BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
MINUTES OF JUNE 12, 2025

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety convened at 9:05 a.m. on Thursday, June 12, 2025, in the Council Chambers of Hammond City Hall. A roll call was taken: Mr. Long – present; Ms. Greenwell – present; Mr. Kalina – present.

Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve the Minutes of the meeting of June 5, 2025; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Under Correspondence, correspondence received from William Short, Chief of Police requesting the approval of the resignation of Officer Christopher Walsh effective the close of business on June 8, 2025. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-316)

Correspondence received from Dean Button requesting to approve the bond for city work in the INDOT right of way. Mr. Button advises the State is now asking to provide a blanket bond. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-317)

Correspondence received from Controller's Office requesting the approval of the renewal of amusement device license for Just Toni's Bar and Spirros Country Lounge. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-318)

Correspondence received from Alberto Ochoa requesting to hold a HUGS Mexican Independence Parade on September 13, 2025 starting at noon and approval from the Hammond Police Department with suggested route. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-319)

Correspondence received from Sarah Creel, Special Events Coordinator for City of Whiting, requesting street closures for the Annual 4th of July Parade with route attached. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve contingent upon Police Department approval; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-320)

Correspondence received from Felix Reyes, 226 Doty, requesting to block the 200 block of Doty on July 4, 2025 from 3:00 PM until 11:00 PM with signatures attached. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve only until 10:00 PM; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-321)

Correspondence received from Thomas Musillami requesting 4-way stop signs at the corner of 116th St. and Atchison Avenue. Mr. Button requests to be sent to Engineering for a study. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to forward to Engineering; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-322)

Correspondence received from Elizabeth Silva, 4426 Baltimore Ave., requesting to close the southbound lane on the west side of the 4400 block of Baltimore to hold a 4th of July block party. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve only until 10:00 PM; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-323)

Correspondence received from Caitlyn Cameron, 6932 Jackson Ave. requesting to block the section of Jackson Avenue between 169th Street and 170th Street to hold a 4th of July block party. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-324)

Correspondence received from Ursula Whyte from the Hammond Public Library requesting to block off State Street in front of the library on June 14, 2025 from 12 Noon to 3:00 PM and requesting permission for a horse to be used for pictures and petting for their Annual Juneteenth Event. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-325)

Correspondence received Pedro Mesas, 4937 Hickory requesting permission to block the alley beside his house for a graduation party on June 28, 2025 from 2:00 PM until 11:00 PM. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve only until 10:00 PM; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-326)

Correspondence received from Alexander Villa, 2350 Birch Ave., requesting permission to block off 124th Street from Birch to the alley for the 4th of July from 2:00 PM until 10:00 PM. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-327)

Correspondence received from Claudia Lopez Cisneros, 6727 Idaho Ave. requesting permission to block Idaho Ave. between Martha St. to 167th St. for a graduation party on June 27, 2025 from 3:00 PM until 12 Midnight. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve only until 10:00 PM; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-328)

Correspondence received from Araceli Gomez, 1529 Lake Ave. requesting permission to block Lake Ave. between 115th and 116th for their Summer Solstice Block Party on June 20, 2025 from 4:00 PM until 9:00 PM. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-329)

Correspondence received from St. Casimir Parish requesting to hold their 19th Annual Corpus Christi Procession on June 22, 2025 from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM submitted for approval. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-330)

Correspondence received from Dean Button recommending the conversion of the 1200 block of Truman Street and the neighboring alley on the west end from one-way to two-way traffic. Mr. Button acknowledges this requires the 7 day notice to council. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-331)

Under New Business, Request for advertising dates of June 19, 2025 and June 26, 2025 with a bid opening of July 10, 2025 for the demolition of properties located at 4712 Hohman Ave., 6810 Kennedy Ave. and 6833 Kennedy Ave. submitted for approval. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. Res. No. 25-4193

Request for advertising dates of June 26, 2025 and July 3, 2025 with a bid opening of July 17, 2025 for the demolition of properties located at 4934 Ash Ave., 4831 Columbia Ave., 617-619 Gostlin St. (front), 5217 Hohman Ave., and 964 Summer St. a/k/a 5614 Howard submitted for approval. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. Res. No. 25-4194

