

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY**  
**APRIL 30, 2015**

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. Krusa - present; Mr. Dostatni – present; Mr. Smith – present.

Motion by Mr. Dostatni to defer the approval of the minutes of April 23, 2015; seconded by Mr. Smith. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Requests received from Councilmen Jack Uylaki, Anthony Higgs, William Emerson, Homero Hinojosa and Michael Opinker requesting district funding be allocated to the Engineering Department for Professional Engineering Service and the Sidewalk Repair Program. Motion by Mr. Dostatni; seconded by Mr. Smith. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-327)

Request for Permission Form received from NIPSCO requesting authorization to trim trees at 6346 Forest Avenue. Mr. Dostatni said the trees present a hazard and a court order was issued to trim the trees. Motion by Mr. Dostatni; seconded by Mr. Smith. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-328)

Correspondence received from Practical Environmental Consultants, Ins. Requesting lane closure on 174<sup>th</sup> Street and the left turn lane of southbound Kennedy Avenue to eastbound 174<sup>th</sup> Street on May 14, 2015 to conduct environmental testing. Motion by Mr. Dostatni; seconded by Mr. Smith. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-329)

Correspondence received from Mr. Brian Poland, Director of City Planning, requesting review of the Luke's 850 Indianapolis Addition to the City of Hammond. Correspondence acknowledged. (Ins. No. 15-330)

Disposal Authorizations received from the Hammond Police Department. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-331)

Correspondence received from Fire Chief Jeffery Smith requesting approval of Gale Evans promotion from Probationary Firefighter to Private Firefighter, the demotion of EMT-1 Joseph Sinclair to the rank of Private 2nd Class, the promotion of EMT-2 Tristen Petry to the rank of EMT-1 and the demotion of EMT-2 Bernard Grisolia to the rank of Private 2nd Class. Motion by Mr. Dostatni; seconded by Mr. Smith. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-332)

Attorney Kevin Smith appears for the City of Hammond and stated all parties have been notified.

Emergency Demolition hearing on property located at 6117 Columbia Avenue. Property owners, Pastor and Mrs. Cobb, appear. Mr. Smith said this is a garage made of cinder block that has partially collapsed with bricks lying on the property. Pastor and Mrs. Cobb said that they want to self-demolish or repair the garage and need an additional thirty (30) days to do so. Mr. Smith requested the Board enter the Order to Demolish and bid out but do not demolish before thirty (30) days have passed. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

thirty (30) days have passed. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Emergency Demolition hearing on property located at 5643 Sohl Avenue. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Smith advised the property has been involved in a fire and has no roof. Mr. Smith requested the Board enter the Order to Demolish and have the property bid for demolition. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 6817 Baring Avenue. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Smith said the house is covered in animal waste. Mr. Smith then requested the Board enter the Order to Demolish and bid for demolition. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 531 Cherry Street. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Smith said an inspection has been paid for and an Agreement to Rehabilitate has been drafted and approved by the Board. Mr. Smith requested this matter be continued to June 11, 2015 for status of repair. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 620 Cherry Street. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Smith stated the owner was mailed an Agreement to Rehabilitate on April 1, 2015 and the owner did post a bond. Mr. Smith then said he received correspondence from JP Morgan Chase Bank regarding the property on April 24, 2015. Motion by Mr. Smith to continue this matter to June 11, 2015; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 2841 Cleveland Street (garage only). Property owner appears and stated he demolished the garage. Mr. Smith requested this file be closed. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 1126 Drackert Street. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Smith said that he received correspondence from Attorney Casas who advised the property was surrendered to the creditor in the bankruptcy. Mr. Smith said the property has been boarded up since 2010, parts of the soffit and fascia are falling off and it was reported at a Crime Watch meeting kids are hanging out there and doing or dealing drugs. Prospective buyers appeared with their realtor and said they are interested in buying the house. Mr. Smith requested the Board enter the Order to Demolish but stay action until June 11, 2015. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 211 Hanover Street. Mr. John Wilson appeared and stated that he lost the property on tax sale. Mr. Smith advised that Mr. Jose Dailby Caladza Galvin has since bought the property and paid for a demo inspection. Mr. Smith requested this matter be continued to June 11, 2015 for status of repairs. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 430 Highland Street. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Smith said there is a rotten blue tar on the roof and a large hole in the roof causing part of the roof to hang down. Mr. Smith also said a demo inspection was paid for on April 8, 2015 and then requested this matter be continued to June 11, 2015 for status of repair. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 1015 Hoffman Street. Property owner appears. Mr. Smith said there is missing siding, rear two (2) story porch is failing, missing siding, soffit/fascia, roof shingles failing. Mr. Smith then said an inspection has been paid for and requested this matter be set for status of repair on June 11, 2015. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 821 Indiana Avenue. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Smith said the house is marked "Uninhabitable" as there open electric inside and all radiators have been removed. Mr. Smith then requested the Board enter Order to Demolish and

