

**City of La Porte Business Improvement District**  
**City Hall**  
**La Porte, IN 46350**  
**March 11, 2024**

President Ward called the March 11, 2024 meeting of the City of La Porte Business Improvement District Board to order at 5:07 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, Vice-President Robin Clark, Courtney Dickman, Jim Kaminski, President Lizz Ward, Clinton Worthington, Tommy Viere

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** John Spiggle

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Amy Feikes, Charity Hlavsa, Rick Ogle, Craig Phillips, Councilwoman Julie West

**MINUTES:** President Ward asked if there were any additions or corrections to be made on the February 12 minutes. Viere made a motion to approve the February 12 meeting minutes and Worthington seconded. Motion passed.

**GUEST COMMENTS:** Amy Feikes' claim was not put through last month so it is ready for signatures and she will be paid on Tuesday.

Feikes asked the board when they would like to begin summer maintenance since there is no snow. The board will keep her notified.

Rick Ogle wanted to talk about replacing pavers in front of Ogle's Inn. He also talked about snow removal and how he noticed during the storm, there is no path to businesses except the corners. It was determined that the contract with Feikes only states that cutouts will be made on Lincolnway, not the side streets. Ogle mentioned that the snow removal process used to be that the snow was moved to the street for the street department to pick up. Clark will look into it.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance:** Adamsky mentioned that Spiggle sent him a claim from Paul's Construction for the removal of the planters at Michigan and Lincolnway and on State and Clay. The first is \$7,470 and the second is \$6,420 so the total to remove both planters is 16,090. Phillips said that the funds have been received from insurance. Also, the claim for Feikes addressed in guest comments needs to be signed. Clark motioned to accept the claims as presented; Viere seconded. Motion passed.

**Maintenance:** Phillips notified the board that another planter has been hit at the Northeast corner of Jackson and Lincolnway across from Bon Viet and the city is waiting for insurance to assess the quote for removal. The damaged light pole at Monroe and Lincolnway is also pending insurance. He has received one quote out of three flower companies that were contacted for planter bids. Smalls is not interested, Tu Bloom is now disqualified and, Perennials Galore sent in a bid for planting of the planters for \$29,000, maintenance for \$7,500 and sunflowers like last year for \$1,200. Planting including maintenance is \$36,000. Adamsky motioned to approve the quote without the sunflowers; Viere seconded. Motion carried.

Phillips asked the board to think about cutting back on the flowers to focus on pavers in certain areas.

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

**Flowers:** The report was covered during maintenance.

**Trees:** There was no report.

**Long-Term Planning:** Kaminski met with Phillips to set the table for long-term planning. There are two elements; short term maintenance plans and long-term that focuses on what happens to the board and what that looks like. The BID expires in 4 years. The mayor has expressed that he would like to see the BID continue and see if there is a possibility to use city funds to build a “test block” within the next year.

Councilwoman West talked about meeting with Janet Bloch at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts to add a mural to an alleyway and make it appealing and more usable for something such as dining, making it walkable.

They talked about the options: let BID expire, renew BID as is, renew bid and look at tax levy change. There will be quarterly meetings with the mayor going forward.

Hlavsa mentioned businesses using 50/50 façade grant to encourage the use of the design plans to improve their spaces.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Phillips received two requests to relocate bike racks. The first was to move the rack from Kemp’s to the mid-block between Wilson’s and Emmy’s. The second was to move the rack at the corner of Lincolnway and Monroe to in front of Low’s Point or in front of Downtown Delights on Monroe. This would also include repairing the uneven pavers. Adamsky motioned to move the bike rack in front of Kemp’s to mid-block; Vieri seconded. Motion passed. The second bike rack has been tabled.

Adamsky and Phillips will be out of town for next month’s meeting. Ward will get in touch with Spiggle for financials.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/OBSERVATIONS:**

There were no announcements/observations.

### **Adjournment/Next Meeting**

There being no further business, Worthington entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:37 p.m. Vieri seconded. The next board meeting will be on April 8, 2024. ***If unable to attend this meeting, please contact Lizz Ward by email at lizzward@gmail.com***

*Respectfully submitted by: Lindsay Kneifel*