

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY
Thursday, June 6, 2024
8:30 A.M.

The Board of Public Works & Safety of the City of Huntingburg met in regular session on Thursday, June 6, 2024 at the hour of 8:30 A.M. in the Council Chambers of the Huntingburg City Hall. Members Elkins, Fitch, Blessinger and Schmett were present. Member Souders was absent. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Dippel and City Attorney Schneider.

Mayor Elkins called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Fitch, seconded by Blessinger and carried to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2024 regular meeting.

A motion was made by Schmett, seconded by Fitch and carried to approve the claims for payment as presented.

Jeremy Merkel, presented the Wastewater monthly report in Superintendent Coomer's absence.

Merkel asked permission to go ahead and purchase services (from NSK) to add a 3rd drive with controls and wiring for pump 3 for a total cost of \$36,748.00. This will allow for more efficient, expedient repairs when needed.

A motion was made by Schmett, seconded by Blessinger and carried to proceed forward with this purchase.

Eric Jochem, representing the Huntingburg Herbsfest, informed the Board about the upcoming Herbstfest parade noting the route for the parade is the same as last year. Approval of the parade route was requested; staging on streets between 4th and 5th Streets, 4th Street from VanBuren Street to Walnut Street to 1st Street ending at the Park, also Cherry Street access and not parking on Cherry Street.

A motion was made by Schmett seconded by Fitch and carried to approve closure of the above Streets for the Herbstfest parade.

Street Superintendent Stamm presented his monthly report. There was discussion on sewer lateral replacement along streets being repaired by the City. The waiving of street cut permit fees for upcoming street projects, giving residents incentive for the opportunity to repair their sewer lateral if damaged was discussed.

Stamm informed the Board of a meeting initiated by INDOT concerning replacing the storm sewer that runs across Hwy 231 in front of Market Street Park. He noted the current structure is brick and an inlet is falling apart. INDOT would like to jointly, with the City, replace the drain pipe by proposing the City pay for the pipe and INDOT would

take care of the rest. The pipe cost estimate is \$220,000.00. The total cost is estimated to be \$530,000.00. It was noted that the replacement would be scheduled for 2028. Sources of the funds for the proposed project were not known. INDOT suggested an agreement with the City laying out the project. Attorney Schneider noted the need for an out if the City does not have the money; moving forward subject to financing. Hard numbers of costs would be needed to approve. INDOT would like to know if the City is OK with the concept so they can move forward.

A motion was made by Schmett, seconded by Blessinger and carried to work with INDOT on providing solutions in the future contingent on funding.

INDOT is to provide a Memorandum of Understanding for the City to consider.

The responsibility of replacing damaged sidewalk (resulted from removing a tree damaged from a storm prior to the railroad drainage project) at Hwy 231 was discussed. Stamm did not know who's responsibility it is to replace since INDOT was not going to tear out to do their work. Stamm estimates the cost to be approximately \$2,000.00, and day and a half of work.

Attorney Schneider indicated that his experience with INDOT is the City pays for anything beyond the curb. Stamm will do the repair now that the project is done.

Stamm informed the Board of quotes for the grinding of the limb yard. The quotes received were:

Brewer Farms	\$22,400.00
Smith Creek	\$49,470.00
Kramer's Land Clearing	\$37,250.00

Stamm recommended the low quote of Brewer Farms.

A motion was made by Schmett, seconded by Fitch and carried to accept the low quote from Brewer Farms in the amount of \$22,400.00.

Stamm informed the Board that the Plans and Specifications for the Community Crossing Matching Grant 2024-01 (2nd Street and Clay Street) are ready to go to bid.

A motion was made by Blessinger, seconded by Fitch and carried to send the above two projects out for bid.

Stamm noted that Hunters Crossing Phase 3 has been paved and the storm sewer inspected. He request the Board accept the Streets into the City's Road Inventory.

