

**City of La Porte Business Improvement District**  
**City Hall**  
**La Porte, IN 46350**  
**September 12, 2022**

President Thaddeus Cutler called the September 12, 2022 meeting of the City of La Porte Business Improvement District Board to order at 5:05 p.m. The meeting was held at City Hall at 801 Michigan Avenue, La Porte, IN. Roll call of members of the Board was shown to be present or absent as follows:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brad Adamsky, Robin Clark, Thaddeus Cutler, Jim Kaminski, John Spiggle, Lizz Ward, Clinton Worthington

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jessica Granger

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Laura Cutler, Courtney Dickman, Amy Feikes, Charity Hlavsa, Craig Phillips

**MINUTES:** President Cutler asked if there were any additions or corrections to be made on the August 8 minutes. Ward made a correction to the finance section stating the August watering should be \$220 instead of \$2,200. Kaminski made a motion to approve the August 8 meeting minutes with the correction and Worthington seconded. There being no further discussion; motion carried.

**GUEST COMMENTS:** Councilwoman Cutler commented that last Tuesday night was City Council and the council approved Courtney Dickman of Downtown Delights and Tommy Viere of Material Architecture Corp. to join the BID board.

Feikes notified the board that there are some benches and trash receptacles that are missing wooden slats. She suggested pulling slats off the benches that have been removed from downtown and use them to replace the ones that are still in place. She guesses around 20-30 trash receptacle slats are missing or rotting. She estimates the cedar slats would be roughly \$30/board. There is a trash receptacle near Bon Viet that the BID could remove to use for parts. Clark suggested approving up to 40 boards with an approximate cost of \$1,200 and Spiggle seconded. There being no further discussion; motion carried.

It was also discussed to take the benches out for the winter to have them repainted.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance:** Spiggle reported that the appropriation was approved by City Council.

There were two claims. The first was from Mofield Properties for downtown maintenance on August 8 and September 7<sup>th</sup> totaling \$2,500 and 8 waterings from August 10th to September 7th for \$220 each time totaling \$1,760. Worthington motioned to accept the claims and Clark seconded.

Spiggle asked Councilwoman Cutler how the \$5,000 for the Christmas decorations should be paid. It was suggested to ask Jamie how they would like the money to be paid.

Spiggle will give a full financial report in October.

**Maintenance:** Phillips reported that another planter at Michigan and Lincolnway was hit by a school bus. Insurance has been contacted.

Phillips provided the board with the quotes for the planters at Clay and Lincolnway and at Clay and State. It would cost \$5,700 to repair and \$8,300 to remove. Spiggle motioned to repair the planter at Clay and State and Ward seconded.

It was mentioned that Tim Kolar proposed fixing the planter at Madison and Lincolnway using a different method to cut down cost. It is a TAM brush coat that can be applied to the cap. Phillips will get a quote for the brush coat product.

Phillips also gave the board an estimate for the irrigation system from Hess Irrigation for \$1,400. Ward motioned to approve the quote and Kaminski seconded. There being no further discussion; motion carried.

Phillips also brought forth an email from Jamie Novak regarding 12 light poles that have non-working outlets. The estimate from Emcor Hyre Electric was in the amount of \$3,000. Adamsky motioned the quote from Emcor Hyre Electric and Worthington seconded. There being no further discussion; motion carried.

Ward asked about the globe on the light pole in front of Bare Bones. It is currently being repaired.

Phillips also requested the trash receptacle be removed from in front of Bon Viet and Adamsky seconded.

**Leaf & Snow Removal:** There was no report.

**Flowers:** War reported the flowers and plants will be removed from the planters the first week of October and the water can be cut off next week. Perennials Galore submitted their quote for dirt refill. Ward suggested the BID should hold off on refilling the dirt in the planters until Spring because of the irrigation repairs.

**Trees:** Phillips reported that the City has contracted with Graff to handle all tree issues. He is unsure how the BID fits in with that contract. Adamsky will find out from City Attorney Nick Otis.

**Long-Term Planning:** Kaminski reported that a couple BID members were in a special meeting with the Hitchcock Design Group last week. Some highlights included, half-brick, half-concrete sidewalks, clay pavers, smaller planters, large pots away from intersections, keeping some existing planters and change the look to blend with the new design, black metal benches and trash receptacles, covered receptacles, teardrop globe lighting, and metal vs. concrete poles. Kaminski will work with Phillips to get some visuals together.

Phillips notified the BID that the improvements to the downtown would coincide with the redesign of Lincolnway. There will be a follow up meeting to refine options.

Phillips also mentioned that there will not be a viable revenue source until Northwest Health continues their TIFF in 2028 or 2029.

The plan is to do a test block to see what works best and get repair costs for everything.

Next steps are to reconvene with that committee and create recommended options to bring to the BID and Redevelopment Commission.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

President Cutler notified the board that the October BID meeting falls on Columbus Day so the board needs to determine a new date. Phillips will verify with Annette that October 11<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. is available.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/OBSERVATIONS:**

President Cutler made the announcement that this Saturday is the Sunflower Fair.

**Adjournment/Next Meeting**

There being no further business, Adamsky entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:01 p.m. and Clark seconded. The next board meeting will be October 11, 2022. *If unable to attend this meeting, please contact Thaddeus Cutler by email at [thaddeus@thaddeusc.com](mailto:thaddeus@thaddeusc.com)*

*Respectfully submitted by: Lindsay Jongkind*