

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

JULY 19, 2010

8:30 a.m.

City Hall Council Chambers

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

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. July 12, Meeting

Ms. Stull moved to accept the minutes of the July 12, 2010, Board of Works meeting. Mr. Speaker seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. Board of Works Resolution No. BW 05-10: A Resolution Committing Funding To City Sanitary Sewer Work Being Included With The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) U.S.231 Relocation Project – WWTU

Wastewater Collection Systems/GIS Supervisor Van Allen explained that this resolution is a commitment to INDOT for the City's installation of the Western Sanitary Sewer Interceptor-Phase IV Project along with INDOT's US231 Relocation Project. The City's portion of the work is \$3.9 million from a combination of the Improvement Fund and the remaining balance of the 2004 SRF loan.

City Attorney Burns stated that this is a requirement from INDOT, to receive notice from a public body, indicating that the money is available. Mr. VanAllen added that the City is committed to paying it.

Ms. Booker moved that the resolution be approved. Ms. Stull seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

Later in the meeting, Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes reported that she provided the Board information on the City's outstanding 2004 SRF loan balance, as well as the Improvement Fund balance. As was reported in Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes' July 16 letter regarding the project, the remaining balance on the 2004 SRF loan is \$2,434,825.71, and the current Improvement Fund balance is \$10,531,957.58. The City's anticipated portion of the project is approximately \$3.9 million, so there are ample funds available to ensure the completion of the Western Interceptor Project in conjunction with INDOT's relocation of US231.

b. Approval Request: Village of Arbor Chase Subdivision-Shrewsbury Drive (Station 12+25 to 16+85), Lots 248-254 and 303-309, outlot #10 and Lots 335-338 on Cardigan Court – Engineering

City Engineer Buck requested that the Board approve the Village of Arbor Chase Subdivision-Shrewsbury Drive (Station 12+25 to 16+85), Lots 248-254 and 303-309, outlot #10 and Lots 335-338 on Cardigan Court for public use. He had previously

provided a map, which showed the sections to be approved, a small addition on Shrewsbury Drive and a small change to the lots at the corner of Cardigan Lane and Cardigan Court, which were done by the developer. The infrastructure has been installed, inspected, and approved by appropriate staffs, and the as-builts have been delivered and reviewed. The Board will be approving the permanent erosion control measures, storm sewers, sanitary sewers, streets, as-built drawings, and a five-year maintenance bond on the infrastructure. Usually, maintenance bonds are for three years, but this was requested to be a five-year, as the contractor who started the work (A & K Construction) did not finish the work. Fairfield Contractors finished the work, when A & K Construction went out of business. The maintenance bond is for 10% of the value of the improvements, in case something does fail in a localized area.

Ms. Stull moved that the request be approved. Mr. Speaker seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

c. Claims

- i. AP Docket \$3,097,936.89
- ii. AP Docket 91,824.84
- iii. PR Docket 325,070.01

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

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

The motion was adopted.

d. Informational Items

i. Parks Superintendent Payne reported that the Pool was closed yesterday, due to the power being off. The Michaud-Sinninger Woods trail is closed today and until the cleanup is done. Happy Hollow Park is open, although the shelters did not have power yesterday.

ii. Mr. Marley reported that Mayor Dennis was out Saturday after the storm and yesterday, walking the streets and parks, surveying the damage done by Saturday night's storm. In some subdivisions, there were chimneys torn off homes, trees were down and damaged, trails were blocked and not passable.

iii. City Engineer Buck stated that Saturday's storm damaged a construction area on the Cumberland Avenue Reconstruction-Phase I Project. A tree at the apartment complex fell over and scattered barricades. He expressed hope that the work on the project would not be delayed, although a string line that was set up for a curb pour was destroyed. However, it is too wet today to pour concrete today.

iv. Street Superintendent Downey remarked that Street Department staff worked Saturday night. There are approximately 18 major City trees down between the curb and the sidewalk. He stated said that he was not aware of how many trees might be down in yards. There is a lot of minor damage, with limbs down, etc. Mr. Downey expects that it might take about two weeks to get everything picked up. He cautioned citizens to be careful, as there are a lot of hanging limbs in trees, which could harm people if they fell. The Development Department has a pamphlet about proper

pruning, and this is a good time to trim branches, as citizens are investigating potential hanging limbs. Mr. Downey advised Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes that he would need money for the overtime.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes mentioned the prompt response from public safety, both Saturday night and yesterday. She was impressed to see neighbors helping each other, as they attempted to deal with the brush. She noticed that people along Cumberland Avenue were clearing the roadways as they walked.

