

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
MINUTES OF MAY 10, 2018

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety convened at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 10, 2018, in the Council Chambers of Hammond City Hall. A roll call was taken: Ms. Garay - absent; Mr. Margraf – present; Mr. Long - present.

Due to the absence of Ms. Garay, normal rules of procedure are suspended.

Recommendation by Mr. Long to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 19, 2018 and April 26, 2018; Mr. Margraf concurred.

Contract with Hawk Enterprises, Inc. for Colorado Avenue and Delaware Avenue – 169th Street to 165th Street, Nevada Avenue and New Jersey Avenue – 165th Street to 163rd Street Lighting Improvements. Recommendation by Mr. Long; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-297)

Change Order No. 1 received from First Group Engineering, Inc. for the Hybrid Pedestrian Crossing Signals at a cost of \$6,878, with 90% being funded by FHWA, the cost to the City will be \$687.80 for quantity overruns. Recommendation by Mr. Long; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-298)

Correspondence received from AT&T requesting permission to perform work at 2500 Michigan Street. Recommendation by Mr. Long; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-299)

Correspondence received from Attorney David Westland advising his firm will be handling condemnation cases on behalf of the City. Correspondence acknowledged. (Ins. No. 18-300)

Correspondence received from Councilman Mark Kalwinski requesting \$93,545.33 of gaming funds be allocated to cover Hammond's share of the Atchison Avenue project with the City of Whiting. Corporation Counsel, Ms. Kristina Kantar, advised this is an inter-local project with the City of Whiting and these funds will be used to pay Hammond's portion. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-301)

Invoice received from the City of Whiting for the shared Atchison Avenue project. Correspondence acknowledged. (Ins. No. 18-302)

Correspondence received from Chief of Police John Doughty requesting approval of Adam Seles and Joseph Drzich being appointed as Probationer members of the Hammond Police Department to serve their one (1) year probationary period beginning May 3, 2018 and Disposal Authorizations. Recommendation by Mr. Long; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-303)

Hearing on property located at 6637 Harrison Avenue. Property owner and Attorney David Weigle appear. Mr. Nick Farrell, Inspector, Inspections Department appears. Mr. Weigle said the property owner now has a licensed contractor and will return the former three (3) unit back to a single family home. Mr. Kelly Kearney, Chief of Inspections, asked how many of the units are

currently occupied. Mr. Weigle said one (1) unit is occupied and the others are vacant. Mr. Farrell then requested the Board affirm the Findings. Recommendation by Mr. Long; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-304)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 1240 175th Street. Property owner, Ms. Deborah Gary, appears, said she was not aware of a fee for rental registration and has let her niece live at the property since 2014. Mr. Kearney said rental registration has not been paid from 2014 through 2017. Ms. Gary said she only became aware of the fee this year as there was a hit and run on her garage and when she went to get a permit for repairs to be made she was told of the fee for rental registration. Mr. Kearney said that a niece is not an immediate family member so the fee cannot be waived for that reason. Ms. Gary then said she has paid the fee for 2018 rental registration. Recommendation by Mr. Long to take no action in this matter; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-305)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 1539 Calumet Avenue. Property owner appears, has always paid timely in the past and he just forgot to this year. Recommendation by Mr. Long to waive the late fee and assess rental registration for 2018 of \$5 per unit; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-306)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 1461 Indianapolis Boulevard. Property owner appears, said he has paid timely in the past and has no excuse for not paying the 2017 fee. Mr. Jaime Prieto, Commissioner, Code Enforcement, said this is a four (4) unit and previous years were paid timely. Recommendation by Mr. Long to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$5 per unit; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-307)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 408 Conkey Street. Property owner appears and said he was not aware of the fee for rental registration, as he would have paid it if he knew of it. Mr. Prieto said 2016 and 2017 are unpaid. Recommendation by Mr. Long to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$5 per unit for 2016 and 2017; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-308)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 6404 Tennessee Avenue. Property owner appears, said this property was just rented in December of 2017 and it is the first time he has ever rented a property. Recommendation by Mr. Long to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$5 per unit for 2017; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-309)

