

January 19, 2022

The Board of Public Works and Safety met in regular session via Zoom on Wednesday January 19, 2022, at 9:00am.

Present: Mayor Dermody, Jessica Romine and Mark Kosior

Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance

Clerk-Treasurer Courtney Parthun led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Each member received an advance copy of the minutes from the January 4, 2022, meeting, Mayor Dermody asked if there were any additions or corrections.

Motion/Vote – Approval of Minutes

Ms. Romine moved to approve the minutes as presented; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and motion passed with the following roll call vote: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Ms. Romine-Aye and Mr. Kosior-Aye.

Public Comment

None

Clerk-Treasurer

Claims Approval

Clerk-Treasurer Courtney Parthun presented Payroll for January 7, 2022, in the amount of \$442,751.38.

Motion/Vote – Approval of Payroll 1-7-22

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Payroll for January 7, 2022, as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and motion passed with the following roll call vote: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Ms. Romine-Aye and Mr. Kosior-Aye.

Clerk-Treasurer Parthun presented Civil City Claims in the amount of \$959,323.64. She noted these include bond payments, a partial payment for the Ice Rink and the January Trash bill.

Motion/Vote – Approval of Civil City Claims

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Civil City Claims as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and motion passed with the following roll call vote: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Ms. Romine-Aye and Mr. Kosior-Aye.

Clerk-Treasurer Parthun presented Sewage Claims in the amount of \$212,642.95.

Motion/Vote – Approval of Sewage Claims

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Sewage Claims as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and motion passed with the following roll call vote: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Ms. Romine-Aye and Mr. Kosior-aye.

Clerk-Treasurer Parthun presented Water Claims in the amount of \$197,716.41.

Motion/Vote – Approval of Water Claims

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Water Claims as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and passed with the following roll call vote: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Ms. Romine-Aye and Mr. Kosior-Aye.

Department Head Reports

Water: Water Director Tim Werner stated their Scada updates will be finished by the end of the month. He also noted they turned the cost of the damaged generator into insurance, and they are working with Nies Engineering to get the bids ready for the new well construction in Solider Memorial Park.

L.E.A.P.: Executive Director of La Porte Economics Advancement Partnership Bert Cook noted they have a new Child Care Voucher Program. This program is designed for those who are looking to re-enter the workforce and need help with Child Care. The program gives a voucher for \$50 towards Child Care needs. For information contact the Workforce Development Coordinator Eric Nelson.

Street/Code: Director of Central Services Jeff Batchelor stated the Street Department are working on putting in guardrails, patching, removing tree stumps and tree limbs. The Code Department is still moving along with violations.

Transporte: Transporte Manager Beth West stated that if we get inclement weather, they will be running slower or close early.

Fire: Fire Chief Andy Snyder stated they will be conducting Ice Rescue Training and noted they have three firefighters out due to Covid.

HR: Human Resource Jen Noll stated she is working on annual reports and interviews. Job opportunities are listed on the City's website.

Sewage: Wastewater Director Jerry Jackson stated they are talking with Surf Air and getting the plant hooked up.

Communications: Communications Director Jess Bruder stated there was a nice turn out for the Marine NIBC Basketball Tournament and noted she is still working the bugs out of the website.

Engineering: City Engineer Nick Minich stated they had a Clear Lake Loop Design Workshop; Street Paving will go out for bid Friday or Monday and there is an addendum to the Troyer Contract for the Park Street Project.

Park: Park Director Mark Schreiber stated that Youth Sports Registration is going on for Boys Baseball, Tennis, T-Ball and Girls Softball. The Ice Rink will open this Friday and run through February 21st and Winterfest will be the last weekend of January.

Planning: Community Development & Planning Director Craig Phillips stated he is working on some residential projects that will be going out for public offering.

New Business

NABRX Insurance Renewal

Human Resource Director Noll presented the Board with the NABRX Insurance Renewal for prescriptions with a \$.50 increase.

Motion/Vote – Approval of NABRX Insurance Renewal

Ms. Romine moved to approve the NABRX Insurance Renewal as presented; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and motion passed with the following roll call vote: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Ms. Romine-Aye and Mr. Kosior-Aye.

Edison Healthcare

Human Resource Director Noll stated the Edison Healthcare gives employees access to top tier surgery and procedures with the City paying 100% of the procedure plus travel expenses.

