City of La Porte Business Improvement District
City Hall
La Porte, IN 46350
June 8, 2026

President Ward called the June 8, 2026, 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: President Lizz Ward, Vice-President Robin Clark, Rachel Doty, Charity Hlavsa, John Spiggle

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brad Adamsky, Jamie Williams, Clinton Worthington

GUESTS PRESENT: Amy Feikes, Jamie Novak, Julie West

MINUTES: President Ward asked if there were any additions or corrections to be made on the May 11 minutes. Doty motioned to approve the minutes as presented and Hlavsa seconded. Motion carried.

GUEST COMMENTS: Alfredo Estrada from BCC Law came to introduce himself. The building is just outside of the BID district, but he hopes to get involved where he can.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance: Spiggle gave the financial report for May. Property taxes will be released this month or first of July. The BID collected $112.22 in interest. Expenses included $1,999.10 for extra dirt in planters and $23.80 was sidewalk maintenance. The BID spent $4,266.88 leaving the account with $63,997.44.

There were three claims: the first was $250 to Kniefel for secretary services. The second was to Mofield Properties for two sidewalk maintenance occurrences for $2,025 and six waterings for $3,300 totaling $5,373.

Novak submitted claims from MP Lawncare for summer maintenance on dates including 5/11, 5/14, and 5/21 totaling $1,428. Doty motioned to approve the treasurers report and the claims as presented and Hlavsa seconded.

Maintenance: The Bid board and MP Lawncare terminated the BID Summer Maintenance agreement on 5/21.

Feikes thanked the board for the opportunity to return. She is happy to report most of the weed removal and maintenance is under control once again. They will continue the corrective work to keep the BID looking its best moving forward. She brought forward two options for the board to consider: the board can go forward with the current rate of $675/week which includes blowing the sidewalk twice a week, trash pickup of large items and branches in the tree lawn, and mowing and trimming the yards. The one-year option would be $525 a week from now until the first significant snowfall. This would allow the summer maintenance to flow directly into leaf pickup with no lapse in maintenance.

Ward proposed an emergency snow rate in partnership with another board or department to pay for additional snow removal if needed for specific locations that have significant snow buildup. Mofield charges a $90 man hour rate for waterings and snow removal for $155/hr. This includes making the decision by 1 a.m. so they can

be out on the streets before businesses are open. If decision is made now, Feikes can make some equipment adjustments to better serve the BID.

Spiggle made a motion for the one-year service agreement and Clark seconded.

Novak contacted Sherwin-Williams and the street department to see what could be done with the benches and trash receptacles. She is proposing to get 6 gallons of stain not to exceed $300 and gather volunteers to lightly sand and stain the benches and receptacles. The price is $48.45 per gallon and she is looking for donations of sandpaper, brushes, tarps, etc. All donations may be brought to City Hall. She is currently working with INDOT for volunteers and the plan is to have everything done before July 4th. Spiggle motioned to approve the purchase of stain not to exceed $300 and Hlavsa seconded.

Feikes made an offer to work on the benches and trash receptacles and Spiggle motioned to table the decision until after the volunteers go through and fix what they can first.

Novak will send an email to the board for proposals on Indiana Avenue. They will be putting down concrete, but there are some options as far as brick banding or stamped concrete. Spiggle asked if the BID will be able to add in color to the brick banding and Novak said she believes there are a few choices that will be sent out to the board. They will be placing sod down as well so if the board would like to place the curb planters.

Snow Removal: There was no report.

Flowers: Ward reported that Perennials Galore has put the flowers in the planters. The plants slated for Indiana Avenue will be redistributed to the other planters.

Trees: Novak said a gentleman from PNC Bank has concerns about a tree that appears dead. He filled out a form and offered to remove it at his cost. The arborist will look at the tree. The city does not currently have a tree crew. Ward mentioned working with the UEA to come up with a plan for replacing and removing trees.

Long-Term Planning: There was no report.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OBSERVATIONS: Worthington announced he has an art show at Burn 'Em on June 26th. There will be 20-30 paintings and a special beer for the occasion.

Hlavsa announced Cousins Maine Lobster will once again be outside HotSpot Café on June 21st. Online ordering will be available for pickup inside the café this time.

Adjournment/Next Meeting

There being no further business, Worthington entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:39 p.m. and Hlavsa seconded. The next board meeting will be on July 13th, 2026. ***If unable to attend this meeting, please contact Lizz Ward by email at lizzward@gmail.com***

Respectfully submitted by: Lindsay Kneifel