Rental registration hearing. Mr. Margraf advised there is no property listed as a rental and mail was returned notifying the property owner of the hearing. Mr. Prieto said Inspections has a mailing address for the owner and will supply it to the Board after the meeting to notify the owner of the rental registration hearing. No action taken. (Ins. No. 18-310)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 6337 Blaine Avenue. Property owner appears and said he bought the property in October of 2017. Mr. Prieto said 2017 is unpaid. Recommendation by Mr. Long to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$5 per unit; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-311)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 7228 Missouri Avenue. Property owner, Ms. Serena Carrillo, appears. Mr. Prieto requested no action be taken as the property was registered from 2012 through 2017, the property owner has moved back into the house in 2017 but it is now rented and the fee has been paid for 2018. No action taken. (Ins. No. 18-312)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 4422 Torrence Avenue. Property owner appears and said she is helping family members by letting them live at this property. Mr. Prieto said rental registration has not been paid from 2014 through 2017. Recommendation by Mr. Long to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$80 per unit for 2014 and \$5 per unit for 2015 through 2017; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-313)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 4226 Wabash Avenue and 4329 Baltimore Avenue. Property owner appears. Mr. Prieto said these properties have been before the Board before for a late rental registration hearing and the late fees had been waived. Mr. Prieto then said the properties have been before the Court before regarding compliance matters and both properties now owe rental registration for 2016 and 2017. Recommendation by Mr. Long to assess the late fee of \$500 on 4226 Wabash Avenue and \$5 per unit rental registration fee for both 2016 and 2017 and a late fee of \$500 for 4329 Wabash Avenue and \$5 per unit rental registration fee for both 2016 and 2017; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-314)

Correspondence received requesting rental registration hearings. Recommendation by Mr. Long to set these matters for hearing on June 21, 2018; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-315)

License Agreement Renewal with Code 48, LLC and its representative Laicon, Inc. to conduct environmental monitoring at 6821 – 23 Grand Avenue. Recommendation by Mr. Long; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-316)

Order to Rescind Orders to Demolish property located at 4226 Wabash Avenue (garage only). Recommendation by Mr. Long; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-317)

Contract for Demolition Services with RSR Demolition, LLC for 6501 – 05 Calumet Avenue at a cost of \$18,256.44. Recommendation by Mr. Long; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-318)

Emergency Demolition Award received from Chief of Inspections, Mr. Kelly Kearney, to JM Industrial Services, Inc. for the demolition of 5251 – 53 Hohman Avenue at a cost of \$86,800. Recommendation by Mr. Long; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-319)

Correspondence received from 3rd District Councilman Anthony Higgs requesting \$500,000 of gaming funds be allocated for Park Improvements. Recommendation by Mr. Long; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-320)

Correspondence received from Mr. Gary Gleason, Director, Public Works, advising of the placement of “No Parking” signs on the Indiana side of State Line Avenue at Wildwood Road for a ninety (90) day trial period. Recommendation by Mr. Long; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-

321)

Garage Sale Permits submitted for approval. Recommendation by Mr. Long; Mr. Margraf concurred. (Ins. No. 18-322)

Ms. Garay appears for the meeting at 9:36 a.m.

Under Matters from Other Board Members, Ms. Garay received a disciplinary matter from the Hammond Fire Department. Mr. Margraf abstains from the vote. Recommendation by Mr. Long; Ms. Garay concurred. (Ins. No. 18-323)

Ms. Garay also received a requested from Dr. Sean Egan of HAST, requesting permission to post banners on light poles on Hohman Avenue from Sibley Street to Douglas Street to display seasonal sports, clubs and the arts. Motion by Mr. Margraf to refer this matter to Public Works; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-324)

Under Meeting Opened to the Public, Mr. George Howard, property owner of 936 Conkey Street, said an inspection was scheduled but he was out of town and was not able to have anyone else in his place. Mr. Howard then said he found out the deed he has was not recorded and the property did not show in his name. Mr. Howard said he has since emailed Mr. Kevin Smith the deed, which has been recorded and would like to move forward now. Corporation Counsel, Ms. Kristina Kantar, said Mr. Howard had an inspection scheduled but did not call to say he would not be there, or have someone else at the property in his place and the demolition was ordered in July of 2017. Ms. Kantar then added that 3rd District Councilman Anthony Higgs has made several complaints regarding the property. Ms. Kantar said an inspection needs to be completed and an Agreement to Rehabilitate needs to be signed by the property owner. Mr. Kearney told Mr. Howard to contact Mr. Koch to set an appointment for another inspection.

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion by Ms. Garay to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Long. The regularly scheduled meeting adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

APPROVED:

BY: _____
Heather Garay, President

ATTEST:

Lynn Laviolette, Secretary