

City of West Lafayette, Indiana
Board of Public Works and Safety
MINUTES

MARCH 15, 2010

8:30 a.m.

City Hall Lower Level Conference Room

Members present were Sana G. Booker, Bradley W. Marley, Jonathan C. Speaker, and Mayor John R. Dennis, who presided. Member Elizabeth M. Stull was absent.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. March 8, 2010, Meeting

Mr. Speaker moved to accept the minutes of the March 8, 2010, Board of Works meeting. Mr. Marley seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. Contracts: Fire Protection – Fire

i. Chemtura

ii. Wabash Valley Hospital

Fire Chief Drew presented the fire protection contracts between the City and Chemtura, and the City and Wabash Valley Hospital, respectively, and requested Board approval. The Chemtura contract is for \$8,005.66, and the Wabash Valley Hospital contract is for \$8,243.44. Both companies are outside the City limits and have requested fire protection coverage. The amounts are the same as last year's contracts.

Ms. Booker moved that the agreement with Wabash Valley Hospital for fire protection be approved. Mr. Speaker seconded the motion.

Mr. Speaker asked how the amounts are determined. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes answered that the original amounts were based on a tax rate derived from fire protection costs in the City budget and applied to the assessed valuation of improvements on properties. For the past few years, the amount has been increased for operation expense increases such as personnel expense.

The motion was adopted.

b. Surplus Items for PropertyRoom.com – Various Departments

i. Police Department

ii. Engineering Department

iii. Development Department

Mr. Speaker moved that the Engineering Department listing of surplus items be approved. Mr. Marley seconded the motion.

Mayor Dennis reported that three departments had submitted lists of equipment to be disposed of through PropertyRoom.com.

Mr. Marley asked what duty leather was. Mayor Dennis responded that it is an equipment belt worn around the waist of an officer. Police Chief Dombkowski added that there are several miscellaneous Police items which may not be sold through PropertyRoom.com, but may be provided to other local agencies.

Mr. Marley asked if the 35mm worked. Director of Development Poole answered that it does work. Mayor Dennis added that it has been replaced by digital equipment.

The motion was adopted

c. Land Acquisition Policy Update – Engineering

City Engineer Buck requested Board approval for the land acquisition policy, which will help guide the land acquisition process. He noted that City Attorney Burns has reviewed the document and found it to be in order.

Mr. Marley moved that the land acquisition policy update be approved. Mr. Speaker seconded the motion.

Mr. Marley asked if the City considered title insurance versus title search. Mr. Buck answered that, in cases where there might be concern, there would be consideration for title insurance. The cost of providing title insurance on each parcel would be expensive, particularly in cases where the parcels are small. Mr. Marley asked if the decision was on a case-by-case basis. Mr. Buck said that the decision is made on each parcel individually.

The motion was adopted.

d. 2010 Take Home Vehicles – Clerk-Treasurer

Mayor Dennis stated that the policy is the same as was approved in 2008, and that the vehicle listing has been updated to reflect newly-acquired vehicles.

Speaker moved that listing of 2010 Take Home Vehicles be approved. Ms. Booker seconded the motion.

Mr. Speaker asked whether vehicles are chosen based on budget. Mayor Dennis answered that the State QPA listing reflects a break on prices, and that usage determines the type of vehicle chosen.

Ms. Booker asked why Crown Victorias are chosen for Police vehicles. Police Chief Dombkowski answered that they are considered to be workhorses nationally, due to their rear-wheel drive and size for handling equipment and people. Mayor Dennis added that these are standardized vehicles, so that maintenance is less expensive.

The motion was adopted.

e. Claims

- i. AP Docket \$275,545.26
- ii. AP Docket 87,248.83
- iii. PR Docket 324,305.48

Mr. Speaker moved that the claims be approved. Ms. Booker seconded the motion.

Questions raised about individual claims by the Board were answered by department heads and Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes.

The motion was adopted.

f. Informational Items

i. Parks Superintendent Payne reported that the Park Board meeting will be held next week, March 22, at 4:30 p.m., not today, due to spring break. Mr. Payne also reported the death of Park employee Helen Lillich.

ii. Director of Development Poole announced that Census forms are being mailed today. He encouraged all citizens to complete the forms and return them. Mr. Poole also stated that the kiosk unveiling will occur at 5th and Columbia Streets at 10:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. at Wabash Landing today.

iii. Police Chief Dombkowski stated that there will be extra officers on patrol on St. Patrick's Day funded by a grant.

iv. Wastewater Utility Director Henderson said that this week is the EPA's WaterSense "Fix a Leak" Week. He will be appearing on TV18's "Living Green" segment Wednesday morning to discuss this program.

v. Street Commissioner Downey distributed an update on the joint road salt purchasing program through the City of Lafayette, noting that the State released information on its purchasing of road salt.

3. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Speaker moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Mayor Dennis adjourned the meeting.