

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
MINUTES OF JUNE 3, 2021

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety convened at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 3, 2021. A roll call was taken: Mr. Margraf - present Mr. Long – present; Mr. Perez – present.

Motion by Mr. Long to defer the minutes of the meetings of April 29, 2021; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Correspondence received from Gatlin Plumbing & Heating, Inc. requesting lane closure of the eastern northbound Columbia Avenue lane in front of the Hammond Sanitary District to tap an existing cast iron water main the week of June 7 through June 11, 2021. Mr. Mark Gordish, Engineering Department said the work is being done for a Sanitary District project. Motion by Mr. Long; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 21-311)

Correspondence received from Mr. Gerardo Pineda requesting a rental registration hearing set for June 10, 2021 be continued to July 8, 2021 as he will be out of town. Motion by Mr. Long to reset this matter for hearing to July 8, 2021; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 21-312)

Correspondence received requesting a rental registration hearing. Motion by Mr. Long to set this matter for hearing on July 8, 2021; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 21-313)

Correspondence received from Mr. Nelson Armijo, 54 172nd Street, requesting permission for street closure on 172nd Street to Forest Avenue on Saturday, June 12, 2021 from noon to 6:00 p.m. for a birthday party. Motion by Mr. Long; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 21-314)

Under Matters from Board Members, Mr. Margraf received Right of Way Permits submitted by the Engineering Department. Motion by Mr. Long; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 21-315)

Mr. Kevin Smith, Corporation Counsel, requested approval of the Sweeping Services Contract from INDOT. Mr. Smith said the City of Hammond will sweeping State owned streets and will be reimbursed for the cost by the State. Motion by Mr. Long; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 21-316)

Mr. Kevin Smith, Corporation Counsel, then advised that the Park Board approved the use of Martin Luther King Park to be use by the senior class of Hammond High School for a picnic. Mr. Smith then said the Park Department will send an acknowledgement to the Board so the Police

Department can be notified.

Under Matters from Other Department Heads/Their Representatives, Mr. Gordish received a Right of Way Permit for 173rd Street and McCook Avenue to replace two (2) gas distribution emergency valves with the work lasting for five (5) to eight (8) days. Motion by Mr. Long; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 21-317)

Under New Business, plat of the Erie Industrial Addition to the City of Hammond submitted for signature. Motion by Mr. Long; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 21-318)

Notice of Violation hearing on property located at 2115 Lincoln Avenue. Property owner, Ms. Nicole Vasquez, appears. Mr. Chris Pajdzik, Inspector, Code Enforcement, appears. Mr. Pajdzik said there are two (2) units in this property which was built as a single-family home. Mr. Pajdzik said there is no fire separation and permits were not issued to convert the property. Ms. Vasquez said she has owned the property since 1998, it has always been a two (2) unit but one (1) of the units is currently vacant. Mr. Pajdzik said a kitchen gas line needs to be taken out and capped and one (1) of the NIPSCO meters must be removed. Ms. Vasquez asked how get into the second floor as there is no stairway inside. Mr. Farrell said there has to be a staircase which was covered up during the time the second apartment was being converted. Mr. Farrell also said zoning restrictions may not allow a two (2) unit apartment at this address. Ms. Vasquez said she has paperwork to show the second apartment can exist which she gave to Mr. Smith. Ms. Vasquez then asked who would pay for the permits and the work to be done in the property as she has lived there since 1998, inspectors have been inside her house and never said anything about the additional unit. Mr. Smith said the paperwork she supplied refers to rental registration, an electrical permit and a mechanical permit. Mr. Smith said the property is now on the City's radar and the violations must be remedied. Ms. Vasquez asked if an inspector could look at the property and determine where the hidden stairs are. Mr. Smith said the City will work with her. Motion by Mr. Long to set this matter for status on August 5, 2021; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 21-319)

