

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

June 26, 2012
8:30 a.m.
City Hall Council Chambers

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

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. June 19, 2012, Meeting

Ms. Stull moved to accept the minutes of the June 19, 2012, Board of Works meeting. Mr. Speaker seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. Soil Maker Contract Renewal For Green Waste Disposal – Street

Street Commissioner Dave Downey requested approval of the renewal of the Soil Maker Contract with Ms. Jodie Tischmak. He said she has been handling the City's leaf and brush green waste for the last 4 or 5 years. Ms. Tischmak leases a piece of property from Purdue University at the end of the airport runway. The City delivers all the brush and other green waste that is picked up to her facility where it is ground up for a fee of \$1,200 per month. There is no change in the fee. He noted that she does not take large bulky items such as tree trunks that exceed 24 to 25 inches. Ms. Tischmak has renewed her contract with Purdue University for the next 4 or 5 years. Commissioner Downey reported that about 2,000 tons of leaves and brush are ground per year, which comes to about \$6 per ton, a much lower cost than the \$40 per ton the City pays for trash disposal.

Ms. Booker moved that the Soil Maker contract be renewed at a cost of \$1,200 per month. Ms. Stull seconded the motion.

Ms. Stull asked if the 2,000 tons processed each year were only from the City of West Lafayette. Superintendent Downey confirmed they were. He noted there are many properties in West Lafayette with landscaping that would produce a great deal of green waste.

The motion was adopted.

b. Agreement: Graves Plumbing Company, Inc. – Soldiers Home Lift Station Improvements – WWTU

Wastewater Utility Director Henderson requested approval of the agreement with Graves Plumbing Company, Inc. for the improvements being made to the Soldiers Home Lift Station in the amount of \$636,636. He explained that the project is to make

improvements to the lift station which is now housed in a small brick structure that was built in 1976, and to install back-up power. He introduced Brian Pohlar, HWC (Hannum, Wagle, and Cline) Engineering, the design consultant on the project, who was present to answer any questions.

Mr. Speaker moved that the contract with Graves Plumbing, Inc. in the amount of \$636,636 be approved. Mr. Marley seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

c. Notice to Proceed: Graves Plumbing Company, Inc. – Soldiers Home Lift Station Improvements – WWTU

Wastewater Utility Director Henderson requested approval of the Notice to Proceed. The contract will begin June 28, 2012; the date for substantial completion is January 24, 2013; and the final completion date is February 23, 2013.

Ms. Stull moved that the Notice to Proceed with Graves Plumbing, Inc. for the Soldiers Home Lift Station be approved. Mr. Marley seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

d. Claims

- i. AP Docket \$3,105,847.42
- ii. AP Docket \$189.00

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

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

The motion was adopted.

e. Informational Items

- i. Project Payment List – WWTU
There were no comments.
- ii. Legal Budget & Expense – Clerk-Treasurer
There were no comments.

f. Other Items

- i. Fire Chief Heath reported that he had given documents regarding Firework Safety and Laws to the Mayor's Office for loading onto the City website. He noted no rain was expected.

Mayor Dennis asked if we were still in a mandatory burn ban. Fire Chief Heath responded that we were, and that no open burning was allowed.

Mayor Dennis asked if there were current restrictions on the use of fireworks. Fire Chief Heath said he had a meeting today to discuss what action the Fire Department would be taking regarding the fireworks and the extremely dry conditions. He noted that State law supersedes local law. Indiana State law allows fireworks from Friday,

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June 29th at 5:00 p.m. until July 9th and gives hours in which they are legal and can be used, regardless of conditions. Chief Heath said they were looking for some help with that from the Department of Homeland Security and from the Fire offices in Indianapolis. He said those offices are aware of the extremely dry conditions.

