



Board of Works Meeting – Minutes from May 28, 2024

Board of Works Members in Attendance: Mayor Phil Jenkins, Wayne Scheumann, Rod Stump Jr.

Also Present: City Attorney Brian Hoffer, Clerk-Treasurer Jeff Knight, 8 guests (8 IP) and one member of the press (IP).

- Call to order: Mayor Jenkins called the meeting to order at 3:31 pm.
- Roll call: Members listed above were in attendance in person.
- Approval of the Minutes from May 13, 2024: Mr. Stump motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Scheumann seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote.
- Approval of Consent Agenda: A Consent Agenda containing items that are approvable by the various department heads was submitted. The items presented were 6 Excavating in ROW and 1 Sewer Connection request. Mr. Stump motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Mayor Jenkins seconded. The Consent Agenda was approved unanimously by voice vote.
- There were no petitions or comments by citizens, no reports from committees, boards, or commissions, and no unfinished business.
- New Business
 - Wellfield Dr. Closure: Park Superintendent Davis presented the request from NorthWood Cross Country Coach Jason Bell to have a relay event around the asphalt lane surrounding the turf soccer field from 9:30 pm until 11:30 pm on August 9th. This was approved by the Park Board but then a further request was made to close Wellfield Park Drive where it intersects the asphalt lane around the field. It is not anticipated that there will be many spectators, however where the barricade will be may cause problems with people's ability to turn around if they drive back to see what is going on. Street Superintendent Warren suggested having another sign placed at Parkside Manor Drive indicating the road is closed. He also noted that the City has not received the school's insurance certificate yet. Superintendent Davis commented that it has been requested. Mayor Jenkins voiced his appreciation for the work Mr. Bell has done with the cross-country program. Mayor Jenkins motioned to approve the request pending receipt of the insurance certificate. Mr. Scheumann seconded. The request was approved unanimously by voice vote.
 - Apple Festival Road and Parking Lot Request: Apple Festival Committee Director Donna Persing made the annual request. She provided a detailed list of the streets and parking lots to be closed or otherwise used. Added to the list this year was East Marion Street from North Jackson to Morningside Drive (Saturday, September 21st from 6:00 am to 11:00 am) for the Donut Dash. Mayor Jenkins confirmed the run will be completed by the time of the parade. Mr. Stump motioned to approve the Apple Festival road and parking lot closure request. Mr. Scheumann seconded. The request was approved unanimously by voice vote.
 - Veridus Proposal for McCormick Creek Clubhouse: Mayor Jenkins introduced the proposal, noting that it was a similar type of arrangement to the one utilized for the fire station. This one is for a new clubhouse at the golf course and will be done utilizing the Build, Operate, Transfer financing model. This first phase of the agreement covers the months of May through July to allow time to figure out the scope and expected cost. The cost of the first phase will be \$7,000/month with reimbursable expenses not to exceed \$1,000. Superintendent Davis commented that due to the good work they have done with the fire station that it is good to have them involved in this BOT project. They have already provided good advice. Mr. Scheumann confirmed that phase one is for three months. Mayor Jenkins



said yes, the first three months is a period to determine the scope and estimated cost and then decide whether to move forward. The intent is to use golf course revenues to pay for the cost of the facility. Superintendent Davis said that if the decision is made to move forward, another proposal will be submitted by Veridus with a cost for the additional phases. Mr. Scheumann motioned to approve the proposal. Mr. Stump seconded. The proposal was approved unanimously by voice vote.

- Commonwealth PER for Water Loss Audit: Water Superintendent Van Voorst presented request. Every third year the City is required to conduct a water loss audit for IDEM and the State of Indiana. A higher score on these audits helps lower borrowing costs with the IFA. He continued by mentioning that at the last BOWs meeting he asked for approval for the testing of meters. The large commercial meters all had test results within parameters established by AWWA. There are still Plant meters to test and then a great deal of paperwork to complete. The cost for the audit is \$5,000. Mayor Jenkins motioned to approve the request for the water loss audit with a cost of \$5,000. Mr. Scheumann seconded. The Commonwealth PER for Water Loss Audit was approved unanimously by voice vote.
- Approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers:
 - Mr. Stump motioned to approve the 2024 Water APV's Totaling \$101,409.67 and 2024 WWTP APV's for \$109,677.61. Mr. Scheumann seconded. The APV's were approved unanimously by voice vote.
- Reports of City Officers:
 - Water – Gabe Schrock Hire: Water Superintendent Van Voorst told the BOWs that he intends to rehire Gabe Schrock as summer help. He will work on painting fire hydrants and other painting that needs to be completed. He will start on June 3rd at an hourly rate of \$12.50. Mayor Jenkins motioned to approve the rehiring of Gabe Schrock at \$12.50/hour beginning June 3rd. Mr. Stump seconded. The rehiring of Gabe Schrock was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Superintendent Van Voorst also informed that BOWs that he will be out of the office June 4th and 5th.

- Street Department – Declaration of Emergency for Tomahawk Drive: Mayor Jenkins recognized the fire department and first responders for the work they did at the accident site. He also issued his condolences to the family of the individual who lost his life. Due to this and the damage done that has caused the road to be closed, Mayor Jenkins requested that an emergency be declared, and that Fire Chief Lehman and Street Superintendent Warren be authorized to work with IDEM, INDOT, or whoever else may be necessary to work with to get the road put back together and opened. Mayor Jenkins made that motion. Mr. Scheumann seconded. The declaration of emergency for Tomahawk Drive and the authorization for Fire Chief Lehman and Superintendent Warren to work with whoever is necessary to get the road fixed and opened was approved unanimously by voice vote.
- Fire – Fireworks Permit for The Barns: Fire Chief Lehman received a request for a fireworks permit from The Barns for June 8th. The request is primarily for a noise ordinance variance from the Power from the Past group. If there is rain on this date, the rain date will be June 9th. Mayor Jenkins motioned to approve the noise ordinance variance. Mr. Stump seconded. The noise ordinance variance request was approved unanimously by voice vote.



- Police Chief Rulli asked for the press' help in getting the word out about a scam that has gone around with scammers claiming to be NIPSCO and their intent to shut off utilities due to lack of payment. Several businesses in the city fell prey to this scam and lost a lot of money paying what they perceived as being overdue NIPSCO bills. NIPSCO will not call on the weekend and they will not pay employees triple time to shut people off on holidays. This time the scammers were only targeting businesses.

Adjournment: With no further business to discuss, Mr. Stump motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Scheumann seconded. Adjournment was agreed to by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 3:52 pm.

Phil Jenkins, Mayor

Attest: _____
Jeff Knight, Clerk of Board of Works