

**HAMMOND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF JANUARY 4, 2021**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hammond Capital Improvement Board of the City of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana was held on January 4, 2021 at 6pm.

Chairman/President Dean Button presided.

Clerk Joann Textor facilitated.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Flores, Kruszynski, Prieto, Spitale, Venecz, Button

**ABSENT:** Tyler

**TOTAL:** 6

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Chairman/President Button – asked that the board carry forward with the officers as were originally presented.

**CONSIDERATION OF PAST MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner Kruszynski, supported by Commissioner Prieto, moved to approve the minutes from December 7, 2020.

**ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Flores, Kruszynski, Prieto, Spitale, Venecz, Button

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** Tyler

Motion Carried

6/0/1

MINUTES APPROVED

**REPORT ON WORK STUDY SESSION**

Chairman/President Button – stated that they went over what was on the agenda for the meeting. Talked about that there was consideration of the possibility of moving the work study and meeting up an hour, work study session would be at 4pm and the regular meeting at 5pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month. Talked about project selection and ideas for consideration from board. Had a brief discussion about cost savings for the Hessville bridge.

**FUNDING**

Commissioner Flores – stated they were currently wrapping up 2020 funds to see if there are any leftover funds that remained unallocated, the Mayor would like to see a portion of those funds go to the Capital Improvement Board. Stated the anticipated 2021 budget amount is \$11.5 million.

**MATTERS FROM MAYOR, COUNCIL AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS**

Councilman Torres – asked if the Councilmembers could have a list of projects and upcoming projects?

MATTER FROM MAYOR, COUNCIL AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS cont.

Chairman/President Button – stated yes, Councilmembers may have a copy of the list. Also, even if a project is on the list that a Councilmember is interested in having done, they still should submit a letter regarding interest in having that project done.

Councilman Torres – talked about the project at Indianapolis and Michigan St and stated that the project is really needed.

Chairman/President Button – he confirmed that they applied for federal funding for a right-hand turning lane heading northbound Indianapolis and eastbound Michigan at Indianapolis and Michigan St. and that project is in design right now.

Chairman/President Button – brought up the correspondence that Councilman Emerson had put in the packets. It's requesting continuation of the project for the 7500-7600 blocks of Van Buren.

Commissioner Kruszynski – stated that there was no dollar amount on Councilman Emerson's correspondence. He asked if the Engineering Department could give a, best guess, on how much the next phase of the project would cost?

Chairman/President Button – he stated that the rule of thumb is that it's about a \$1 million a block for reconstruction.

Councilman Torres – asked what is the process for submitting a project, just a letter to the board?

Chairman/President Button – stated yes, it would be best to have it in writing.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

FUNDING ALLOCATION – Chicago Street Phase 2 Construction Engineering (CE)  
in the amount of \$616,583.26

Commissioner Prieto, supported by Councilwoman Venecz, moved to approve the funding allocation for Chicago Street Phase 2.

Commissioner Kruszynski – stated that this is to be coming to American Structure Point.

Chairman/President Button – added that the project is for full-time observation by the consult, it is an 80/20 match, 80% funded by federal highway funds and 20% local match. It will be spread out over about 18 months, perhaps even longer.

ROLL CALL (Chicago Street phase 2)

AYES: Flores, Kruszynski, Prieto, Spitale, Venecz, Button

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Tyler

Motion Carried

6/0/1

FUNDING ALLOCATION APPROVED

NEW BUSINESS cont.

FUNDING ALLOCATION – Chicago Street Phase 2 Construction Local Match in the amount of \$905,115.60

Councilman Spitale, supported by Commissioner Kruszynski, moved to approve the funding allocation for Chicago Street Phase 2 Construction Local Match.

Commissioner Flores – stated that part of the State requirements in 2018 will be half of our MVH distribution was required to be set into a Sub Fund and used directly towards Capital Improvements. So, this full cost of \$905,115.60 will not be paid out of the Gaming Funds, it will be paid out of the MVH Sub Funds.

Commissioner Kruszynski – stated that this is the 20% match for the construction project that is being run by the Indiana Department of Transportation.

Chairman/President Button – stated that the contractor that has been awarded the work is Walsh & Kelly.

ROLL CALL (Chicago Street phase 2 local match)

AYES: Flores, Kruszynski, Prieto, Spitale, Venecz, Button

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Tyler

Motion Carried

6/0/1

FUNDING ALLOCATION APPROVED

Commissioner Kruszynski, supported by Commissioner Flores, moved for suspension of rules to move back to item number 8.

AYES: ALL

Councilman Emerson – spoke about his letter of correspondence on behalf of the residents of the 7500/7600 blocks of Van Buren Avenue, for help in rebuild of sewers, sidewalks, curbs, aprons, handicapped accessible ramps at intersections, ornamental lighting and anything else that would be deemed necessary.

Chairman/President Button – asked Councilman Emerson if he feels he could help financially on this project in any way?

Councilman Emerson – he stated that he would help in any way possible.

Councilwoman Venecz – asked if you have any idea of how much this project would be?

Chairman/President Button – stated that his general rule of thumb is \$1 million a block. That would include engineering both design and CE. If this is a block and a half, about \$1.5 million.

Councilwoman Venecz – asked Councilman Emerson if he has discussed this project with regards to sewers and cost sharing?

Councilman Emerson – stated that in his letter in 2012 the cost was \$800,000, but that was for one block.

Chairman/President Button – stated that they are trying to figure out how to handle this with sharing costs. Thank you for your letter, Councilman, and it will be added to our list of projects.

MATTERS FROM MAYOR, COUNCIL AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS cont.

Councilman Emerson – thanked the Board and stated it has been on his agenda for quite some time.

Commissioner Kruszynski, supported by Councilwoman Venecz, moved to return to regular order of business. AYES: ALL

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

Ron Perry – Hammond. Asked when are they going to start on Alexander Street, before they start on Kennedy? The streets, curbs, etc., the streets are really bad.

Chairman/President Button – stated that there is no intent at this point in time to bid the project.

Ron Perry – added, so Kennedy comes first before Alexander?

Chairman/President Button – said that this Board will decide which project will come first.

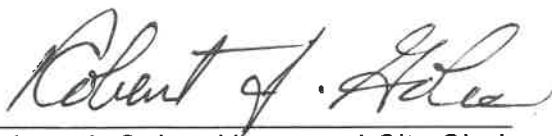
Ron Perry – Thank you.

Commissioner Kruszynski, supported by Commissioner Prieto, moved to adjourn. AYES: ALL

APPROVED:

  
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Dean Button, President  
Capital Improvement Board

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert J. Golec, Hammond City Clerk

Time: 6:35pm

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