

REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 20, 2007

The Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, met in REGULAR SESSION on Monday morning, February 20, 2007, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., in the Council Chambers, in the City Hall Building, located at 100 East Michigan Boulevard, Michigan City, Indiana - a regular meeting room of this Board.

The meeting was called to order by Anthony Metzcus, who presided.

Noted Present: Anthony Metzcus and Controller John Schaefer, Mayor Charles Oberlie (3)

Absent: None (0)

A QUORUM WAS NOTED PRESENT.

Also noted in attendance:

John Pugh, City Planner
Tyler Tarpley, Code Inspector
Cpl. Ken Havlin, Traffic Division
Jim Elwell, Superintendent
Jack Kahn, Street Director
Joe Siegel, Zoning Administrator
Ralph Martin, Fire Chief
Gale Neulieb, Asst. Deputy City Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Schaefer moved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 5, 2007, be approved with the notation that Counsel was absent. The motion was seconded by Mr. Metzcus and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0).**

STOP SIGN REQUEST

Nancy Gorske, 424 Washington Park Blvd. wrote the following on February 8, 2007:

I am concerned with the access road leading into Beachwalk off of Washington Park Blvd. To date I have almost been involved in an accident because people do not stop there. There is no stop or yield sign designating right of way.

Also the same situation occurs on Fairfield and the access road running the tracks into the South Shore parking lot, following Fairfield down and around and someone turning into the parking lot or coming out of parking lot have no right of way indicator.

Both of the areas are safety concerns to our travelers. Please consider action and results. Thank you for your time and concern and swift action.

There was a discussion between Mayor Oberlie and John Pugh, Director, Planning and Inspection Department regarding this matter,

Mayor Oberlie moved to refer to Engineering, Planning and Traffic Division for purpose of study. The motion, seconded by Mr. Metzcus, carried by the following vote: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie, and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0).**

REPAIR HEARING

111 Comb Street – Vasilios and Trudy Karallas, owners

Tyler Tarpley, Code Inspector reported the *Order to Repair* was issued on February 9, 2007 to Vasilios and Trudy Karallas, owners of 111 Comb Street. Mr. Tarpley stated the list of requirements need to be completed within the sixty (60) day time frame.

Trudy Karallas, owner of 111 Comb Street commented on resent vandalism and arson done to their properties. Mrs. Karallas requested an extension to the *Order to Repair* on the exterior repairs due to weather.

Mayor Oberlie moved to sustain the *Order to Repair* issued by the Inspection Department, understanding weather conditions may require an extension for the exterior work. Motion was seconded by Mr. Schaefer and carried by the following vote: **AYES: MEMBERS Schaefer, Metzcus, and Oberlie (3). NAYS: None (0).**

STATUS REPORT

910 Green Street, James and Millie Gast, owner

Tyler Tarpley, Code Inspector wrote the following on February 20, 2007:

A sixty day reprieve was given to Doris Gast, the wife of the owner, on December 28th, 2006 to make significant progress. Mrs. Gast stated that she would have the debris removed from the interior and exterior of the home to improve the appearance, remove the hazards, and prepare the house for the rehabilitation. In addition to cleaning and debris removal, she stated that the kitchen would be insulated and drywalled.

Since the last meeting, very little work has occurred. Most of the debris in the yard has been removed, but many items still remain stored outdoors. The interior of the house does not appear to have had any improvements completed.

The sixty day deadline is one week away, I have made multiple phone calls and left multiple messages with no response. With the board's permission I will send notice that a bid will be awarded at the next meeting.

Tyler Tarpley, Code Inspector reported on the condition and status of 910 Green Street, that he had tried to contact the owners multiple times with no response. Mr. Tarpley stated that demolition bids were received on November 27, 2006.

City Attorney Espar advised the board his recommendation to 910 Green Street.

Mayor Oberlie moved that notification be provided to James and Millie Gast, owners of 910 Green Street by the Inspection Department that the Board is proceeding with demolition, seconded by Mr. Metzcus. The motion was carried by the following vote: **AYES: MEMBERS Schaefer, Oberlie, and Metzcus (3). NAYS: None (0).**

1028 E. 2nd Street – Blue Chip Casino, owner

Tyler Tarpley, Code Inspector reported that 1028 E. 2nd Street has been demolished by a private contractor.