Funding Allocation Request Form requesting (2) $25,000 of the 5th District Gaming Fund to be allocated to the Park Gaming Fund 2449 FOTL, $22,812.33 of the 5th District Gaming Fund to be allocated for the Dowling Park Pond Maintenance, $20,000 of the 5th District Gaming Fund to be allocated for the Tree Removal and $1,236.50 of the 3rd District Gaming Fund to be allocated for the Basketball Tournament Awards – CR Publications. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-332)

Agreement to Rehabilitate Property located at 7327 Chestnut Ave. submitted for approval. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve and set status for September 11, 2025 and vacate any other hearings; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-333)

Resolution and Intergovernmental Agreement with Hammond Redevelopment to transfer properties located at 1134 Conkey, 1136 Conkey, 917 Michigan, 919 Michigan, 921 Michigan 7232 Grand and 6133 Columbia submitted for approval. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. Res. No. 25-4192 (Ins. No. 25-334)

Right of Way Permits (3) received from Engineering submitted for approval. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-335)

Request for Rental Registration hearing submitted for approval. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to set for July 3, 2025; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-336)

Garage Sale Permits submitted for approval. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to approve and notify the 3rd requestor that no others will be granted; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-337)

Late Business License Hearing – Midwest Tree Works – Mr. Enriquez didn't know he needed. Ms. Lisa Serrano states this would be for a home business and he was unaware. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to waive late fee; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-338)

Resident Lori Stofcik, 1803 Brown Ave. – Strack's loading dock issue. Ms. Stofcik states that the loading dock was installed after they bought the house. Her husband previously took care of this matter. She provided photos of incidents with the house, meters and guardrails. Mr. Button states they will take a look into the background of this and help come up with a solution. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to set status for July 10, 2025 and refer to Engineering, Police Department, Zoning and Inspections Department; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-339)

Under Old Business, Status – 7235-41 Calumet – Mr. Smith states the owner has the proper documents, need gas and water removed. Inspector Polak states Area Plumbing will be removing the water and gas lines and then can move forward and that Mr. Petersen requested a continuance by agreement. Mr. Smith does not object. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to set status for July 10, 2025; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Status – 51 Webb – Demolition Hearing. Tax Sale Purchaser Mr. Abdullah appears and redemption date for Mr. Abdullah doesn't end until this September. Mr. Smith presents photos and states concerns of the neighbors, back shed is in terrible condition and an ongoing problem not necessary Mr. Abdullah's fault but her purchased a certificate and the Deed probably won't be issued until early 2026 so concerns from now until then on a remedy on this property and the city's position is to affirm the demolition. Mr. Abdullah states he didn't look at the property until after and would like to try to rehab it. In the meantime, he can cut the grass, take out the shed, maintain the outside. Mr. Long states there have been many complaints by the neighbors. Mr. Smith requests to affirm the order. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to affirm the order and set for status on July 10, 2025; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-340)

Status – 5217 Hohman – Owner Mike states they have secured the panels and have a canopy for protection. Mr. Smith states there is a current demolition order but wants to confirm they did get notice on the current owner. Owner would like to move forward and will provide some plans. Mr. Smith's concerns are the environmental report and whether the water is impairing the building structurally and would encourage he talk with HDEM on his opinions and concerns. Mr. Kearney should advise the Board if work is being done by next week. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to set for status on July 10, 2025; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Under Rental Registration Hearings, 6540 Grand Ave. – Owner appears. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to waive the late fee; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-341)

1670 174th Pl. - Owner appears via Zoom. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to waive the late fee; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-341)

6931 White Oak Ave. - Owner appears. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to waive the late fee; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-341)

1648 171st Pl. - Owner appears. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to waive the late fee; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-341)

6913 Northcote - Owner appears. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to waive the late fee; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-341)

7216 Woodlawn - Owner appears. Motion by Ms. Greenwell to waive the late fee; seconded by Mr. Kalina. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 25-341)

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion by Ms. Greenwell to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Kalina. The regularly scheduled meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

APPROVED:

BY: _____
Jeffery Long, President

ATTEST:

_____
Linda Norville, Board Secretary