Street Superintendent Downey said that he was not aware of any flooded basements. Ms. Booker responded that there was a small amount of flooding.

City Attorney Burns asked if there were special instructions for citizens in putting out the brush they cleaned up. Street Superintendent Downey answered that citizens should put brush out as they normally do, that pickups of brush are scheduled for Mondays and Fridays. There will be extra crews out, with all available staff working.

v. Police Captain Leroux agreed that it was a busy weekend, that there was a period of about 13 hours when the Police Department was full-bore. The initial report from Police is that there are 19 City trees down. There were 14 locations with downed power lines, four of which were fires or structure damage. There were 12 intersections that were without power, two of which were manually directed until about 5 o'clock on Sunday. Additional help was called in to work. Captain Leroux remarked that he is proud of the Police Department and their efforts in this event. The Department will generate a report for TEMA.

vi. Fire Chief Drew observed that his department's incidents were similar to the other departments'. Live downed power lines were the biggest concern. There was a fire at one house that was taken care of quickly and the fire did not spread.

vii. Wastewater Collection Systems/GIS Supervisor Van Allen mentioned that the Wastewater Utility had issues due to Saturday's storms also. While there are backup generators to most of the lift stations, there was a power loss at a lift station without a backup generator on-site. A portable generator was used to keep the lift station running and avoid backups. This lift station backup generator is under design now.

viii. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes stated that one of the issues in the north end was that the stormwater system was overwhelmed. She asked for an explanation of how the north end of the City drains. City Engineer Buck answered that the area north of Sagamore Parkway drains poorly. For example, the stormwater that falls on the Pay Less parking lot drains north behind that store towards Friendship House, through the Michaud-Sinninger Woods, through the Cole Ditch north, eventually to the same drain that drains Hadley Lake, which goes up towards Battle Ground, dumps in the Tippecanoe River, dumps in the Wabash River, and goes past the City. That is a very long route to run the stormwater, and the area is very flat, so it takes a long time for a heavy concentration of stormwater that hits the surface to get into those small creeks, eventually into the larger creeks, which all are very flat. If it's a very long event or if there are several successive events of any size, the system backs up and ponds water wherever it will pond. It would be nice if there were a large regional detention facility, but there is not one for this area. Engineering will look at what stormwater improvements are possible, even incrementally, to help the bigger system as a whole move forward. Cumberland Avenue is an example of where that is being done, both

in Phase I, with the stormwater pond at the corner of US52 and Cumberland, but also in Phase II with improvements to the Boes Ditch, along the side of Friendship House and under Manchester Street. There are capacity issues, and Engineering will do what it can through the Plaza Park Neighborhood and the Boes Ditch in Phase II of the Cumberland Avenue Reconstruction Project to make stormwater improvements.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes asked about the drainage through Bar Barry, Avondale, and University Farms. City Engineer Buck answered that this is the same area as he was discussing, and there is a high groundwater table in that whole area of the City. Phase III of the Cumberland Avenue Reconstruction Project can be designed to have improvements there. Soldiers Home Road may be an opportunity as well. As far as the existing infrastructure, there is nothing planned for those neighborhoods. The area is very flat with low slopes designed in the backyard swales. The Engineering Department is making attempts to make small improvements on an individual level, whether rain barrels or not putting fences and landscape in backyards where the stormwater needs to have a place to go. New inlets and short runs of storm pipe can be installed to get the water collected, but for the major rain events, there is not much that can be done. Regrading the neighborhoods or digging large drainage swales in backyards is not feasible. Small improvements will be the first effort in stormwater improvements on the area north of Sagamore Parkway and east of Salisbury.

3. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. Stull moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Mr. Marley adjourned the meeting.