BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
MINUTES OF AUGUST 11, 2022

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety convened at 9:01 a.m. on Thursday, August 11, 2022, in the Council Chambers of Hammond City Hall. A roll call was taken: Mr. Margraf – present; Mr. Long – absent; Mr. Perez – present.

Due to the absence of Mr. Long, normal rules of procedure are suspended

Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to defer the Minutes of the meeting of August 4, 2022; concurred by Mr. Perez.

Under Matters from Department Heads/Their Representatives, Mr. Button requests approval for advertising dates of August 18, 2022 and August 25, 2022 with a bid opening of September 8, 2022 for the Hammond Police New Garage. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to approve advertisement and bid opening; concurred by Mr. Perez. Res. No. 4113

Under Correspondence, correspondence received from Chief of Police, William Short submitting the resignation of Probationary Officer Treyvon McCullough, effective the closing date of August 1, 2022. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to approve; concurred by Mr. Perez. (Ins. No. 22-494)

Correspondence received from Korellis requesting permission to close the sidewalk at 4828 Calumet Avenue for a project from August 12, 2022 through October 31, 2022. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to approve; concurred by Mr. Perez. (Ins. No. 22-495)

Correspondence received requesting "no right turn when children are present" sign on 169th Street at Arizona Street submitted via Seeclickfix. Mr. Button supports the request. Mr. Smith questions what the sign will read as to not confuse with the sign already in place. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to approve; concurred by Mr. Perez. (Ins. No. 22-496)

Correspondence received from resident Rebecca Clay, 3035 163rd Pl. requesting speed bumps at various locations in her area due to vehicles disregarding stop signs. Mr. Button requests the police enforce, policy is not to install speed bumps. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to forward to police department to add additional enforcement; concurred by Mr. Perez. (Ins. No. 22-497)

Correspondence received requesting rental registration hearings. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to set for August 25, 2022; concurred by Mr. Perez. (Ins. No. 22-498)

Under New Business, Agreement to Purchase Real Estate with Northern Indiana Public Service Company regarding property located at 402 165th Street. Mr. Smith states this is a vacant lot and requests a closing to be set. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to approve and

forward to Linda to set a closing; concurred by Mr. Perez. (Ins. No. 22-499)

Right of Way Permits (4) submitted for approval from Engineering Department. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to approve; concurred by Mr. Perez. (Ins. No. 22-500)

Disposal Authorizations submitted for approval from Hammond Police Department. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to approve; concurred by Mr. Perez. (Ins. No. 22-501)

Garage Sale Permits submitted for approval. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to approve; concurred by Mr. Perez. (Ins. No. 22-502)

Under Old Business, stop sign at Hohman and Huehn. Mr. Button states he prepared a report and reviewed the accidents and none occurred when children were present at the time of school and with the presence of the Hammond Police Department and crossing guards, it makes that intersection highly visible. He also looked at different types of crashes that occurred, failure to yield right of way when traveling east and west on Huehn, disregarded stop signs. West bound car on Huehn causing accidents with north bound vehicles, potentially could be a sight distance problem. If someone parks on the east curb line facing north, it's difficult to see around that car. Mr. Button recommends to stripe as a no parking area, creating shorten crosswalks where the sidewalks will encroach more into the parking area of the roadway which will shorten the crosswalk. Mr. Button says we can do this for interim period with paving markings and lane delineators. In long term, we can do an intersection reconstruction. This would be his recommendation at this stage Mr. Smith hopes there could be a removal of the middle lane to improve sight distance. City Council passed an ordinance to put a stop sign at 142nd and Hohman and doesn't think it changes Mr. Button's recommendation. Mr. Button thinks it still is a safer condition and glad council mentioned the re-stripping is something they have been working on and will help. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to approve the City Engineer's request at this intersection and deny the stop sign at Hohman and Huehn; concurred by Mr. Perez. (Ins. No. 22- 503)

Status – 7944 Bertram Mr. Smith states that a demolition order for the garage was entered on this property, and there is now a new owner and contractor. Property in good shape, new owner wants a rehab agreement, will do an inspection to get moving forward. Mr. Robert Carlson states Bill Kincaid, owner, purchased property in June and at the end of June, an order to demo was issued for garage, it does need repair and requests to rescind order. Mr. Smith states the order is on the garage and he doesn't have a problem with getting permits for the home, get a rehab agreement for the garage and waive the inspection fee and the order will stay until completed. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to set for status on November 3, 2022 and waive inspection fees; concurred by Mr. Perez.

Status – Bank Calumet Building 120-day status on temporary signage. Mr. Smith states this is under construction and requests this be renewed. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to extend and set for status on December 12, 2022; concurred by Mr. Perez.

Under Rental Registrations, 7105 Parrish (5) and 7550 Columbia (5). Mr. Farrell states these are the same owner and it is considered a rental community. Owner present and stated these were purchased in 2021. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to waive late fee; concurred by Mr. Perez. (Ins. No. 22-504)

946 Murray – Owner present. Mr. Farrell states she needs to complete the homestead affidavit form. Recommendation by Mr. Margraf to waive the late fees for 2021 and 2022 and sign affidavit for homestead; concurred by Mr. Perez. (Ins. No. 22-504)

Under Meeting Open to the Public, Mr. Alan Rutledge appears regarding a demo order and has combined parcels. Mr. Farrell speaks regarding property. Mr. Smith states this is set for next week but can deal with today. This is a neighboring home with combined parcels. Owner states he has permits and has been working on it for 2 months. Mr. Kearney states the permits are for the house structure. Mr. Smith wants to keep tabs on it and doesn't have a problem deferring and set for status. Mr. Rutledge says his plan is to combine properties and sell on a reverse mortgage. Mr. Farrell says building is not being repaired to be occupied as a residence unit Mr. Smith states he will keep on agenda for next week and Mr. Rutledge doesn't need to show up and confirm that it was dealt with the prior week. Mr. Margraf states for the record this will be on the agenda for status of August 18, 2022.

Councilman Torres states the 4700 block of Sheffield where intersects with Chicago Avenue, there is a stop sign there where it is ignored when they go through the roundabout. Mr. Button states Sheffield now curves into Chicago north bound as it ties back into Sheffield, there is a stop sign there. He suspects that because barricades were up, the cars were just moving through there and now that barricades are down the motoring public becomes familiar with rolling through the stop sign. Mr. Button suggests we can temporarily put up a second (stacking) stop sign to approve visibility and since Chicago was closed vehicles are just passing through and can either have engineer put up a second stop sign or work with public works. Mr. Torres would also like the no parking signs removed.

There being no further business to come before the Board, recommendation by Mr. Margraf to adjourn; concurred by Mr. Perez. The regularly scheduled meeting adjourned at 9:44 a.m.

APPROVED:

BY: _____
Kevin Margraf, President

ATTEST: _____
Linda Norville-Moles, Board Secretary