

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

AUGUST 19, 2008
11:00 a.m.
City Hall Lower Level Conference Room

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

I. PRE-CAUCUS

Agenda items were discussed among Board members and Department Heads.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 12, 2008, Meeting

Ms. Goldman moved to accept the minutes of the August 12, 2008, Board of Works meeting. Mr. Marley seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. SRF Payment Request and Related Listings – WWTU

1. Disbursement Request No. 20 – \$813,601 to Bowen Engineering Corp. for Digester Renovation Construction Services

Wastewater Utility Director Henderson presented SRF Disbursement Request No. 20 for approval, and noted the work completed to date includes one last item of non-SRF-eligible work related to the grit building which is paid from local funds. He reported that the digester project is progressing with a lot of concrete poured, and many pieces of equipment have been delivered. The deck for the digester building has been poured.

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

Mr. Marley asked whether the \$4,950 portion that is ineligible is equipment replacement. Ms. Goldman said that it was. Mr. Marley said that the letter from M.D. Wessler & Associates reports that the \$4,950 is ineligible, but the docket appears to be coded “WWTU SRF Equipment Replacement.” He asked whether that coding was appropriate. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes and WWTU Director Henderson explained that while the title of this fund on the disbursement report carries the label “SRF,” this is not funded by drawdowns of the SRF debt. In the past, the SRF required that the WWTU set aside commercial revenue to fund an account to be used to replace equipment that had been originally funded by SRF debt. That explains the title of this fund. The WWTU’s financial advisors, Crowe Chizek, have informed the WWTU that this separate fund is no longer required

by the SRF. Crowe Chizek will be making recommendations to the WWTU on changes to the fund structure in the WWTU as part of their report expected to be completed shortly. The motion was adopted.

2. Listings [no action required]
 - a. Digester Renovation SRF Payment Listing
 - b. WWTU Project Payments

There was no discussion of these items.

B. Elevation in Rank: Firefighter Second Class Eric Doyle to Firefighter First Class – Fire

Fire Chief Drew requested a standard elevation for Firefighter Eric Doyle who is completing two years of service in the Fire Department and has met all the training and certification requirements for Firefighter First Class. He added that the new biweekly rate would be \$1,831.48, effective August 15, 2008.

Ms. Goldman moved that the elevation in rank be approved. Mr. Marley seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

C. Street Closure Requests - Police

Police Chief Dombkowski presented three street closure requests, noting that Engineering, Fire, Police, and Street departments have signed off on these requests. These are welcoming students or neighborhood block parties. There are no issues with any of the requests.

1. Evergreen & Hayes – August 23, 2008, 5:00-9:00 p.m. – Student Welcome Party – New Chauncey Neighborhood Association
2. Ravinia & Meridian – August 24, 2008, 5:00-8:00 p.m. – Neighborhood Dessert Party – Hills & Dales Neighbors
3. Putnam – August 24, 2008, 5:00-9:00 p.m. – Block Party – 3408 Putnam Street

Ms. Goldman moved that the three street closure requests be approved. Mr. Marley seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

D. Claims

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| 1. AP Docket | \$ 94,629.96 |
| 2. AP Docket | \$ 1,762.44 |
| 3. AP Docket | \$169,104.62 |
| 4. PR Docket | \$ 12,719.36 |
| 5. PR Docket | \$317,176.48 |

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

Mr. Marley asked for clarification on the RAD Suit expenditure, which is identified as “Public Safety: Unappropriated Expenditures.” Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes explained that the Public Safety Fund is an account spent without appropriation. The Council

established the fund to accept donations and other miscellaneous revenue, to be spent for purposes as deemed appropriate by the Police Department. The RAD Suit is for the Rape Aggression Defense training. Police Chief Dombkowski added that Sgt. Cindy Marion and D.A.R.E. Officer Janet Shepherd have secured funds in several areas for volunteer programs that the Police Department has. Most of those programs are funded through private donations.

Mr. Marley asked whether the \$1,735 new laptop for the Fire Department was something that was planned. Fire Chief Drew responded that it is a replacement laptop, replacing one that is four years old that needed expensive repairs. Mr. Marley asked whether there was a Fire Department equipment replacement fund. Chief Drew said that they do have funds, and will transfer money to replenish the account. Mr. Marley asked where the funds will be transferred from. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said this fund is the Firefighting Fund, with its primary source of revenue the fire protection contracts for Wabash Valley Hospital and for the research building at the old Great Lakes Chemical (now Chemtura) facility. The Council adopts a budget that includes this fund. In 2008, there were no line-item justifications for the budget, and there is no capital replacement budget for IT equipment in the Fire Department. Chief Drew added that the transfer was from the general equipment account into the office equipment account to pay for the laptop. Mr. Marley asked whether the general equipment account had enough money. Chief Drew responded that the account has some leeway to cover items such as this, items not worth repairing.

Mr. Marley asked about the \$834.34 expenditure to the Clinton County Landfill for wastewater treatment. Wastewater Utility Director Henderson responded that this is for hauling grit screenings. Mr. Marley asked whether these were accepted in Tippecanoe County. Street Commissioner Downey said no. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said that material is considered hazardous. Mr. Marley asked if that were per load. Street Commissioner Downey said it was probably two loads.