Motion/Vote – Approval of Edison Healthcare

Mr. Kosior moved to approve Edison Healthcare as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and motion passed with the following roll call vote: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Ms. Romine-Aye and Mr. Kosior-Aye.

Job Description

Human Resource Director Noll stated the Park Department are looking to hire a few Ice Rink Attendants and asked the Board to approve the job description.

Motion/Vote – Approval of Job Description

Ms. Romine moved to approve the job description for the ice rink attendant as presented; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and motion passed with the following roll call vote: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Ms. Romine-Aye and Mr. Kosior-Aye.

Mental Health Parity Addiction Equity Analysis

Human Resource Director Noll asked the Board to allow a third party to be administrator and process the analysis.

Motion/Vote – Approval of Mental Health Parity Addiction Equity Analysis

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Mental Health Parity Addiction Equity Analysis as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and motion passed with the following roll call vote: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Ms. Romine-Aye and Mr. Kosior-Aye.

Memorandum of Understanding

Community Development Program Manager Mary Ann Richards presented a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of La Porte and Housing Opportunities for the demolition of 708 Kingsporte Lane and for them to build a single-family development. She asked the Board to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and have the Mayor execute said understanding.

Motion/Vote – Approval of Memorandum of Understanding

Ms. Romine moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding as presented; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and motion passed with the following roll call: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Ms. Romine-Aye and Mr. Kosior-Aye.

Contract with Nies Engineering

Wastewater Director Jerry Jackson presented a contract with Nies Engineering for Technical Support. This is a yearly contract capped at \$2,000 a month.

Motion/Vote – Approval of Contract with Nies Engineering

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Contract with Nies Engineering pending legal review; motion seconded by Mayor Dermody and motion passed with the following roll call vote: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Mr. Kosior-Aye and Ms. Romine abstained.

Contract with Wessler Engineering

Wastewater Director Jackson presented a contract with Wessler Engineering for technical support with Stormwater issues with a cap of \$20,000 a year.

Motion/Vote – Approval of Contract with Wessler Engineering

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Contract with Wessler Engineering as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and motion passed with the following roll call: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Ms. Romine-Aye and Mr. Kosior-Aye.

Wastewater Director Jackson introduced Joe Peters from Nies Engineering who worked on the design for the Phosphorus Project.

Phosphorus Bids

Wastewater Director Jackson stated they received three bids for the Phosphorus Project, and he is asking the Board to award to KDM Services in the amount of \$1,745,000. He noted the third addendum was missing, but it is not worth rejecting the bid.

Motion/Vote – Award Phosphorus Project

Mr. Kosior moved to award the Phosphorus Project to KDM Services as presented; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and motion passed with the following roll call: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Ms. Romine-Aye and Mr. Kosior-Aye.

Renewable Wastewater Hauler Permit

Wastewater Director Jackson presented a renewal for a Wastewater Hauler Permit for Sunset Septic and Excavating.

Motion/Vote – Approval of Renewable Wastewater Hauler Permit

Mr. Kosior moved to approve the Renewable Wastewater Hauler Permit as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Dermody and motion passed with the following roll call vote: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Mr. Kosior-Aye and Ms. Romine abstained.

Contract Amendment for Park Street Project

City Engineer Nick Minich stated the first design for the Park Street Project was a simple resurface. The amendment is to add an intersection improvement at McClung, Park and Bach Streets with a roundabout and a right of way acquisition. The first design cost was \$97,500 and now the contract with the amendment is in the amount of \$280,430.00. This is an 80/20 grant with our portion coming out of the Major Moves Fund. The Construction date is set for 2024.

Motion/Vote -Approval of Contract Amendment for Park Street Project

Ms. Romine moved to approve the Contract Amendment for Park Street Project as presented; motion seconded by Mr. Kosior and motion passed with the following roll call vote: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Ms. Romine-Aye and Mr. Kosior-Aye.

Unfinished Business

None

Other Business

City Attorney Nick Otis thanked Mark Schreiber and Brett Binversie for the great Marine NIBC Basketball Tournament.

Mayor Dermody stated he will present a LIT Public Safety presentation to the County Council on January 24th.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Mr. Kosior moved to adjourn; motion seconded by Ms. Romine and motion passed with the following roll call: Mayor Dermody-Aye, Ms. Romine-Aye and Mr. Kosior-Aye.

Approve: _____
Thomas P Dermody, Mayor

Attest: _____
Courtney Parthun, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: February 8, 2022