Demolition hearing on property located at 821 Indiana Avenue. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Smith said the house is marked "Uninhabitable" as there open electric inside and all radiators have been removed. Mr. Smith then requested the Board enter Order to Demolish and bid out. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 970 Murray Avenue. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Smith advised the water has been off since 2012, there is no gas or water meter, electrical panel has been stripped and the house boarded up. Mr. Smith then requested the Board affirm the Order to Demolish and bid out. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 1333 – 37 150<sup>th</sup> Street. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Smith said there is a failing rear porch, root cellar open to the elements and the water has been shut off since 2012. Mr. Smith requested the Board enter the Order to Demolish and bid the property for demolition. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 709 119<sup>th</sup> Street. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Smith said there is severe water damage, collapsed ceiling and mold in the house. Mr. Smith requested the Board enter the Order to Demolish and bid out the property for demolition. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 1014 Reese Street. Property owner, Mr. Hugo Torres, appears. Mr. Smith said this property was previously ordered demolished in February of 2013 which expired while an appeal was pending. Mr. Smith said an inspection was done on December 12, 2014 but no progress has been made, the rear porch is still missing, yard is full of weeds, no water and looks worse than the inspection done in 2013. Mr. Torres admitted there is no water in the property and has no evidence of any repairs made. Mr. Smith requested the Board enter the Order to Demolish and bid but stay demolition permits until June 11, 2015. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 1133 River Drive (garage only) Attorney Tim McKay appears for the lender, Attorney Genetos, by telephone, represents the estate of the deceased property owner. Mr. Smith said the basketball structure is ready to fall into the driveway and the garage has gutters hanging off. Mr. McKay said the lender is going to foreclose. Mr. Smith requested this matter be continued to June 11, 2015 for status. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 1105 Truman Street. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Smith advised the water has been turned off since 2013, ceiling has collapsed and high weeds in the yard. Mr. Smith then said the lender has indicated it will take no action regarding the property. Mr. Smith requested the Board enter the Order to Demolish and bid out. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 6813 Woodmar Avenue. Mr. Smith said Attorney Giorgi phone and requested this matter be continued to June 11, 2015 provided the property owner get an inspection which was paid for on April 23, 2015. Mr. Smith requested this matter be continued to June 11, 2015. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Demolition hearing on property located at 6323 Calumet Avenue. Mr. Smith advised the property owner has paid for a demo inspection and requested this matter be continued to June 11, 2015 for status.

Demolitions at (Ins. No. 15-333)

Hearing on property located at 222 Hanover Street and 4930 Cedar Avenue. Attorney Gary Matthew sent a letter advising that he no longer represents the property owner, Mr. Tommy Culver, and requested this matter be continued. Motion by Mr. Smith to continue this matter to June 11, 2015 and notify Mr. Culver; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Culver, and requested this matter be continued. Motion by Mr. Smith to continue this matter to June 11, 2015 and notify Mr. Culver; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-334)

Hearing on property located at 40 Warren Street, 4319 – 41 Sheffield Avenue, 701 and 705 Kane Street and 1204 Lakeview Street. Attorney Gary Matthews appears for the property owner and said an agreement has been reached and estimates for the work to be done is being obtained. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-335)

