehrhardt, to adjourn the meeting. All aye, motion carried. (3-0) The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

  
SECRETARY

  
PRESIDING OFFICER