

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

AUGUST 5, 2008

11:00 a.m.

City Hall Lower Level Conference Room

Members present were Susan K. Goldman and Bradley W. Marley who presided. Mayor John R. Dennis was absent.

I. PRE-CAUCUS

Agenda items were discussed among Board members and Department Heads.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 29, 2008, Meeting

Ms. Goldman moved to accept the minutes of the July 29, 2008, Board of Works meeting. Mr. Marley seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Annual Maintenance Contract: Wycom Systems Corporation, Inc. – Check Signing System – Clerk-Treasurer

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes requested approval of the maintenance contract for the check security signing system that is used for accounts payable and payroll checks. The annual fee is \$321.30, the same fee as last year.

Ms. Goldman moved that the contract be approved. Mr. Marley seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

B. Promotions to Investigator 1st Class – Police

1. Specialist Officer Art Choate

Police Lieutenant Harris, on behalf of Police Chief Dombkowski, asked for approval to elevate Specialist Art Choate to Investigator 1st Class, effective August 12, 2008. Officer Choate served as a patrol officer for eight years, and will be transferring to the Detective Division to fill a vacancy as an investigator. The new biweekly salary for Officer Choate will be \$1,981.30.

2. Officer 1st Class Jonathon Eager

Lt. Harris requested Board approval to elevate 1st Class Officer Jonathan Eger to Investigator 1st Class, effective August 12, 2008. Officer Eager currently serves as an investigator on special assignment. The new biweekly salary for Officer Eager will be \$1,981.30.

Ms. Goldman moved that both elevations be approved. Mr. Marley seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

C. Requests for Street Closures – Police

1. Woodland Avenue between Lindberg and Elm – September 6 – Riverside Block Party

Police Lieutenant Harris presented a request from Riverside Covenant Church for a church-sponsored neighborhood party from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 6, closing Woodland Avenue between Lindberg and Elm. He noted that Street Commissioner Downey and City Engineer Buck received copies of the request and have signed off on it.

Ms. Goldman moved that the request be approved. Mr. Marley seconded the motion.

Mr. Marley asked if there were any emergency response issues with this closure. Street Commissioner Downey responded that the barricades are portable and easily moved.

The motion was adopted.

2. 200 Block of Connolly Street – September 1 – Connolly Street Neighborhood

Lt. Harris presented a request from the Connolly Street Neighborhood for a block party on Monday, September 1, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., closing the 200 block of Connolly.

Ms. Goldman moved that the request be approved. Mr. Marley seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

3. Yeager Road from Eton to Montgomery and Kent from Montgomery to INDOT Access Road – August 31 – Purdue Cycling Club Races

Lt. Harris presented a request from the Purdue Cycling Club to close Yeager Road from Eton to Montgomery and Kent from Montgomery to INDOT access road on Sunday, August 31, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for the Purdue Criterium, a closed-course bicycle race.

Mr. Derek Laan of the Purdue Cycling Club said there would be five or six races throughout the day, with 50 to 60 racers on the course at any one time. Each race is a timed event and different categories are based on ability or age. Races are 20 minutes to 1.5 hours.

Ms. Goldman moved that the request be approved. Mr. Marley seconded the motion.

Ms. Goldman asked about the church on Montgomery Street. Mr. Laan said that the church had been contacted and were fine with the races, but did ask that the races not be underway when people are arriving at and leaving the church.

Mr. Boris Decourt, a coordinator of the race, added that he and the church pastor agreed that there would be no racing from 9:45 to 10:15 and again from 11:15 to 11:45. Mr. Decourt said that he had driven in the area on a Sunday morning, and discovered that half of the people park on the street, not beside the church.

Mr. Marley noted that the only other business center is Pets and Vets. Mr. Decourt indicated that he would verify that business is not open on Sunday. Ms. Goldman said they open at 7:00 p.m. for pickup; Mr. Decourt noted that the races would be over before that.

Fire Chief Drew voiced concern about obstructing the whole of Kent and Yeager. Mr. Laan responded that the two planned detours would provide alternative accesses. Chief Drew expressed concern about closing Yeager Road for the whole time. Mr. Marley concurred. City Engineer Buck suggested permitting closure of half of Yeager and half of Kent, with Yeager northbound and Kent southbound, with barricades in the middle of the street. Chief Drew indicated that should work. Mr. Marley noted that the cyclists are sprinting around the corners, and that there might not be enough room. Mr. Laan said that it would be best if the whole street were closed to traffic, and that the race would be closed down if there were an emergency. Chief Drew remarked he was comfortable having half the road open on both Yeager and Kent. Mr. Marley asked Mr. Laan and Mr. Decourt if they believed they could work with one lane. Mr. Laan responded that it would be much safer for the cyclists if the entire street were closed. Mr. Marley questioned whether Mr. Laan and Mr. Decourt had investigated spaces on the south end of campus. Mr. Laan indicated there was now a building in the area where the race was previously held. Mr. Marley asked if the entire community had been surveyed for a suitable course. Mr. Laan responded that they had looked at many areas, and were concerned to avoid residential areas and to find areas that should be quiet on weekends. Chief Drew mentioned that clearing the road for fire trucks, in the event of an emergency, would be a problem. Mr. Decourt said the referees would be able to stop the race. Chief Drew said that the slight hill on Yeager would obstruct the view, with only about 30 seconds to react. He stated that it would not be possible to clear the road in that time. Mr. Laan said that the racers are usually all together in one group. Chief Drew remarked that, if the bikers were coming around the corner at the same time a fire truck were on Yeager, the fire truck would be delayed while the bikes moved, whereas one lane closed would permit the fire truck and the bikers to avoid problems.

