

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
CITY OF HOBART, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
January 18, 2023**

Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag: Mr. Snedecor called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held with the building open to the public and a call-in number for remote public participation.

Roll Call: The following members were present: Mr. Lain, Mrs. Longer, and Mr. Snedecor. Also present: City Attorney McCarthy.

Reading of Minutes: Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mrs. Longer, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of January 4, 2023 as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Correspondence: Mr. Snedecor stated that there are a couple of retirees. Lance Popp, Director of Maintenance, will be retiring next week after 37 years. Officer Joe Clemmons is retiring as well, and they are having a gathering at the High School tonight. Mr. Snedecor thanked both of them for their dedication to the City.

Mrs. Longer stated that retired Hobart Firefighter, Ray Ludwig had passed away.

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

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mrs. Longer to approve the agenda as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Unfinished Business:

Update on Compliance of Property Violations: Safe Haven, 7931 Iowa St.: Devin Rowland was present in person and Elizabeth Donahue was present telephonically. Devin stated that they received a proposal from McAlister but there was some scope missing from the proposal. They have gone back to McAlister to get an updated proposal and they should have that back within 2 weeks. Windermere Construction has been hired as the general contractor and they are licensed in the City. Devin said that the work should be started before the next meeting. Tim Kingsland, MS4 Coordinator stated that the NOV was issued for lack of stormwater compliance. Tim is requiring that he receive an updated action plan with a detailed timeline of the work within one week. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to continue this for review at the February 1, 2023 meeting with as much work completed as possible, contracts in hand, and an action plan to Tim Kingsland by January 27, 2023. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Continued: Update/Review of Property issues: Cagney's and NW corner of Third and Main St. re: 236 Main St.: Nick Karounos was present telephonically. City Engineer Phil Gralik stated that he did an inspection of the basement and they have blocked the walls. Mr. Gralik stated that Nick said that Steve Keller from Keller Engineering stated that they approved of the work that was done, and the next steps are to remove the sidewalk and backfill with stone. Nick stated that the gear box for the electrical work is being shipped on January 27th. He stated that he wanted to wait until the weather broke to tear up the sidewalk and fill the vault. Mr. Snedecor questioned whether the wall needed to be or not needed to be attached to the wall under the sidewalk. Nick stated that the engineer stated that he approved all the drawings. Phil and Mr. Snedecor requested that the

engineer send something in writing approving the work done as well as be present when the sidewalk is removed. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mrs. Longer to set this matter for review and update at the March 1, 2023 meeting. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Continued: Update/Status: Unsafe Building: re: 235 Main St.: Attorney Rifai was not present for this matter. Harold Killian was present in person. He stated that he has not received a contract yet as he stated that the contractor needs to get a commercial license in the City. Building Official Karen Hansen stated that she didn't have the contractor's name but would like the license and permit obtained by the next meeting. She stated that the Fire Department needed to do a walk through to make sure the alcohol had been removed. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to continue this to the February 1, 2023 meeting as well as to provide the contractor's name, have a signed contract, and the walk through done by the Fire Department. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Order to Appear for Update/Status: Unsafe Building: re: 215 East St.: Glenwood Properties LLC: Attorney Bouwer was present telephonically. Building Official Karen Hansen stated that the electrical work was being done and should be completed by the end of the week and an inspection will be requested. Karen said she was waiting for the HVAC scope of work, but she did get a call from All Aspects, the HVAC contractor and they plan to bring in the signed contract and scope of work tomorrow. Once these last items are complete, a final walk through will be done and a Certificate of Occupancy will be issued. Attorney Bouwer has requested to set this over for review a month from now to get the remainder of the items complete and the final walk through done to receive the Certificate of Occupancy. Mr. Snedecor mentioned that the HVAC equipment was a concern for a violation of blocking fire exits, and Karen stated that the original order would be discussed with All Aspects when they came in to obtain their permit. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mrs. Longer to set this matter to the March 1, 2023 meeting for review and compliance. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Tabled: Continued: Discussion of Take Home Cars: Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mrs. Longer to remove this from the table. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

FOP President Steve Aponte was present as was Chief Ciszewski. Mr. Lain discussed the research that was done with other neighboring cities and their policies. Officer Aponte stated that this would be for 9 officers that live outside of the City in Lake and Porter counties. The remaining 11 that live outside the City currently have take-home cars due to their on-call duties. Mr. Lain requested that Officer Aponte bring something more detailed and tailored to the City and Hobart Police Department itself and have a policy in hand to present. Officer Aponte stated that this would be a huge recruitment tool as well as boosting the morale of current officers that live outside of the City. Mrs. Longer stated that incentives have been given to the department. Mrs. Longer also requested that any new or updated policies need to be presented. Chief Ciszewski stated that police recruitment was at an all-time low. He also proposed that the officers do this for a year to get a full year worth of data. Mrs. Longer stated her concerns due to the current financial situation regarding the settlement with South Lake Mall. Motion by Mr. Lain, seconded by Mrs. Longer to remove this item from the agenda and for FOP President Steve Aponte to bring this matter back once more research is done and with a policy in hand. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

New Business:

Discussion of Police General Order 51: Vehicle Operations: Chief Ciszewski stated that this is a state requirement effective 01/01/23. Mr. Snedecor stated this puts more responsibility on the supervisors to provide oversight as to when to call-off pursuits. All officers have been through training via Vector Solutions and will

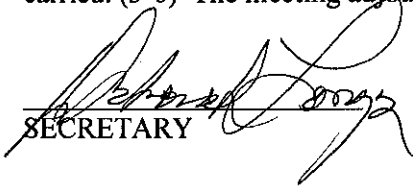
sign off that the training was complete. Motion by Mr. Snedecor, seconded by Mr. Lain to approve Police General Order 51: Vehicle Operations as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

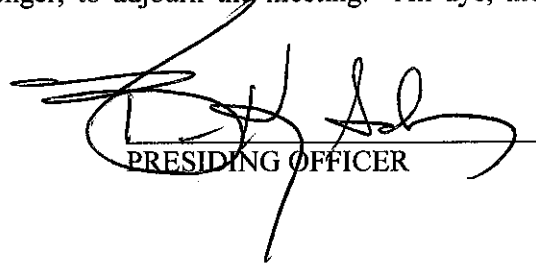
Acceptance of Dedication of Public Right-of-Way: re: 1267 S. Hobart Rd.: City Engineer Phil Gralik stated that this was part of the Stormwater District which helped pay for a septic system abandonment and they would need the right-of-way to do this. Motion by Mrs. Longer, seconded by Mr. Lain to accept the dedication of public right-of-way at 1267 S. Hobart Rd. as presented. All aye, motion carried. (3-0)

Announcements: Patricia Corey approached the Board with the issue of the semi-trucks on Colorado St. The trucks are tearing up the road. Kathy Kreech from 2101 E. 73rd Ave. stated that she cannot get to her mailbox during the day or night because of the truck traffic. She stated the trucks are speeding and it is very dangerous. She stated that they are using 73rd from Colorado and from Mississippi. There have been unmarked semis as well as tanker trucks. City Engineer Phil Gralik stated that both 73rd Ave. and Colorado St. are minor arterials and are designed for truck traffic. Mr. Snedecor and Phil Gralik will meet with the residents on site to see if there are any possibilities that can be done to resolve this issue.

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 Mrs. Longer, to adjourn the meeting. All aye, motion carried. (3-0) The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.


SECRETARY


PRESIDING OFFICER