

MINUTES
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
FEBRUARY 28, 2013

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Public Works & Safety convened at 9:02 a.m., in Council Chambers of Hammond City Hall. A roll call was taken: Mr. O'Connor –present; Mr. Dostatni – present; Mr. Lendi – present.

Motion by Mr. Dostatni to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 14, 2013 and February 21, 2013; seconded by Mr. Lendi. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Contract with Walsh & Kelly, Inc. for the Forestdale Avenue project - 169th Street to 167th Street. Mr. Dostatni advised this is a 5th District project. Motion by Mr. Dostatni; seconded by Mr. Lendi. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-171)

Bid recommendation received from Baxter & Woodman Consulting Engineers for 1st District Roadway Improvement – Amy Avenue and Amy Court – to Rex Construction Co., Inc., low bidder at \$897,106.87. Mr. Dostatni advised this bid was well below the engineers estimate \$970,000.00. Motion by Mr. Dostatni; seconded by Mr. Lendi. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 172)

Correspondence received from AT& T requesting permission to perform work at Hohman Avenue and Locust Street, Jackson Avenue and 169th Street, Hump Road and Clay Street, Calumet Avenue and 171st Street and 171st Street and Marshall Avenue. Motion by Mr. Dostatni; seconded by Mr. Lendi. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-173)

Correspondence received from Chief of Police Brian Miller submitting the resignation of Hammond Police Department Payroll Clerk Harold Wallace, effective February 20, 2013, Disposal Authorizations and correspondence received from Assistant Chief of Police John Doughty requesting approval of the suspension of the hiring list for police officers and utilizing the Emergency Hiring process. Motion by Mr. Lendi; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-174)

Sales Contract with Fire Service, Inc. for the purchase of a 2013 Road Rescue Ambulance. Mr. Lendi advised the cost of the ambulance is \$261,824.60. Motion by Mr. Lendi; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-175)

Hearing on the denial of a Hammond Business License to Mr. Raul Correa for Gemstone Jewelers. Mr. Correa appears. Mr. Correa stated the reason he was denied was because he was arrested for possession of marijuana, in the City of Hammond, seven (7) or eight (8) years ago. Mr. O'Connor asked if he was convicted. Mr. Correa stated he was not sure and this was the only time he was arrested. Mr. Correa then said he owns the tire shop next door to the place he wants to open Gemstone Jewelers and also a tire shop in East Chicago. Mr. Lendi then asked Mr. Correa if he was a trained jeweler. Mr. Correa replied he was not a trained jeweler but the business will be jewelry

repair and for buying scrap gold. Mr. Correa then stated his cousin, who will work for him, is trained in jewelry repair. Mr. Lendi then stated Mr. Correa has a drug conviction, wants to open a jewelry store in an industrial area and will be having his cousin run the business. Mr. Lendi then requested this matter be continued. Mr. O'Connor then instructed Mr. Correa to bring the record of his arrest and court proceedings to the next hearing date. Motion by Mr. Lendi to continue this matter to April 25, 2013; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-176)

Hearing on property located at 3847 – 49 Sheffield Avenue. Attorney Gary Matthews appears for the property owner. Mr. Matthews advised that he has met with Building Commissioner, Mr. Kurt Koch, Code Enforcement Commissioner, Mr. Kelly Kearney and City Attorney Kristina Kantar and believes an agreement can be submitted to the Board in two (2) weeks. Motion by Mr. Lendi to continue this matter to March 21, 2013; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-177)

Notice of Violation hearing on property located at 6823 Carolina Avenue. Property owner, Ms. Arnetta Payne-Roudez, appears. Ms. Gloria Mabry, Inspector, Inspections Department, appears and submits a Findings and Order to remove the basement apartments. Ms. Payne-Roudez stated that she is the only person living at this property and that she does not rent either apartment in the basement. Ms. Payne-Roudez stated that she cannot afford to pay for a contractor to remove the apartments and the rooms in the basement are used for her storage only. Ms. Payne-Roudez then said there is no NIPSCO service to the basement but she is still charged for water for the basement units. Mr. Lendi asked the property owner if she was willing to sign a Restriction on Use of Property which would state she would not use the basement apartments for residential occupancy and not permit tenants use the space for sleeping quarters or dwelling spaces. Ms. Payne-Roudez said she would sign if there would be no repercussions for her or her heirs. Mr. O'Connor advised there would be none. Motion by Mr. Lendi to approve the Findings and Order and to require the property owner to sign a Restriction on Use of Property; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-178)