Rental registration hearings on property located at 5709 Erie Avenue. Property owner appears. Mr. Nick Farrell, Commissioner, Code Enforcement, appears for the City. Mr. Farrell said this is a single-family home, owned since 2011, rental registration always paid timely and there is no homestead exemption on the property. Motion by Mr. Long to waive the late fee and assess rental registration of \$5 per unit for 2021; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Rental registration hearing on property located at 4940 Oak Avenue. Property owner appears. Mr. Farrell said rental registration has been paid time with the exception of 2021. Motion by Mr. Long to waive the late fee and assess rental registration of \$5 per unit for 2021; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Rental registration hearing on property located at 910 Murray Street. Property owner

appears. Mr. Farrell said 2021 is the only unpaid year. Motion by Mr. Long to waive the late fee and assess rental registration of \$5 per unit for 2021; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Rental registration hearing on property located at 3146 Kenwood Street, 6946 Marshall Avenue and 3407 163rd Street. Property owner appears. Mr. Farrell said rental registration has been paid timely and 2021 is due on all three (3) single family homes. Motion by Mr. Long to waive the late fee and assess rental registration of \$5 per unit for 2021; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Rental registration hearing on property located at 507 Highland Street and 6814 Colorado Avenue. Property owner appears. Mr. Farrell said 507 Highland Street is a one (1) unit and 6814 Colorado Avenue is a two (2) unit and both properties were purchased in 2020. Mr. Farrell then said an affidavit will need to be completed for a vacant unit at 6814 Colorado Avenue. Motion by Mr. Long to waive the late fee, assess rental registration of \$5 per unit and have an affidavit completed for the vacant unit; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Rental registration hearing on property located at 256 Vine Street, 1331 Sherman Street and 1327 Sherman Street. Property owner fails to appear. Motion by Mr. Long to assess the late fee of \$500 per unit and assess rental registration of \$5 per unit for 2021; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Rental registration hearing on property located at 822 Morris Street. Mr. Farrell requested no action be taken as the late fee was assessed at the Board meeting on April 22, 2021.

Rental registration hearings at (Ins. No. 21-320)

Agreement to Rehabilitate Property Located at 19 Webb Street. Mr. Smith requested approval. Motion by Mr. Long; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 21-321)

Garage Sale Permits submitted for approval. Motion by Mr. Long; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 21-322)

Under Old Business, status of property located at 3837 Cameron Avenue (garage). Property owner appears, said she has no money to make the repairs shown by the inspection done on May 21, 2021, has started a GoFundMe for money to make repairs and does check ReStore for any building materials needed often. Mr. Smith said an Agreement to Rehabilitate must be signed and repairs made to code specifications. Mr. Smith then suggested the property owner check with the Community Development loan program and also Hammers for Hearts. Motion by Mr. Long to set this matter for status on July 15, 2021; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 21-323)

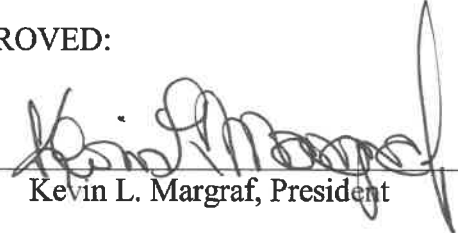
Status of property located at 4407 Baltimore Avenue. Property owner fails to appear. Mr. Farrell said Adult Protective Services has been notified of the condition of the building that the property owner lives in and the property is in demolition condition. Mr. Farrell then said he will conduct an Authority to Inspection with property and request a Hammond police officer accompany him. Motion by Mr. Long to set this matter for status on August 5, 2021; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 21-324)

Under Meeting Opened to the Public, 3rd District Councilman Barry Tyler said he has talked with the owner of the church at 1103 Morris Street who said the church plans on rebuilding after demolition is done. Mr. Tyler then said the church is aware a lien will be placed on the property and also requested the ability to go inside the church to retrieve the organ. Mr. Farrell said it is a priority to demolish. Mr. Smith said the organ may be retrieved.

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion by Mr. Long to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. The regularly scheduled meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

APPROVED:

BY:


Kevin L. Margraf, President

ATTEST:


Lynn Laviolette, Secretary