



BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY MEETING MINUTES

ZOOM AND COUNCIL CHAMBER

THURSDAY, January 6, 2022

4:00 P.M.

Board Members Present: Mayor Long, Todd Titus

Department Heads present: Building Commissioner, Jim Straws; Code Enforcement Officer, Jeff Knee; Street Superintendent Scott Richardson; Bob Gray, Wastewater Superintendent; Fire Chief, Barry Stroup; Police Chief Matt Bruss; Park Superintendent Adam Hall

Guests: Emmilee Gaston; Gaunt, Sam Knight, Ron Denton, John Burnsworth

MINUTES

Todd Titus made a motion to accept the minutes for the December 16, 2021 meeting. Mayor Long 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

CITY CLAIMS-SEWAGE CLAIMS

Mayor Long made a motion to approve the claims. Todd Titus 2nd the motion. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Unsafe Structure Hearing - 173 N Huntington – City Attorney, Doug Lehman, announced that the Title Search had a wrinkle in it. The Structure was titled to a Ms. Young and judgement to Dillon. 5-6 people owned the property in the estate. One of the owners had a judgement against the property. Since then, all the Heirs deeded the property to Ms. Young. Attorney Lehman instructed Building Commissioner, Jim Straws, to send a Hearing Notice to Ms. Young for the February 3, Board of Works meeting. Josh Petruniw called Commissioner Straws on January 5, to ask for more time because the owner wants to sell the structure. Attorney Lehman said that request was pending on the new owner's intentions. The Board of Works members have made promises with several people who have not followed through with their intentions. Commissioner Straws informed the Board that the current owner claims the property has been cleaned up but it has not been done. Commissioner Straws would like to send a letter notifying the owner that the property needs to be cleaned up in 10 days. Attorney Lehman instructed Commissioner Straws to send a letter to both the homeowner and Attorney Petruniw. Mayor Long made a motion to table the hearing until February 3, and for Commissioner Straws to send the clean up letter. The motion was 2nd by Todd Titus. Motion carried.

2. Resolution 6.2021 has now become Resolution 1.2022, Regarding Fire Department Reimbursement. The new resolution cleared up the questions about personnel leaving the Fire Department and the equipment/uniforms they can take with them. The Resolution includes information on what needs to remain with the Department. The Resolution has the agreement attached. Todd Titus made a motion to accept Resolution 1.2022. Mayor Long 2nd the motion. Motion carried.
3. Ron Denton, Berry Street – An Unsafe Haring was previously held. City Attorney Doug Lehman stated that this was not a continuation of the Hearing. During the Hearing, due to some health issues, Mr. Denton was given 45 days to respond to the demolition order and explain why he would appeal it. Mr. Denton claims a City “big wig” came and approved the fixes he did to his building. Commissioner Straws said that did not happen. Straws went to Denton’s building earlier this week to take pictures to update the Board. Straws presented the pictures, which showed that the trusses were not engineered trusses as Mr. Denton promised. Instead, the trusses were scabbed together and were held up by 6 X 6 inch square poles placed on tire rims. Board Member Titus told Denton that he had agreed to have engineered trusses installed, not homemade trusses. Mayor asked Denton why he promised engineered trusses and used scabbed ones instead. Denton replied that he intends to use the building himself to put his cars in and not to rent it. Denton said he fixed it good enough to store \$30,000 - \$40,000 cars in it. Mayor Long informed Denton that the use of the building is not an issue. It doesn’t matter who owns it or what they do with it. The building is either safe or unsafe. Public safety is the number one issue and the Board has an obligation to keep the public safe. The only thing that will save this building is to find a professional engineer that would agree the building was safe. Mr. Denton continued to argue, using profanity. Mayor told Mr. Denton he didn’t need to hear any more. He did ask Mr. Denton for his phone number, which is 260-437-3611. The Board requested that Commissioner Straws get a quote the demolition of Mr. Denton’s building.
4. Bids for 511 Bond Street – Cathy Ann Tudor – Commissioner Straws informed the Board that Ms. Tudor signed the last green card sent. The following quotes were submitted for the demolition of the structure:
 - Earthworks \$10,900
 - Brainard \$7700
 - Treska brothers \$18,990
 - Hanks Construction \$8400Todd Titus made a motion to accept the Brainard Snow Removal Bid. Mayor Long 2nd the motion. Motion carried.
The Board instructed Commissioner Straws to conduct one more title search and to also send Ms. Tudor a letter informing her of the demolition order.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Opening Bids for the Annual Street Department Bid supply
One bid was received from Gaunt & Son Asphalt
Since there was only one bid, Todd Titus made a motion to accept the quote. Mayor Long 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

2. DLZ Contract for Honeywell Golf Club Road Improvements
City Attorney Doug Lehman pointed out two issues he had with the current contract. #1 was the 30 days to pay. Doug would like to see the City ask for 60 days to pay, due to the process we use to submit and pay claims.
#2 is the Liability Clause – the clause states that DLZ is only liable for the amount of money they have been paid. Attorney Lehman will contact DLZ to see if they can agree to the changes. The contract will be reviewed at the January 20, Board of Works meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Canal Street Project bid by Gaunt and Son Asphalt– Mayor Long stated that some things that are listed in the contract can be taken care of by our Street Department and that will change the bid somewhat. Mayor made a motion to accept the contract. Todd Titus 2nd. The motion carried.

QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

None

NEXT MEETING

The next Board of Works meeting will be held on Thursday, January 20, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.

Scott Long

Mayor

Todd Titus

Member