

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
MINUTES OF MAY 24, 2018

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety convened at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 24, 2018, in the Council Chambers of Hammond City Hall. A roll call was taken: Ms. Garay – present; Mr. Margraf – present; Mr. Long - present.

Motion by Mr. Margraf to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 10, 2018 and May 17, 2018; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Correspondence received from Antea Group requesting permission to divert traffic, as needed, during groundwater testing at Roxanna Drive and White Oak Avenue, Wednesday, June 13, 2018 through June 15, 2018. Motion by Mr. Margraf; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-358)

Correspondence received from Marathon Pipe Line LLC advising that a Right of Way Assessment Walking Survey will be conducted beginning May 21, 2018 and ending in late June 2018. Mr. Jonathan Parker, Engineering Department, said this is an inspection of the property to collect the depth of pipeline. Correspondence acknowledged. (Ins. No. 18-359)

Proposal for Geotechnical Exploration Services received from ATC Group Services LLC for geotechnical exploration services for the proposed Mayor's Trail at a cost of \$6,450. Mr. Dean Button, City Engineer, requested this proposal be approved prior to having an allocation of gaming funds for the proposal to be paid with. Motion by Mr. Margraf; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-360)

Correspondence received from Mr. Dean Button, City Engineer, advising the Engineering Department does not support the request to make the alley at Lincoln Avenue one-way. Mr. Button said both he and Mr. Gary Gleason, Director, Public Works, have reviewed the request and do not support it. Motion by Mr. Margraf to have the resident requesting the one (1) way designation notified; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-361)

Correspondence received from Mr. Dean Button, City Engineer, advising of the support of the request from Purdue Northwest. Mr. Button said Public Works will do the striping and mark the crosswalk on 173rd Street. Motion by Mr. Margraf; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-362)

Correspondence received from the Hammond Police Department approving the Baring Parkway Annual 4th of July Parade, the Mohawks Memorial Day Parade, no parking signs and barricades requested for the Live in the Ville street festival, closing the 1000 block of Field Street on June 9, 2018, street closures for the Harley Davidson event, the request for a Hammond Police officer to be at an event at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church on June 9, 2018 with street closure and the Marian Pilgrimage to travel through Hammond on Saturday, August 11, 2018. Motion by Mr. Margraf; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-363)

Second Addendum to Towing Contract with State Auto Body, Inc., (Zone 4 Tower), with a term to June 1, 2019. Motion by Mr. Margraf; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-364)

Second Addendum to Towing Contract with Herrera's Towing (Zone 1 Tower), with a term to June 1, 2019. Motion by Mr. Margraf; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-365)

Correspondence received from Fire Chief Jeffery Smith requesting approval of the appointments of Eric J. Noto, Mitchell K. Leckrone and Garrett B. Vahst to the Hammond Fire Department. Motion by Mr. Margraf; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-366)

Emergency Demolition hearing for property located at 5903 Calumet Avenue. Property owner, Ms. Yvonne Saladino, appears with her attorney, Mr. Tim Kelly. Corporation Counsel, Ms. Kristina Kantar, said the property was hit by a vehicle on May 19, 2017 and it may be in danger of collapsing. Ms. Kantar then said the sidewalk is full of debris from the building and it had to be fenced to keep the rubble out of Calumet Avenue. Mr. Kelly said the building is fully insured and there is an engineer at the building now doing an inspection. Mr. Kelly then said there is no proof the building will collapse and Ms. Saladino is taking reasonable efforts to remedy this situation. Mr. Kelly Kearney, Chief of Inspections, said the bay window on the north side is buckling and there was a police call to the building due to someone trying to steal property. Ms. Garay asked who owns the property between 5903 Calumet Avenue and the City Police Garage. Mr. Kearney said there is a different owner of the middle building that is between Ms. Saladino's property and the City's property. Mr. Kelly then asked if the City had an engineer who had looked at the building. Mr. Dean Button responded he was the City Engineer, that he had looked at the building and is very concerned that it may collapse. Ms. Saladino said the bay window has been leaning out since she purchased the building. Mr. Kearney said that he spoke with the insurance company and did an inspection together with the insurance to determine if an Agreement to Rehab can be done, or if the building will need to be self-demolished. Mr. Kelly said he has heard nothing to prove the building will collapse and the condition of the building is not the owner's fault. Ms. Garay said she has sympathy for the owner but both Mr. Margraf of the Fire Department and Mr. Long of the Police Department can speak of the safety hazard the building poses. Ms. Kantar responded that the same procedure is done for all demolition hearings and the City will act in the best interest of the public. Mr. Kearney said the insurance company has said the engineering report will be shared with the City. Ms. Saladino then said there are things she wants to get out of the building, the person trying to steal from the building had to climb over the fence to gain entrance which was dangerous and that she believes the City is being rigid with her. Ms. Garay then said if an order is entered and stayed, no action would be taken until next week when this matter would be before the Board again. Mr. Kelly said the Notice of Violation poses fines if no action is taken within seven (7) days and he does not want his client to be fined. Ms. Kantar advised the City is not seeking fines in this matter. Ms. Garay said if no progress is made the City will move forward. Ms. Kantar then said 10% of the insurance company money will go to the City for work already done, such as board ups, fencing and clean-up of the street according to Indiana Code. Motion by Mr. Margraf to stay the Order to Demolish until May 31, 2018; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-