Mr. Marley recommended tabling the item, so that planning and communication with Fire and Police could be coordinated, to eliminate Chief Drew's concerns. City Attorney Burns asked about the timeframe, since the date of the event is August 31. Mr. Decourt responded that they must get permits and insurance forms, which can take up to three weeks. Ms. Goldman suggested that Mr. Decourt and Mr. Laan, Chief Drew, and a representative from the Police

Department go to the area, to review using half of Yeager and Kent, then return to the Board next week.

Mr. Marley motioned to table this item, pending further review. Ms. Goldman seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

D. New Hires for Vacant Operator Positions – Wastewater Treatment Utility

Wastewater Utility Director Henderson requested Board approval to hire two people as Operators in the Utility.

1. Caitlin Young
2. Patrick (Adam) Huwe

Ms. Goldman moved that the hiring of Caitlin Young and Patrick (Adam) Huwe be approved. Mr. Marley seconded the motion.

In response to Mr. Marley's question, Mr. Henderson noted that Caitlin Young expects to be a student at Purdue, transferring from Ball State University. Human Resources Director Foster said that Ms. Young would be the first woman Operator in more than a decade.

Ms. Goldman asked if these hires brought the Utility to full staff. Mr. Henderson responded that there are two open positions in the salary ordinance that he is evaluating.

The motion was adopted.

E. Claims

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| 1. | AP Docket | \$ 11,083.12 |
| 2. | AP Docket | \$ 1,053.83 |
| 3. | AP Docket | \$ 88,119.42 |
| 4. | AP Docket | \$ 1,171.90 |
| 5. | AP Docket | \$237,598.76 |
| 6. | PR Docket | \$ 12,892.00 |
| 7. | PR Docket | \$308,629.10 |
| 8. | PR Docket | \$104,092.52 |

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

Mr. Marley noted that there was more overtime for the Police Department, asking if this were normal. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes answered that the Police are on a 28-day duty cycle, so there are only about twelve of these a year. The Police overtime budget for 2008 is \$154,200, so this is in line. Mr. Marley asked where this is relative to budget. Ms. Rhodes reported that football games require a large amount of overtime, and that season will begin in early September.

Ms. Goldman asked if the payment to Jones Chemical were for Planet Breeze. Wastewater Utility Director Henderson responded that it was not, it was for

sodium hypochlorite and sodium bisulfite for disinfection of effluent. He added that there have been some increases in costs, but those are chemicals that are necessary for meeting our IDEM permit.

Mr. Marley observed that there was a large payment to the Police pension, asking if this were a monthly expense. Ms. Rhodes indicated this is a quarterly expense, paid in the month following the end of the quarter on a calendar year for members of the 1977 Police and Fire Pension Funds and civilians.

The motion was adopted.

F. Other

1. Parks Superintendent Payne noted that the pool would close Sunday night for the season.

2. Wastewater Utility Director Henderson was asked the situation with lagoon odors. Planet Breeze has not been deployed yet, because of the rain.

3. Street Commissioner Downey reported that 2+ inches of rain fell in about 30 minutes this morning, causing several manhole covers to come off in various locations. Major damage that the Police and Fire need to be aware of is on River Road between Wood and Williams, where a 38-inch manhole lid came off and a corner chunk broke off. Traffic cones are over the hole. A ¾-inch plate will be used to repair this temporarily. It will be three to five weeks before the replacement lid is received. Mr. Downey said he would order three of these lids, so that we are prepared for any future problems.

4. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes asked Street Commissioner Downey if he is going to accept the road salt quote from Cargill received at the July 29, 2008, meeting. He responded that he would accept that quote. It was the only quote, and the price is in line with expected costs.

5. Mr. Marley asked City Engineer Buck if he could assist Mr. Laan and Mr. Decourt with the Purdue Criterium. Mr. Buck responded that he had an idea for a solution and would work with the race coordinators.

IV. Adjournment

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