Mayor Dennis asked if the Fire Department could limit where fireworks may be shot off. Chief Heath said he and Deputy Chief Schutter have several meetings concerning that subject today. Mayor Dennis asked when Chief Heath might have some determination that the City could distribute. Chief Heath answered it would be before Friday and the media would be notified.

ii. Wastewater Utility Director Henderson reported progress on the Aeration Tank Construction project. He said the slab had been poured and they are starting to pour the walls. The first section was poured yesterday and the project is moving along. He said the flow to the plant right now was very low, with the dry weather and students away for the summer.

Mayor Dennis noted that Wabash Riverfest will be difficult with the water level so low on the Wabash River.

iii. Public Works Director Buck reminded everyone that the groundbreaking for the IU Arnett Health will be Thursday, June 28, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. He noted this is the last building to be built in the Wabash Commons development.

iv. Councilor Hunt reminded everyone of the Pre-Council meeting at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday and the Common Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Monday. She said there were several big projects to be considered which were discussed at the Area Plan Commission meeting. Councilor Hunt noted there were some interesting comments.

v. Street Commissioner Downey announced that this Saturday, June 30th, Oscar Winski and the West Lafayette Street Department will be hosting an e-waste collection event from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Street Department Recycling Center. Anything with an electrical cord will be accepted for free. The only items that would involve a charge would be TV's and monitors that have a lead face.

Street Commissioner Downey reminded everyone that trash pick-up scheduled for Wednesday, July 4th will be picked up on the following day, Thursday.

Mayor Dennis asked if there had been special accommodations made for the Street Department workers with the intense heat expected. Commissioner Downey said there were and any watermelon donations would be greatly appreciated. Mayor Dennis asked Commissioner Downey to make sure the employees stay hydrated.

vi. Engineering Assistant Ben Anderson said he would like to give an update on various engineering projects around town. He asked everyone to keep the construction workers in their thoughts with the intense heat and dry weather. He said work will continue on schedule as long as the weather allows. Yeager Road paving will begin on Friday.

Mayor Dennis asked if the temperature ever gets high enough that the paving can't be done. Engineering Assistant Anderson and Public Works Director Buck indicated there was no limitation.

Mr. Anderson continued that asphalt work began on Cumberland Avenue last Saturday and curb work will be done this week as well as more asphalt work.

Mayor Dennis asked what the completion date was for Cumberland Avenue. Mr. Anderson responded that it was August 9th for Phase I. Phase II, which is from the Manchester roundabout and east to Salisbury Street, will be complete and open for use by that date. Engineering Assistant Anderson reported that CDBG projects on DeHart and Connelly Streets will be wrapping up this week with landscaping, if the weather doesn't get too hot. Workers will be starting as early as possible and cutting off work early to best handle the heat. He explained that the plan to lay land sod has been switched to grass seed and watering which they feel will have a much better chance of surviving the heat. He expressed gratitude to Fairfield Contractors for being flexible and creative in finding solutions to weather issues. The last piece of the CDBG project, north of Cumberland on Yeager Road, will be completed in the near future, connecting the last piece of sidewalk on the east side. Asphalt work will continue on State Street for INDOT. Mr. Anderson also reported that Indiana-American Water Company is continuing patch work on Yeager Road North of 52 Bypass. There will be road closures this week on South Salisbury Street for the water installation work being done for the University Terrace project on State Street. The company has run into some difficulties in that area due to soil conditions, which require additional measures to get the project completed and the road open. Mr. Anderson commended workers who are out there working in the high heat.

Ms. Booker asked if the construction workers ever work evenings to avoid the heat. Mr. Anderson replied the City would be open to that but they are getting there as early as they can to do the work they can do that does not create noise.

Mayor Dennis added that the biggest problem you run into doing construction after hours is complaints concerning the noise, and noted that the City ran into many noise complaints when building the bridge on Lindberg Road.

vii. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes noted that all of the Board of Works members should have received the email from Dale Dixon, Department of Development, responding to the claims query from last week, and that Director of Development Poole is available if there are any further questions.

3. ADJOURNMENT

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