

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

SEPTEMBER 9, 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

A. September 2, 2008, Meeting

Ms. Goldman moved to accept the minutes of the September 2, 2008, Board of Works meeting. Mr. Marley seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Quote Opening: Fall 2008 Operation Releaf and Tree Fund Planting Projects – Parks

Director of Development Poole stated that letters soliciting quotes were sent, asking for quotes for trees for three different projects: on Salisbury from Morton Community Center to Lutz Street, miscellaneous replacement trees in the Village, and along Yeager Road from Kalberer Road to Cumberland, a total of 65 trees.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes read the quotes aloud:

Quoter	Amount
Garden Art, Inc.	\$17,813.00
Bennett's Greenhouses, Inc.	\$12,598.20
Freedom Lawns	\$13,826.00

Ms. Goldman moved that the quotes be taken under advisement. Mr. Marley seconded the motion. The motion was adopted.

B. New Hire: Part-time Lab Technician Ashley Hountz – WWTU

Wastewater Utility Director Henderson requested Board approval to hire Ashley Hountz for a part-time position in the WWTU Laboratory for \$10.00 per hour, starting September 11. Ms. Hountz is a Purdue student, studying natural resources and environmental sciences, with a concentration in water quality.

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

C. Elevations in Rank – Police

1. Stason Wiete to Specialist, effective September 15, 2008

2. Jonathan Morgan to Police Officer 2nd Class, effective September 4, 2008

Police Chief Dombkowski said that the “elevation in rank” term refers to the fact that there are four levels of officers, including probationary officers. Individuals must meet benchmarks by their dates of service for elevations in rank and pay. Stason Wiete will have served five years on September 15, 2008. That entitles him to be elevated to Specialist. Jonathan Morgan will have been with the department for one year on September 4, 2008. He is off probation on that date, and will serve as an Officer 2nd Class for a year.

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

D. Claims

1. AP Docket \$162,701.75

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

Ms. Goldman cited the Bartlett Ford payment [\$3,603.39], and asked why there were so many repairs for Police vehicles, whether these were the new vehicles. Police Chief Dombkowski responded that these were not the new vehicles, that most were in the 100,000-mile vehicles. He added that they had had three fuel pumps went out in one week’s time. Each one of those was about \$550. That’s a very common problem with the Crown Victorias; Ford is aware of the problem. Some of the cost is because of an aging fleet. Eleven vehicles in the fleet have 100,000 miles or more. Mr. Marley asked about the normal replacement interval. Chief Dombkowski responded that the standard that he’s adopted, that is recommended in some periodicals, is 80,000 miles. The Chief hopes to institute a plan to trade vehicles when they are at 75,000 and 80,000 miles. Mr. Marley noted that would take some time to get there.

Mr. Marley asked about the expense for fire safety handouts [\$2,248.75], whether “unappropriated” was the correct term. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes responded that this was an expenditure from the Fire Safety Fund, which was established to receive donations or grants for specific purposes. It is expended for those purposes without appropriation, with the signatures of the department head and the Clerk-Treasurer, with Board approval. Mr. Marley asked if there was a grant that offset the expense. Ms. Rhodes said there are donations or grants that are placed in the fund, most often for educational materials for which Inspector Lancaster raises money. Fire Chief Drew added that most of the money in that account has come from State Farm, Wal-Mart, and Eli Lilly. Mr. Marley asked if they get recognition on the form, or if it’s part of their charitable giving program. Chief Drew said it’s part of their charitable giving.

Mr. Marley asked for information about the alternate transportation expense [\$300.00]. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes answered that that is the Boiler Green Initiative

payment from the Mayor's public relations account. Mayor Dennis said it's an ongoing support, and most of the money is for mailings.

Mr. Marley asked if the City is paying the Little League concession sewage bill [\$134.64]. Parks Superintendent Payne responded that we are.

Mr. Marley asked for clarification of the payment to Fast Eddie's Lube and Wash [\$1,500.00], whether it was the annual fee for washing all Police vehicles. Police Chief Dombkowski said it is a quarterly payment. Mr. Marley asked if that is for unlimited washings. Chief Dombkowski responded that it is, it covers the Police fleet of about 42 vehicles covering unlimited washes and vacuuming for those vehicles, and hazardous cleanup as well.

Mr. Marley asked if there was a broken chiller in the Police Department [\$10,725.49]. City Engineer Buck said we did have a broken chiller, but it was in City Hall. Mr. Buck added that the plan had been to maintain that chiller and fix the leak for about \$1,500, but it broke, so it was replaced at a cost of about \$8,000. The Council approved the appropriation about two months ago. Ms. Goldman asked the age of the chiller. Mr. Tim Clark [INTAC Management] said it was from 1987.

Mr. Marley remarked that he had seen the Peck-Trachtman Park sign [\$3,095.00], and it looks great.

Mr. Marley asked about the \$60,000 for the temporary loan, whether this was repaying a loan. Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes responded that this was another loan coming into the General Fund account from Wastewater. She added that about \$3.7 million has been borrowed to date from the WWTU to pay City bills and payroll. Ms. Goldman asked if this was because of the delay in the City receiving its tax draw. Ms. Rhodes said yes, because there has been no tax billing in 2008.

The motion was adopted.

E. Informational Item

1. Certificate of Substantial Completion: Barberry Heights Lift Station and Force Main Replacement – WWTU

Wastewater Utility Director Henderson presented a certificate of substantial completion from M.D. Wessler & Associates for the Barberry Heights Lift Station at 801 Cumberland. ISI has a short punchlist to complete. The City has beneficial use of the station, and so it is appropriate that the certificate of substantial completion has been issued. There will be an invoice later, to ask for the remainder of the payment.

F. Other

1. Parks Superintendent Payne mentioned that the dedication of Peck-Trachtman Park was dedicated Sunday afternoon. Garnet Peck and Leon Trachtman have a combined 54 years of service on the Park Board. A photo was passed, showing the honorees at the park sign. In 1981, those gentlemen replaced Howard Michaud and Jim Sinninger who served many years on the Park Board. The woods in Cumberland Park is named Michaud-Sinninger Woods Nature Preserve.

2. Director of Development Poole said that Sunday, September 14, is Art on the Wabash from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Tapawingo Park.

3. Police Chief Dombkowski stated that the past weekend was the first football weekend of the season, and it was active, but there were not many problems. This weekend, there is another game, the second of three consecutive Saturdays. This will be a later afternoon game, so there will be different challenges. There is a West Lafayette High School football game on Friday against Benton Central, so there will be a large crowd. Mayor Dennis asked how the "Breakfast Club" was. Chief Dombkowski responded that it was well attended, but uneventful. Bar owners had cooperated with Police requests, keeping sidewalks less congested. Mr. Marley asked about security for football games, who pays for the Police coverage. Chief Dombkowski answered that it is paid for by Purdue Athletics. West Lafayette picks up the approximate cost of \$30,000 overtime for traffic posts and foot patrols on City streets on Friday and Saturday nights and Saturday morning. Some City officers are paid by Purdue for security duties.

4. City Engineer Buck advised that next week quotes would be opened for the Happy Hollow Erosion Control project.

5. Street Commissioner Downey reported that Battle Ground will pay \$114 per ton for road salt this year. He said that prices have ranged from \$140 per ton to \$42 per ton. The State is paying \$42 to \$46 per ton. West Lafayette will pay \$61.84 per ton.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

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