A motion was made by Schmett, seconded by Fitch and carried to accept the streets in Hunters Crossing Phase 3 into the City's Road Inventory.

Stamm noted that Hunters Crossing Phase 4 is paved, but awaiting the storm sewer inspection, they are still building so dumpsters are on street and drainage issues need to be addressed before recommending acceptance into road inventory.

Stamm presented quotes for an Apex Sweeper for the Street Department building floor. It was noted the floor is very dirty effecting equipment and air quality. He requested permission to purchase the sweeper from MH Equipment for the low quote of \$19,454.63. Funding would come from the Street Department budget. The quotes were:

Power Boss	\$19,843.72
Power Clean Equipment	\$19,843.72
MH Equipment	\$19,454.63

A motion was made by Schmett, seconded by Blessinger and carried to approve the purchase of the sweeper for the low quote of \$19,454.63 from MH Equipment.

The Mayor informed the Board that the bid package has been prepared (by Universal Design) for the Street Department roof repair. The packets will be sent out and be contingent of funding. The bids will be reviewed for the July meeting. He requested approval to send out the advertisement for bids.

A motion was made by Blessinger, seconded by Fitch and carried to go ahead and do the advertisement for the bids.

Police Chief Kramer presented the monthly police report. He expressed his thoughts and prayers to the families of retired Police Chiefs Ronald Bowling and George Lewallen who both passed away recently.

Kramer informed the Board that Tyler Ward will be going to the Evansville Academy starting July 22, 2024 until November 22, 2024.

Jorge Dubon has just completed a 6 week training course with the newest K9, Romeo; certified in narcotics, tracking and apprehension.

Kramer presented a quote for an in-car camera for the Durango (Art Parks vehicle) from Utility Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$6,626.67.

Kramer will be applying for a grant to cover the cost of another SRO Officer.

Fire Chief Heim presented his monthly report. He noted that hose testing will be done at the City Lake again this year. The testing is scheduled for June 14, 2024. Heim requested the boat ramp be closed during the testing. He noted he is working with Water Superintendent Austin on the closing since the Water Utility has authority over the City Lake.

A motion was made by Schmett, seconded by Fitch and carried to approve Chief Heim working with Water Superintendent Austin to close the boat ramp at the Huntingburg City Lake during the hose testing time.

Planning Director Lake presented his monthly reports. He informed the Board that the property owner of 416 E. 4th Street (Old Bank Building) is wanting to reutilize a pole that has not been used recently. He would like authorization to reutilize the pole to hang a sign.

A motion was made by Schmett, seconded by Blessinger and carried to authorize the property owner to reutilize a pole to hang a sign on the building at 416 E. 4th Street.

Lake informed the Board that some areas of Hunters Crossing are having swales of water during rain events. He would like it in the record that the swales are not the City's responsibility, but the homeowner's, developer's and homeowners association's responsibility and that the area was not designed for the City to maintain as the City has no easement.

Safety Director Brown presented her monthly report.

City Attorney Schneider informed the Board the City has secured commitments for funding of the Wastewater plant and improvements project. USDA-Rural Development has committed to funding a loan total of \$40,700,000.00. Also, EDA, SWIF (through Indiana Finance Authority) and local funds will up to a total project cost of \$50,885,000.00. He noted that tentative award of the Division A contract to Reynolds, and Division B contract to Cooper Rail. With the funding in place the City can now issue a notice of award if the Board will approve the Mayors authority to issue the notice of award to those two contractors and at some point when the City has the funds in the bank he can actually execute contracts; expected to happen next week.

A motion was made by Blessinger, seconded by Schmett to move forward (move forward with Notice of Award and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract when the funding is secured).

The City mowing of property near 6th and Jackson Street was discussed and will be looked into. Some of the property was noted as being railroad property.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Blessinger, seconded by Schmett and carried at 9:44 A.M.


M. Neil Elkins
Mayor


Thomas Dippel
Clerk-Treasurer