

## **August 22, 2023**

The Board of Public Works and Safety met in regular session in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 9:00 A.M.

**Present:** Mayor Dermody, Mark Kosior

**Absent:** Jessica Romine

Kelly Burke led the Pledge of Allegiance

### **Approval of Minutes**

Each member received an advance copy of the minutes. Mayor Dermody asked if there were any additions or corrections.

### **Motion/Vote – Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Kosior made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Dermody and unanimously carried.

### **New Firefighters Swearing In**

Fire Chief Snyder swore in three firefighters that just graduated from the 22-week academy: Spencer Leda, Cameron Watt, and Patrick Roy. Chief Snyder stated they are all now certified as EMT Basics, Firefighter 1 & 2, in addition to other aspects of firefighting. Mayor Dermody asked each of the new firefighters to speak about themselves. Each firefighter spoke briefly about themself.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Claims Approval**

Clerk-Treasurer Parthun presented Payroll from August 18, 2023 in the amount of \$504,661.09.

### **Motion/Vote – Approval of August 18, 2023 Payroll**

Mr. Kosior made a motion to approve the August 18, 2023 Payroll as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Dermody and unanimously carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Parthun presented Civil City Claims in the amount of \$1,028,320.03.

### **Motion/Vote – Approval of Civil City Claims**

Mr. Kosior made a motion to approve the Civil City Claims as presented; motion seconded Mayor Dermody by and unanimously carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Parthun presented Sewage Claims in the amount of \$701,615.69.

**Motion/Vote – Approval of Sewage Claims**

Mr. Kosior made a motion to approve the Sewage Claims as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Dermody and unanimously carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Parthun presented Water Claims in the amount of \$111,788.61.

**Motion/Vote – Approval of Water Claims**

Mr. Kosior made a motion to approve Water Claims as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Dermody and unanimously carried.

**Department Head Reports**

**City Planner:** City Planner Craig Phillips reported work is ongoing with consultant selection for the comprehensive plan for the city. Mr. Phillips stated he is currently working on the Beechwood Lakes project and setting up a residential tiff for this property in addition to working in conjunction with Mark and Kyle on Beechwood to make sure both projects work with each other. Mr. Phillips reported they are also working on finishing up the streetscape design project for downtown and the Trails, Blue ways, and Greenways master plan.

**Human Resources:** Human Resources Director Andrea Smith reported flu shots will begin on October 2, 2023 and run through March 2024. Open enrollment for this year will begin early on October 31, 2023. This will allow for any last minute changes that may need to be made. There are no big, anticipated changes so open enrollment should be quick and smooth. In addition, Ms. Smith reported a new water quality supervisor has been hired and she will begin on Monday August 28, 2023.

**Wastewater:** Wastewater Director Jerry Jackson reported they have been running Alum for about a week and a half and have stayed in compliance. Mr. Jackson stated they would continue to run the Alum and if it continues to work and stay in compliance, they will make the switch, ultimately saving \$30,000 to \$40,000 per year in addition to Alum being a safer chemical to handle. Mr. Jackson reported they received a visit from IDEM last week and looked at the phosphorus and disinfectant facilities. They are aware that they are not complete, but they are functioning. Mr. Jackson stated they received a good report from this visit.

**Engineer:** City Engineer Nick Minich reported they had their pre-final walkthrough on the paving on 6<sup>th</sup> and F and a repair done on Boyd. Surfacing Darlington Street will be coming toward the end of the week. In addition, Mr. Minich reported they are planning to close Truesdell for the next phase of Truesdell reconstruction, which is anticipated to begin next Monday. Contractors will begin putting signs out in addition to a press release that will be going out with information on the closure. Mayor Dermody stated he was involved in making the decision to close Truesdell instead of trying to keep it open because he believes it is what

is best and if people have any issues, they should contact him. This closure will help ensure it gets done by the end of the year.

**Streets/Code:** Director of Central Services Jeff Batchelor reported they have started cutting and trimming on Truesdell to go along with the reconstruction project.

**Police:** Chief Brettin reported he travelled to Mooresville for the Police Academy graduation of Ryan Dziewicki. Chief Brettin reported this was the largest class ever held at the academy with 167 individuals and Officer Dziewicki had the fourth highest shooting score.

**Fire:** Chief Snyder reported he went to Louisiana two weeks ago for the pre-construction meeting on the new ladder tower truck. Everything went well. Chief Snyder stated the contract had a 24-month manufacturing timeframe, however, they were told it may be longer by three or four months but is a lot sooner than the 42 months quoted from other manufacturers. Chief Snyder reported the training facility is also part of this bond and they are working diligently to have something to the board for consideration as soon as the next meeting if possible.

**Park:** Parks and Rec Superintendent Mark Schreiber thanked all those that helped or participated in the summer events as the summer begins to wind down. Mr. Schreiber reported we are down to our last two foodie Tuesdays at Unity Park for the year: this Tuesday will be Jimbo's Ribeye Express, and the last Tuesday will be Round Belly's Pizza. Mr. Schreiber stated that one night bike ride was scheduled from July and will now be held on September 15, 2023, starting at the Civic Auditorium. Mr. Schreiber reported Civic renovations are wrapping up and all the seats are in. There is HVAC work that will linger into September/October. There are two big events coming up in September: Hoosier Star on September 9, 2023 and Loverboy will be performing on September 22, 2023. Mr. Schreiber stated tickets for Loverboy are going quickly and encouraged everyone to get their tickets if interested. Mr. Schreiber expressed his excitement for the community to soon be able to enjoy the Civic again and see all the renovations that have been ongoing.