Hearing on property located at 4024 Cameron Avenue. Property owner, Mr. Vincente Martinez, fails to appear. Mr. Matt Saliga, Inspector, Inspection Department, appears. Mr. Saliga requested the Board affirm the Findings and Order requiring the removal of the basement apartment. Motion by Mr. Lendi to affirm the Findings and Order; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-179)

Hearing on property located at 1262 Summer Street. Property owner, Mr. Ismael Tirado, fails to appear. Mr. Saliga requested the Board affirm the Findings and Order requiring the removal of the two (2) basement apartments and the first floor rear apartment. Motion by Mr. Lendi to affirm the Findings and Order; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-180)

Hearing on property located at 4815 Pine Avenue. Mr. Dostatni advised that Attorney David Saks, for property owner, Mr. Francisco Jimenez, has sent correspondence requesting this matter be continued. Motion by Mr. Lendi to continue this matter to March 21, 2013; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-181)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 833 State Street. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Kelly Kearney, Commissioner of Inspections, appears and stated the tenant at this address would like to purchase the property but there is no recorded agreement. Mr. Kearney also stated that the purchase did not come up until after an inspection had been done which resulted in violations being issued. Mr. Saliga requested the Board affirm the Findings and Order in regard to this property. Mr. Kearney then advised this is set for rental registration and the building violations are a separate issue. Motion by Mr. Lendi to continue this matter to March 14, 2013; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-182)

Agreement to Rehabilitate Property Located at 4425 Ash Avenue submitted for approval. Motion by Mr. Lendi; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-183)

Correspondence received from Ms. Patricia Etherton, property owner of 6425 Madison Avenue, regarding completion of work per Agreed Order signed November 8, 2012. Attorney Gary Matthews, for Ms. Etherton, stated he has received pictures of the interior, as well as invoices from the contractors and requested this matter be continued. Motion by Mr. Lendi to continue this matter to March 21, 2013; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-184)

Correspondence received requesting rental registration on properties located at 4441 – 4439 Cameron Avenue and 6340 Nevada Avenue. Motion by Mr. Lendi to set these matters for hearing on March 21, 2013; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 12-185)

Correspondence received from 3rd District Councilman Anthony W. Higgs requesting an inspection of sink holes at 1050 Drackert Street and 1007 Lyons Street and the demolition of properties at 935 and 937 Ames Street. Motion by Mr. Dostatni to refer the inspection of sink holes to the Sewer Department and the demolition requests to the Building Department. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-186)

Garage Sale Permit, 4727 Sheffield Avenue, submitted for approval. Motion by Mr. Dostatni to approve; seconded by Mr. Lendi. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-187)

Correspondence received from Mr. Leon Rusinek requesting a status on his property located at 4904 – 06 Ash Avenue. Mr. Kearney stated this structure is vacant due to a fire and requested the rental registration matter be dismissed but this matter be continued to allow an inspection to take place. Motion by Mr. Lendi to reset this matter to March 21, 2013; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-188)

Agreed Orders on 814 Summer Street and 240 Douglas Street submitted for signature. Attorney Gary Matthew appears for Mr. Glen Barker, owner of both properties and submitted Agreed Orders for approval. Motion by Mr. Lendi; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 13-189)

Under Meeting Opened to the Public, Mr. Kearney advised that there have been several

people at this meeting with correspondence received from the Clerk's Office stating they are to appear for a hearing at 9:00 a.m. today, instead of the correct time of 2:00 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion by Mr. Lendi to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. The regularly scheduled meeting adjourned at 9:41 a.m.

APPROVED: March 21, 2013

By: _____
William J. O'Connor, President

ATTEST:

Lynn Laviolette, Secretary