2021 Buffalo Street – Zhi Jian Jiang and Hui Yue, Owner

Tyler Tarpley, Code Inspector stated the status of demolition to 2021 Buffalo Street.

Mayor Oberlie moved to authorize the Clerk to release the finance securities for the bid openings that were previously conducted on these properties, seconded by Mr. Metzcus. The motion was carried by the following vote: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie, and Schaefer (3). NAYS: (0).**

CONTRACT RENEWAL

Stacy Wiesner, Purchasing Administration, Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) wrote the following on February 8, 2007-02-21

This letter serves as a 120 day notice of intent to renew the contract that INDOT has with the City of Michigan City for Street sweeping. The price, terms and conditions remain unchanged and adhere to the original contract, purchase order # 06022000. This will be for the term period July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr. Schaefer moved to approve the request for the street sweeping contract between the city of Michigan City and Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), seconded by Mr. Metzcus. The motion carried by the following vote: **AYES: MEMBERS Schaefer, Oberlie, and Metzcus (3). NAYS: None (0).**

RETIREMENT

President Metzcus reported that the Board had received 35 year retirement notice from Chief Ralph Martin, Michigan City Fire Department and Thomas Pawlik, Michigan City Fire Department 39 year retirement notice. Mr. Metzcus congratulated them on their retirement.

Chief Ralph Martin, Michigan City Fire Department submitted their application and declaration for retirement to the Board to be recorded in the Clerk's Office.

Chief Martin stated the experiences the last decade has helped himself and the Department progress. Chief Martin stated changes in the department, functions, mutual aide with surrounding fire departments, different turn out gear to protect our firefighters, fire equipment, new fire stations/ there locations, response times. Chief Martin stated that he had never come before the board when he not was treated fairly and with great respect.

Mayor Oberlie commented that the retirement of these two (2) individuals reflects seventy-four (74) years of service to our community. Mayor Oberlie stated on behalf of the City, they wished them well. Mayor Oberlie also stated the procedures that will take place for replacing Chief Martin's position, that the Deputy Chief's will be responsible for operations of the department. Mayor Oberlie thanked Chief Martin for all he has done for the City and to Tom Pawlik as well.

CLAIMS AND PAYROLL

John Schaefer moved that the claims set forth in the Register of Claims (in possession of the City Controller) and appearing in the Register be severally allowed and ordered paid and proper warrants for payment thereof hereby ordered issued in the stated amounts to person(s) as set forth, and payrolls approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Metzcus and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie, and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None: (0).**

Page	Date	Amount
1 of 3	02/02/07	\$242,188.69
1 of 7	02/02/07	\$388,348.63
1 of 3	02/07/07	\$136,785.85
1 of 7	02/16/07	\$414,116.10

Allowance of claims as set forth in the Register of Claims as follows:

Page	Date	Amount
1 of 4	02/20/07	\$437,836.59

BOARD MEETING

President Metzcus stated that the Board needed to reschedule September 3, 2007 Board of Works meeting to Tuesday, September 4, 2007 due to Labor Days.

John Schaefer moved to reschedule the September 3, 2007 Board meeting to Tuesday, September 4, 2007, seconded by Mayor Oberlie. The motion was carried by the following vote: **AYES: MEMBERS Schaefer, Oberlie, and Metzcus (3). NAYS (0).**

STREET CLOSING

Johnny Stimley, 401 Franklin Square, wrote the following letter on February 15, 2007:

Looking to close Franklin Street from 10th to 4th Street on Saturday, March 10, 2007. It will be from 12:45 p.m. until about 1:45 p.m. for the St Patrick's Day Parade.

Thank you.

Cpl. Ken Havlin, Traffic Division stated the Saint Patrick's Day Parade has been an annual event and there has been no previous problems in the past years and recommended approval of the request.

Mayor Oberlie moved to approve the request for the Saint Patrick's Day Parade, seconded by Mr. Metzcus. The Motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Schaefer, and Oberlie (3). NAYS: None (0).

Debbie Williams, 1210 E. Michigan Boulevard thanked the Board for moving forward on the next building, 111 Combs Street.

Mayor Oberlie advised Ms. Williams that 110 Comb Street is under arson investigation, that is no longer a local case.

The presiding officer inquired whether there was anything else to be considered by the Board at this time and, there being none, declared the meeting ADJOURNED (approximately 9:41 a.m.).

Thomas F. Fedder, City Clerk