Mr. Marley noted that there had been a comment about DeFouw fixing the wiring on a Blazer, but the bill appears that it was several repairs. He asked if that was all on the same vehicle. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes answered that it was not. The \$2,358.81 included a charge of \$109 for repair of damage caused by a rodent. Police Chief Dombkowski said there were several vehicles in that large bill, and some of it was bodywork. Some of the vehicles were switched to accept E-85 fuel as other work was being done.

Mr. Marley asked whether the Food Finders CDBG public service expenditure (\$902.50), was a grant. Director of Development Poole said that it was. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said it was an example of the normal CDBG allocation for social service agencies, which receive monthly or quarterly allotments. Mr. Marley said he saw an expense for Transitional Housing last week, and asked if the CDBG supports several agencies. Director of Development Poole said there are eight different agencies that receive funds from CDBG.

Mr. Marley asked if the payment to Indiana University (\$80) were for breath test instruction. Police Chief Dombkowski said IU is the center for certifying officers in

the State of Indiana for toxilyzer breath tests for intoxication. The WLPD has to pay IU to recertify our officers.

Mr. Marley inquired about a payment to Stewart Kline & Associates for the Wabash Heritage Trail, \$3,165.88. Parks Superintendent Payne responded that is another payment for a contract that has been on the project listing, which the Board receives each week. The Parks Department is continuing design and hopes to build it, depending on INDOT cooperation.

Ms. Goldman asked about the 10% overtime in the Police Department, which seems to be consistent. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes answered that the overtime payment was from the Police Grants Projects Fund. Police Chief Dombkowski added that it is federal funds that filter down to the State for grants for projects such as Operation Pullover seatbelt enforcement. The grant goes to the City of Lafayette and then West Lafayette takes money from that through a grant account. The Chief added that those come in blitzes, when officers are out in force addressing specific issues.

Mr. Marley asked for a reminder for the nature of the payment to Randolph Farms of \$15,610. Street Commissioner Downey said that's the garbage hauling.

Mr. Marley asked if our E-85 was being purchased from Wright Express. Police Chief Dombkowski answered that it is being purchased from the Family Express at SR 25 and I-65. Mr. Marley asked how the experiment was working. The Chief responded that the first 30 days was less than \$200 savings, but there was a large price flex of \$0.16 per gallon about mid-month, when the price of E-85 was at \$2.99 retail. The price has since gone back down. The Police will do another 30-day trial and will make a determination after that. At the present time, it's about \$0.01 per mile savings now on the vehicles that are using the E-85. Mayor Dennis said in the miles the Police drive, that can be substantial. The Chief agreed. Mayor Dennis said the changes to the take-home vehicle policy and other measures are saving the City about 1,000 gallons per month in gasoline usage. Chief Dombkowski said the Police cost was \$0.34 per mile in July for gasoline, and the E-85 was \$0.33 per mile.

Mr. Marley asked if the Police Department has part-time officers. Police Chief Dombkowski answered that there are no sworn officers, but that there are some part-time civilian personnel, one of which is a Parking Control officer, and then West Lafayette pays for two part-time people in the Dispatch Center.

The motion was adopted.

E. Other Items

1. Mayor Dennis asked Parks Superintendent Payne why the City was using soap as squirrel control. Mr. Payne responded that it was to keep the squirrels from eating the trees in Cumberland Park.

2. Parks Superintendent Payne reminded those present that Global Fest will be held on Saturday, August 30, at Morton Community Center. Mayor Dennis said it's a great event, worthy of attendance.

3. Police Chief Dombkowski reported that there is a lot of back-to-school activity. Yesterday, the Chief spoke to about 5,500 freshmen at Purdue. Full move-in of the University students will be this week; classes start Monday. The Police partnered with the Purdue Student Wellness Office to distribute magnets to University students.

Ms. Goldman reported that the signs advising drivers of their speed on Cumberland at Wilshire seems to be very effective. Chief Dombkowski said that the Police have talked about moving those, as they become less effective if they are in one spot. The signs will stay in school zones, maybe with one on Grant Street.

4. City Engineer Buck noted that Engineering is trying to get the contractors done in the Village area. It will look brand-new for Global Fest.

5. Street Commissioner Downey reported that A-1 Concrete Leveling will be making repairs on August 27 and 28 to the universal ramps in the University Farms Subdivision. These will be temporary repairs, to try to take out some of the trip hazards. The Street Department is providing the water tank and the electricity; normally that is provided by the homeowner. In response to an inquiry as to how the leveling works, Mr. Downey responded that they pump a solution underneath to create hydraulic pressure. There should be minimal impact on traffic flow. City Engineer Buck said there have been many complaints about those.

Mr. Downey advised the Board that the new Street Department truck was received today. The cost will be \$1,500 less than originally bid. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes said payment for the truck would be made after the Board approves the change order.

6. Mayor Dennis showed a small size of the street banners honoring Sameer Mishra, which are in place at Cumberland and Salisbury.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

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