Notice of Violation hearing on property located at 227 Chicago Street. Attorney Marco Molina appears for the property owner. Mr. Nick Farrell, Inspector, Inspections Department, said the Sewer Department, Water Department and the Department of Environmental Management all have identified problems with petroleum contaminated liquids draining into the City storm drain and have had the electric, water and gas turned off at the property. Mr. Farrell then said this has created a safety and health hazard affecting the residents of Hammond. Ms. Kantar advised that this hearing has been set to obtain an order to Vacate and Seal the property and other charges with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. Mr. Farrell advised that any equipment must be decontaminated by a hazmat company prior to it being from the site and the owner was advised of this by Mr. Ronald Novak, Director of the Department of Environmental Management. Mr. Molina said the property owner wants to repair the property, has had the excess water removed and also would like to take some of his belongings out of the building. Ms. Garay said that prior to anything being removed it must be decontaminated. Mr. Kearney said the alarm system can be activated by a licensed electrician. Mr. Farrell said the items can be removed after decontamination which is a process. Ms. Garay then asked which option is safer. Mr. Farrell said there is no solid flooring surface and the ground has oil and gas visible on the ground. Mr. Farrell requested an order to Vacate and Seal the property and to allow the alarm system to be repaired. Mr. Molina then requested wording be added to allow the property owner to remove items from the property if decontaminated. Motion by Mr. Margraf to enter an order to Vacate and Seal the property, allow the security system to be activated by a license electrician, allow the property owner to retrieve items, after being properly decontaminated from the property and to hold a status hearing on June 28, 2018 seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-368)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 4033 Torrence Avenue. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Jaime Prieto, Code Enforcement Commissioner, appears. Mr. Prieto said the property owner bought the property in July of 2018 and rented it in September of 2017. Mr. Prieto then said the property owner lives in Texas. Motion by Mr. Margraf to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$5 per unit for 2017; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-369)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 1114 Summer Street. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Prieto said water consumption show that someone is currently living at this address. Motion by Mr. Margraf to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$5 per unit for 2017; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-370)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 4315 Clark Avenue. Property owner appears by her daughter and said she lived at the address until sometime in 2017 and then her mother began renting when she moved out in 2017. Motion by Mr. Margraf to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$5 per unit for 2017; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-371)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 1431 175th Street. Property owner, Mr. Octavio Rodriguez, appears, and has the property owner's daughter from 4315 Clark Avenue

translating for him, said he bought the property in 2017 and paid rental registration for 2018. Mr. Prieto said the Water Department shows that Mr. Rodriguez paid the water bill in 2006 then the property began changing hands, and then Mr. Rodriguez began paying the water bill again from 2011 through the present. Ms. Garay said that Mr. Rodriguez needs a translator with him and this matter be reset for status. Mr. Prieto said he will talk to Mr. Rodriguez after this meeting. Motion by Mr. Margraf to continue this matter to June 7, 2018; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-372)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 6921 Alabama Avenue. Property owner appears, said he purchased the property in 2011 for his daughter to live in and she did not move out until 2017 at which time he began renting. Mr. Prieto said there is no affidavit in file stating that the property owner's daughter lived at this property. Motion by Mr. Margraf to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$5 per unit for 2017 and to have the property owner complete an affidavit for the years his daughter lived at the property; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-373)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 5438 Molesberger Place (rear). Property owner appears, said this is a two (2) unit, she lives in one (1) and in 2016 and part of 2017 her grandchild lived in one (1) unit and after he left she began renting. Motion by Mr. Margraf to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$5 per unit for 2017 and for property owner to complete an affidavit regarding her grandson living there; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-374)

