

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
VALPARAISO, INDIANA
MARCH 24, 2005

The Board of Public Works and Safety met at 10:00am on Thursday, March 24, 2005. Present were Mayor Costas, Clerk Treasurer Sharon Emerson Swihart and Board Member Dave Pilz.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES AND CLAIMS

Mr. Pilz moved the minutes of the previous meeting be approved, seconded by the Mayor and so approved.

Mr. Pilz moved for approval of claims subject to appropriation balances, seconded by the Mayor and so approved.

ITEM 1-AMEND AGREEMENT BETWEEN FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION
LOCAL 1124 AND COV

The Mayor stated this has gone before the Council and now before the Board is required because of the collective bargaining agreement. The amendment is in regard to \$1,500 additional pay for EMTs and is within the budget. Mr. Pilz moved for approval, seconded by the Mayor and so approved.

ITEM 2-PEPPER CREEK ANNEXATION AGREEMENT

Attorney Hollenbeck stated on behalf of the City staff they have succeeded in arriving at a voluntary annexation agreement for the Pepper Creek Subdivision development that is currently out of City limits. This is an important component of the City's West side annexation strategy. Mr. Pilz moved for approval, seconded by the Mayor and so approved.

ITEM 3-BID SPECS FOR SALT STORAGE BUILDING

Mr. Oeding stated there is a design for the salt storage building and plans have been sent downstate (on the foundation of the building) for state approval. He requested permission to bid. Mr. Pilz moved for approval, seconded by the Mayor and so approved.

ITEM 4-BIDS FOR WINTER 05/06 SALT

Mr. Oeding stated he found that last season's bidding time frame was not early enough to get into the early supply and get a commitment. He asked permission to bid at this time. He will make a commitment early on but not take delivery until November. Hopefully this will get him in on a lower price. Mr. Pilz moved for approval, seconded by the Mayor and so approved.

ITEM 5-BIDS FOR FULL DEPTH REPAIR/GRINDING GLENDALE BLVD

Mr. Oeding stated this is too big a project to take in under the annual bid specs as grinding is not a part of that. He asked permission to go out for bid as soon as all issues are worked out. Mr. Pilz moved for approval, seconded by the Mayor and so approved.

ITEM 6-REPLACE 16 CIVIL WAR HEADSTONES AT MAPLEWOOD

Linda Zyla stated Alan Loomis of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War has requested permission to replace 16 headstones of known veterans in Maplewood Cemetery and to add flag holders. Mr. Pilz questioned the historical value of the old stones. The Mayor stated approval needs to be based upon being satisfied with the displacement procedure of the current headstones. Mr. Oeding said he needs to know and review the plan with Mr. Loomis to coordinate with him. Mr. Pilz moved for approval subject to Mr. Oeding's approval after he has had time to investigate. The Mayor seconded and so approved.

ITEM 7-AGREEMENT INDOT/CITY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF TRIANGLE/EASTGATE PROJECTS

Mr. Pilz stated there is a current agreement executed between INDOT and the City providing for the reconstruction of the intersection under the old design. Engineering has now changed the plan to a roundabout. In the interest of time they have prepared a new agreement between the City and INDOT that provides for a different mechanism for financing. The City will pay for the design and construction of the roundabout and in return they are proposing INDOT will then pay for the section of the Eastgate which is basically Lincolnway construction. The new agreement will be sent to INDOT for their consideration and approval. He proposed that the Board approve and execute it to try to keep this moving along quickly. The Mayor seconded and so approved.

ITEM 8-INDIANA GHOST TRACKERS HOST GHOST HUNT @ MAPLEWOOD CEMETERY

The Indiana Ghost Trackers, Inc. asked permission to host ghost hunts on April 2, 9, 23, and 30. The Mayor motioned not to approve the request due to protecting the dignity of our citizens involved with the cemetery. Mr. Pilz seconded and motion for the request was respectfully denied.

ITEM 9-CITIZEN REQUEST

The VNA Hospice requested by letter permission to host their annual VNA Hospice Stroll on Sunday, June 26 at 1pm. Mr. Pilz moved for approval, seconded by the Mayor and so approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Don Coleman 1606 Silhavy on the West side of Hotters Lagoon was present to inquire on a proposed ball park near Opportunity Enterprise. He and his neighbors are interested in the plan regarding wetlands, parking, taxes, and assessment. Mr. Doniger stated Hotters Lagoon is City property and is currently managed by the BOW. The Park Department had a lease option years back that ran through and is now back to the BOW. At this time there are no specific plans to develop the area as it is under protected lands. If such a plan comes into being there would first be a BOW lease option with the Park Department and a citizen review meeting.

LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

Mr. Pilz announced that at the April 14th BOW meeting there will be a presentation of the Concept Plan for the Downtown Improvements as a kickoff of the plan.

Curt Hawkins representing Chief Brickner announced that the 3 new officers have passed field training.

Craig Phillips reported on work on Ordinances. One of them being prohibiting Sexually Oriented Businesses to come before the Council in late April. They are looking at ordinances regarding large retail establishments. They are also introducing the Northeast Annexation to Council.

Linda Zyla announced Student Government Day is April 28th.

Steve Doniger announced the Fit City kickoff is April 4th at Fairgrounds Park at 7:30am. The Park Board has approved the Pathways and Greensways Master Plan. The Plan will next go before the Planning Commission and Council for approval. The Park Department has established Valpo Arts Commission. They will do a community wide art project each year. This year's project is Masterpiece seats. These projects will be privately funded.

Don McGinley reported yesterday they completed the bore across St. Rd. 130 in the Westside Sewer Project. The force main is entirely complete. There is 140" of gravity line left. The liftstation at Howe Street is in progress.

Ron Ziolkowski reported the completion of conversion and upgrade to the Fire Department program software.

Chief Nondorf stated the backup generator at station 1 is being installed. The old one will be recycled to the Street Department. This was done by Federal grant. They started the new inspection program March 1st. The revenue from inspections has been switched from a general fund tax based account to a user based account. The new radios have arrived and are fully operational.

Mr. Oeding thanked Chief Nondorf for the generator as they have not had one. June 6th is when the new containers will be used. There will be a large street paving program this year-1.7 to 2 million in paving. Street sweeping is happening.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.