

City of La Porte Business Improvement District

City Hall

La Porte, IN 46350

June 13, 2022

President Thaddeus Cutler called the June 13, 2022 meeting of the City of La Porte Business Improvement District Board to order at 5:00 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, Robin Clark, Thaddeus Cutler, Jim Kaminski, John Spiggle, Lizz Ward, Clinton Worthington

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jessica Granger, Erica Kanney, Dawn Melchiorre

GUESTS PRESENT: Laura Cutler, Mayor Tom Dermody, Amy Feikes, Charity Hlavsa, Craig Phillips

MINUTES: President Cutler asked if there were any additions or corrections to be made on the May 9 minutes. Ward made a correction about the maintenance report. Adamsky made a motion to approve the May 9 meeting minutes with the correction and Ward seconded. There being no further discussion; motion carried.

GUEST COMMENTS: Councilwoman Cutler commented that she would like to give a recap on Christmas.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance: Spiggle reported that May has not been posted yet. There was \$1,600 worth in May vouchers, but the books have not been settled yet. The main things are snow removal and getting the sidewalks cleaned. The board will probably see tax receipts next month.

The BID has spent \$32,000 of the \$135,000 budget so far.

Spiggle also gave a cash flow analysis for the board to look over and reported the board has \$171,000 in maintenance funds available. Anything over \$103,000 and the board would need to go to City Council to approve the additional funds. He laid out the proposed repairs/removals which came out to \$14,490 for repair and \$25,100 for removal; with other costs, the repair will be \$126,090 and removal will be \$136,700.

Phillips notified the board that Nimetz is no longer working for the city and the tree analysis will be further down the road.

Spiggle also reported he has one claim for Mofeld properties for six weeks of maintenance and two weeks of watering flowers in the amount of \$4,000. Adamsky motioned to approve the claim as presented and Clark seconded.

Maintenance: Phillips began the conversation with planters. He distributed estimates from Paul's Construction. The planter at Madison and Lincolnway has been submitted for an insurance claim to be repaired. The planter at Jackson and Lincolnway will cost \$5,850 to repair and \$7,800 to remove. Quote for two black 6" diameter decorative bollards with planter from Larson-Danielson Construction is \$6,270 to be

placed at Monroe and Madison. Heinold did an assessment of all the infrastructure in the BID to get a better idea of the condition of everything at a later meeting. Phillips asked the BID to vote on the planters right away. Clark and Ward had questions about cost and liability regarding the bollards. Ward said she did not have enough information to recommend the bollards and Adamsky confirmed that the BID can always add them later if they choose.

For the pavers, the total will be \$51,500. Phillips suggested phasing the sections and some should be identified as high priority to be ready by July 4th.

When it comes to electrical, there are three options. One is for Stephani to remove 5 tree locations and an additional 22 locations for \$3,830, option two is removing all the boxes on Lincolnway in the amount of \$8,260 for 59 locations, and option three is to remove 141 receptacles for \$27,720.

Mayor Tom Dermody spoke about the long-term future of the BID. Phillips said he believes the work on the Lincolnway receptacles, planters, and pavers can be done by July 4th. Ward told the Mayor that the problem is the BID does not know what the long-term plan is so it is difficult to make a decision without the communication from the City team. Questions about financing these projects will need to be discussed with Phillips and the Mayor.

Spiggle motioned to go with option two for the electrical work, repair the pavers all along Lincolnway, repair the planter at Monroe and Madison, take out the planter at Jackson and Lincolnway and Kaminski seconded. There being no further discussion; motion passed.

Leaf & Snow Removal: There was no report.

Flowers: Phillips said the irrigation system was turned on last week and he is waiting for the quote regarding damage to the system. The planter on the corner of Maple and Michigan does not get enough water. Mofield has watered three times and Phillips will have Jeff Eiler get in touch with Mofield to figure out what planters are not getting enough water. The estimate will need to be adjusted with what planters are now being watered. Mofield will send a quote per planter.

The BID will vote by email on the new quote.

Trees: Adamsky did not have a report for trees.

Long-Term Planning: Kaminski reported the sub-committee met on the 12th with a follow-up meeting with Hitchcock regarding Monroe Landing consisting mostly of sidewalk and lights. They are hoping to set up a field trip to see some of their work in other communities. Betsy Kabelin-Parkison from the Redevelopment Commission is also going to be involved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Councilwoman Cutler spoke about Christmas. There are leftover light bulbs from last year and 12 wreaths leftover. She assessed where the snowflakes and wreaths were last year and this year she would like to go back to the UEA to request more funds to purchase 48 more snowflakes to run down Indiana Avenue, Michigan and Monroe to remove some of the wreaths that do not work. She would like to order 100 more bows to have bows on both sides of the wreaths so that all the side streets would have wreaths. If UEA says no, we can take some wreaths from side streets for Indiana. She has also been in conversation with the engineering department regarding two poles for the swag on Monroe Street.

Spiggle motioned for the BID to cover the cost of the bows and Kaminski seconded. Motion passed.

She is also looking at a walk-in ornament for \$16,000 to be placed in Plaza 618. That is a long-term project that requires multiple groups.

It was also discussed to have light-up garland on the light poles to be more impactful.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Cutler informed everyone that Erica Kanney will be leaving Duneland Media so she is no longer able to be a board member.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OBSERVATIONS:

Worthington commented there should be better signage for the Market at La Stitch regarding the turning lane.

Adamsky commented that the leaf blowers are pushing trash as well as leaves into the street. Mofield will look into it.

Adjournment/Next Meeting

There being no further business, Worthington entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:14 p.m. Worthington and Adamsky seconded. The next board meeting will be July 11, 2022. ***If unable to attend this meeting, please contact Thaddeus Cutler by email at thaddeus@thaddeusc.com***

Respectfully submitted by: Lindsay Jongkind