Rental registration hearing on property located at 7115 Beech Avenue. Property owner by his son who said he lived at the property in 2017. Motion by Mr. Margraf to waive the late fee and assess rental registration at \$5 per unit for 2017; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-375)

Order to Rescind Orders to Demolish property at 1527 River Drive North. Ms. Kantar said this property has finally passed inspection and the cash bond may be released back to the property owner, Ms. Wendy Wang. Motion by Mr. Margraf; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-376)

Agreement to Rehabilitate Property Located at 7234 Jarnecke Avenue. Ms. Kantar said this property had been on the demolition list. Motion by Mr. Margraf; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-377)

Correspondence received requesting rental registration hearings. Motion by Mr. Margraf to set these matters for hearing on June 28, 2018; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-378)

Correspondence received from Mr. Gary Gleason, Director, Public Works, advising "Residential Parking Only" signs will be placed on Alabama Avenue and 170th Street due to businesses on Kennedy Avenue. Motion by Mr. Margraf to approve for a ninety (90) day trial period; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-379)

Correspondence received from Mr. Gary Gleason advising Public Works has no objection for two (2) signs advertising the Hammond Mayor's Cup Annual 3 vs. 3 Soccer Tournament to be displayed in the City. Motion by Mr. Margraf to approve subject to approval from the Mayor; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-380)

Correspondence received from Mr. Gary Gleason advising a "Deaf Child on Block" sign will be placed at 2454 Birch Avenue. Motion by Mr. Margraf; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-381)

Correspondence received from 6th District Councilman Scott Rakos requesting \$350,000 of 2019 gaming funds be allocated for the Hessville Park Improvement Project. Motion by Mr. Margraf; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-382)

Correspondence received from 6th District Councilman Scott Rakos requesting \$150,000 of 2018 gaming funds be allocated for Park improvements in the 6th District. Motion by Mr. Margraf; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-383)

Correspondence received from Mr. Rodrigo Miramontes requesting street closure of Hoffman Street from 148th Street to the alley of 149th Street for a birthday party on June 2, 2018 from 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Motion by Mr. Margraf to request that Mr. Miramontes appear at the meeting of May 31, 2018 to answer questions regarding the street closure that has been requested; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-384)

Request for placement of jump houses – Mr. Danny Hyatte. Mr. Hyatte failed to appear. Mr. Margraf had photos of the placement requested to be used, which is on City property, and also has low power lines above the property. Motion by Mr. Margraf to deny the request; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-385)

Correspondence received from the East Side Community Council requesting permission to hold a Hammond Day parade on Saturday, June 30, 2018, with route. Motion by Mr. Margraf; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-386)

Correspondence received from the Schererville Park Department requesting a police escort through Hammond, Friday, June 22, 2018, beginning at 6:45 a.m. on Gostlin Street and concluding at the Erie-Lackawanna bicycle trail, for Pat's Pedaling 100K Bike ride. Motion by Mr. Margraf; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-387)

Correspondence received from the Hammond Historical Society requesting "Special Event Parking" signs and Emergency Management to provide traffic control during the Oak Hill Cemetery Walking Tour, Sunday, October 7, 2018 from noon to 4:00 p.m. Ms. Ruth Mores, Vice President, Hammond Historical Society and Director of the Oak Hill Cemetery Tour appeared and said the 2017 tour did have traffic control planned but the person scheduled to do it did not show up. Motion by Mr. Margraf to approve and send this request to the Hammond Police Department; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-388)

Ms. Mores then said people have been parking on Southmoor Road where there is signage indicating "Residential Parking Only" and she requested a meeting with someone from the Hammond Police Department to discuss this issue. Mr. Long said that he and Mr. Gary Gleason, Director, Public Works will go look at the area on Southmoor Road to determine what can be done.

Garage Sale Permits submitted for approval. Motion by Mr. Margraf; seconded by Mr. Long. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 18-389)

There being no further business to come before the Board, recommendation by Mr. Long to adjourn; Mr. Margraf concurred. The regularly scheduled meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

APPROVED:

BY: _____
Kevin Margraf, Vice President

ATTEST:

Lynn Laviolette, Secretary