Hearing on property located 4839 Elm Avenue. Attorney James Foster, for property owner Mr. Juan Vega, faxed a Motion to Reassign Date. Mr. Foster fails to appear. Corporation Counsel, Ms. Kristina Kantar, advised that this matter has being pending since 2012 with no repair being made. Ms. Kantar requested the Motion to Reassign Date be denied, the Inspector be given one (1) week to prepare an order regarding the property and present it to the Board on Thursday, May 7, 2015. Motion by Mr. Smith to deny the Motion to Reassign Date, to have the Inspector prepare order regarding this property and present it at the meeting of May 7, 2015; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYE ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-336)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 146 Gostlin Street. Mr. Kelly Kearney, Commissioner, Code Enforcement, said the property owners have paid timely in all past years. Motion by Mr. Smith to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$80 per unit; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-337)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 5519 Claude Avenue. Property owner appears and said that he did not own the property until January of 2015 and has already paid the 2015 fee. Motion by Mr. Smith to dismiss this action; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-338)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 6149 California Avenue and 2707 Cleveland Street. Property owner, Mr. Gerardo Galindo, appears and stated that he lived at 6149 California Avenue and has paid timely since he moved. Mr. Galindo then said he bought 2707 Cleveland Street in May of 2014 and did not rent it until December of 2014. Motion by Mr. Smith to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$80 per unit for 2014; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-339)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 1008 Eaton Street and 1105 Moss Street. Property owners, Ms. Mayola Williams, appears, said her husband had health issues last year and said she forgot that rental registration was due. Motion by Mr. Smith to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$80 per unit; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-340)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 6322 Monroe Avenue. Property owner's daughter appears and said that her mother is currently in a nursing home, which is way rental registration was not paid, but will be returning to one (1) unit of the duplex. Motion by Mr. Smith to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$80 per unit; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-341)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 6631 Madison Avenue. Property owner fails to appear. Motion by Mr. Smith to assess the late fee of \$500 and rental registration of \$80 per unit; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. . Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-352)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 607 Mulberry Street. Property owner fails to appear. Motion by Mr. Smith to assess the late fee of \$500 and rental registration of \$80 per unit; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-353)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 6319 Nebraska Avenue. Property owner, Mr. Ralph Ignas, appears. Ms. Kantar Mr. Ignas was timely in all other years. Mr. Ignas said he had health issues last year and forgot to pay. Motion by Mr. Smith to waive the late fee

Rental registration hearing on property located at 6519 Nebraska Avenue. Property owner, Mr. Ralph Ignas, appears. Ms. Kantar Mr. Ignas was timely in all other years. Mr. Ignas said he had health issues last year and forgot to pay. Motion by Mr. Smith to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$80 per unit; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-344)

Specific Finding of Fact and Decision on property located at 1418 Warwick Avenue. Motion by Mr. Dostatni; seconded by Mr. Smith. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-345)

Correspondence received from property owners requesting rental registration hearing dates be reset. Motion by Mr. Smith to set these matters for hearing on May 14, 2015; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-346)

Correspondence received requesting rental registration hearing dates be set. Motion by Mr. Smith to set these matters for July 2, 2015; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-347)

Correspondence received from Mr. Gary Gleason, Director, Public Works, requesting approval of the placement of "Residential Parking" signs on the 7300 block of Alabama Avenue for a 90 day trial period. Motion by Mr. Dostatni; seconded by Mr. Smith. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-348)

Correspondence received from 3rd District Councilman Anthony Higgs requesting speed limit and children playing signs be placed on the 6200 and 6300 Harrison Avenue and property located at 5633 Calumet Avenue be placed on the demolition list. Code Enforcement Commissioner, Mr. Kelly Kearney, advised the correct address on Calumet Avenue is 5533 Calumet Avenue and the this property will be placed on the demolition list. Motion by Mr. Dostatni to refer the signage request to Public Works and the request for 5533 Calumet Avenue to be placed on the demolition list to Code Enforcement; seconded by Mr. Smith. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. #15-349)

Correspondence received from St. John Bosco School requesting street closure during the 10th Annual Race for Education, May 20, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Motion by Mr. Dostatni; seconded by Mr. Smith. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-350)

Garage Sale permits submitted for approval. Motion by Mr. Smith; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-351)

Under Matters from Board Members, Mr. Dostatni received correspondence from Attorney John McCrum, for the City of Hammond, that read, in part, that the order issued under the Unsafe Building Act for property located at 6609 Jefferson Avenue be heard on May 14, 2015 as I.C. 36-7-7-5 provides the enforcement authority of a municipality to take action on any order issued under the Unsafe Building Code within two (2) years from the date the property owner receives notice. Mr. Dostatni then Corporation Counsel Kristina Kantar said this matter has been pending for two (2) years. Motion by Mr. Dostatni to set this matter for May 14, 2015; seconded by Mr. Smith. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-352)

Mr. Dostatni also received a Specific Finding of Fact and Decision regarding the registration of spayed animals. Motion by Mr. Dostatni; seconded by Mr. Smith. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-353)

License Agreement with NIPSCO for the Marquette Greenway project. Motion by Mr. Dostatni to approve subject to approval of Corporation Counsel; seconded by Mr. Smith. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 15-354)

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion by Mr. Smith to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. The regularly scheduled meeting adjourned at 9:11 a.m.

adjourn; seconded by Mr. Dostatni. The regularly scheduled meeting adjourned at 9:11 a.m.

APPROVED: July 2, 2015

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Edward Krusa, President

ATTEST:

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Lynn Laviolette, Secretary