**New Business:**

**Request for Use: Three Parking Spaces in City Lot**

Executive Assistant Annette Loeffler presented Request for Use: Three Parking Spaces in City Lot. Ms. Loeffler stated this request is for Mucho Mas to use three parking spaces in the city lot adjacent to their building in order for them to get a new roof installed.

**Motion/Vote – Approval of Request for Use:**

Mr. Kosior made a motion to approve Request for Use: Three Parking Spaces in City Lot as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Dermody and unanimously carried.

**Phosphorus Pay Request #14 KDM**

Wastewater Director Jerry Jackson presented Phosphorus Pay Request #14 KDM in the amount of \$37,869.25. This brings the contract to 96 percent. There is approximately \$67,000

left in the contract value and we are holding \$87,000 in retainage. NIES estimates there is approximately \$74,000 worth of work left which is close to the remaining value of the contract. Mr. Jackson stated he recommends payment, however, there are items to consider for additional pay requests. Mr. Jackson stated they were contacted by a subcontractor of KDM who did pumps and tanks and KDM has not paid them the \$40,000 owed. Mr. Jackson stated this line item in the contract for pumps and tanks has been paid all except \$6,600. Mr. Jackson stated they have requested a waiver of leans and we will need to make sure that has been received before the job is done. In addition, Mr. Jackson stated KDM did not renew their bank surety letter, which would take the place of their bond, in January so we cannot fall back on a bond currently, so we must make sure we have cash to make sure we are solvent, subcontractors are paid, and the job is completed. Other than those two items, Mr. Jackson recommends payment. Mayor Dermody stated concerns with the work have been brought up and the City's attorney as well as KDM's attorney has been involved. A settlement agreement was presented to KDM and it was rejected. Mr. Kosior questioned what the risk to the City is with this or if the lean waiver will covers us. Mr. Jackson stated the lean waiver is something that is done at the end of every job to make sure all subcontractors and everyone is paid before final payment is made. There is enough retainage to pay the subcontractor, if needed.

**Motion/Vote – Approval of Phosphorus Pay Request #14 KDM**

Mr. Kosior made a motion to approve Phosphorus Pay Request #14 KDM as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Dermody and unanimously carried.

**Letters and Numbers Contract 1 Pay Request #3**

Wastewater Director Jerry Jackson presented Letters and Numbers Contract 1 Pay Request #3 in the amount of \$334,487.35 to D&M excavating for the Torino Pond project. This brings the project to approximately 85 percent. Mr. Jackson stated he recommends payment.

**Motion/Vote – Approval of Letters and Numbers Contract 1 Pay Request #3**

Mr. Kosior made a motion to approve Letters and Numbers Contract 1 Pay Request #3 as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Dermody and unanimously carried.

**MIRT/HealthLinc MOU**

Fire Chief Andy Snyder presented MIRT/HealthLinc MOU. Chief Snyder stated the contract wording is the exact same wording as it has been for the past four or five years. This MOU will replace the current one that expires on September 30, 2023. Mr. Kosior questioned if there were any concerns. Chief Snyder stated he has no concerns, and this has worked out well in the past and expressed their appreciation for being a part of this. Chief Snyder stated there are 11 firefighters that participate in this program and have since the beginning and none of them have stepped down. This is a huge testament of their commitment to the program.

**Motion/Vote – Approval of MIRT/HealthLinc MOU**

Mr. Kosior made a motion to approve MIRT/HealthLinc MOU as presented; motion seconded by Mr. Romine and unanimously carried.

**Unfinished Business**

Mayor Dermody congratulated the Council for doing what is right and supporting the housing opportunities in the Coke building. Mayor Dermody stated he understands the fears the neighbors have, however, these same housing opportunities in other cities have been positive within the community. The community is focused on criminals and drug addicts living in these homes; however they are for members of the community that may be wheelchair bound, blind, have cancer, cannot work, or a variety of those issues and providing affordable housing for those individuals is needed. Code and Police will be in that neighborhood to address any concerns, even from the current homes in that area. Mr. Kosior stated if there is anyone that hasn't had the opportunity to watch the council meeting and see the officers that were recognized you should watch. Mr. Kosior expressed his amazement at the flock system and what these officers can do with it. Chief Brettin stated they were able to assist Michigan City with a shooting situation over the weekend and were able to make an arrest thanks to the flock cameras.

**Discharge Permit Renewal: Dogtag Septic**

Wastewater Director Jerry Jackson requested permission to renew the discharge permit for Dogtag Septic. Mr. Jackson stated they have been a customer for the past five or six years and recommends approval.

**Approval – Discharge Permit Renewal: Dogtag Septic**

Mr. Kosior made a motion to approve Discharge Permit Renewal: Dogtag Septic as presented; motion seconded by Mayor Dermody and unanimously carried.

**Other Business:**

Next regularly scheduled meeting: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 9 A.M.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, Mr. Kosior moved to adjourn; motion seconded by Mayor Dermody and unanimously carried.

Approve: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas P. Dermody, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Courtney Parthun, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: September 6, 2023