

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY

Thursday, August 3, 2023

8:30 A.M.

The Board of Public Works & Safety of the City of Huntingburg met in regular session on Thursday, August 3, 2023 at the hour of 8:30 A.M. in the Council Chambers of the Huntingburg City Hall. Members Schwinghamer, Fitch, Souders and Blessinger were present. Member Schmett was absent. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Dippel and City Attorney Schneider.

Mayor Schwinghamer called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Blessinger, seconded by Souders and carried to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2023 regular meeting.

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

Eric Jochim, representing Huntingburg Heritage, Inc., presented a Special Events Application for the Huntingburg Herbstfest to be held from 9/21/2023 to 9/24/2023 at Huntingburg City Park.

A motion was made by Souders, seconded by Fitch and carried to approve the Special Events Application for the Huntingburg Herbstfest noted above.

Andrea Tooley, representing Huntingburg Merchants' Association, presented a Special Events Application for the Pumpkin Stroll to be held from 9/8/2023 to 9/10/2023 on 4th Street. She also requested permission to hang scarecrows on light poles on 4th Street for this event as a business competition.

A motion was made by Souders, seconded by Blessinger and carried to approve the Special Events Application for the Pumpkin Stroll noted above.

Jonnathan Macias, representing ALASI, presented a Special Events Application for the Latino Culture Fest to be held 9/2/2023 at Market Street Park.

A motion was made by Blessinger, seconded by Fitch and carried to approve the Special Events Application for the Latino Culture Fest noted above.

Gene Mattingly, representing Lexi Mattingly Memorial, presented a Special Events Application for the LUV4LEXI & LAURA 5K to be held on 9/23/2023 on the Streets of Huntingburg.

A motion was made by Schwinghamer, seconded by Souders and carried to approve the Special Events Application for the LUV4LEXI & LAURA 5K noted above.

Street Superintendent Stamm presented his monthly report. He noted the Street Department is getting ready to install storm sewers near the 405 Main Street Parking lot project; utility poles occupied only by Spectrum will be relocated for the project. He noted the box culvert on the West 1st Street project has been monitored for over a year, will be inspected by our engineers to see that there are no issues with it and if OK the project can be closed out.

Stamm noted that the Chestnut Street storm sewer is being evaluated by the City's Engineer to see if water from the retention pond near the Wahl property (behind Northview Estates) can feasibly be piped to the storm sewer on Chestnut Street. He should know the answer in the next week.

Stamm noted the curb on Veteran's Parkway has been opened up for a parking lot near the area where the Mayor's Youth Council is to work on their project; raised beds gazebo, drinking fountain, chairs and exercise path.

Wastewater Superintendent Coomer presented his monthly report. He informed the Board that the VanBuren Street lift station is still not working and is being reviewed. He noted that Love Excavating has completed the 231 sewer relocation project and Commonwealth Engineers has sent the paperwork to INDOT and reimbursement is forthcoming. A meeting of changes to the wastewater treatment plant project will be scheduled in the near future with a presentation by Commonwealth Engineers.

Police Chief Parks presented his monthly report.

Fire Chief Heim presented his monthly report. He noted that the last 3 recruits are entering their last phase of training. There are still two openings on the department and he would like permission to advertise for another 2 firefighters to fill the roster.

A motion was made by Blessinger, seconded by Souders and carried to grant permission to go ahead and advertise for the 2 positions.

Heim requested permission to get information and quotes on a 4 wheel drive utility truck capable of hauling heavy trailers. Currently if a haul truck is needed for emergency use, the brush truck or the medical truck would have to be taken out of service. The white truck could be traded in for this new truck. He noted the Electric and Gas Departments have an interest in the white truck.

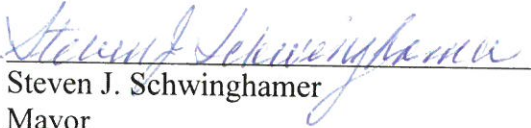
A motion was made by Schwinghamer, seconded by Fitch and carried to approve Heim to get information and quotes for a new utility 4 x 4 truck.

Planning Director Lake presented his report and the Code Enforcement report. Demolition of the burned out house at 410 N. Washington Street was discussed. HUD has not acted and is the mortgage holder. The City will proceed with the notification by publication since the owner, Joshua McBride, cannot be located. In order to demolish the house a public hearing will need to be held and the building deemed unsafe.

A motion was made by Blessinger, seconded by Souders and carried to start the process of demolition.

Safety Director Brown presented her monthly report.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Blessinger, seconded by Fitch and carried at 9:00 A.M.


Steven J. Schwinghamer
Mayor


Thomas Dippel
Clerk-Treasurer