

# REGULAR MEETING – DECEMBER 10, 2007

The Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, met in REGULAR SESSION on Monday, morning, December 10, 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, President; Mayor Charles Oberlie, Member; and John Schaefer, Member (3).

**Absent:** None (0).

## A QUORUM WAS NOTED PRESENT.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Schaefer moved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 26, 2007, be approved as printed. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Metzcus and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3).**  
**NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

Also noted in attendance:

John Espar, City Attorney and Board Counsel  
Bill Phelps, City Engineer  
Jack Kahn, Director, Streets  
Sgt. Mark Krauklis, Traffic Division, M.C.P.D.  
Cpl. Jeff Loniewski, Traffic Division, M.C.P.D.  
Charlie Cate, Superintendent, Central Maintenance  
Al Walus, General Manager, Sanitary District  
John Pugh, Director, Planning & Inspection  
Joe Siegel, Zoning Administrator  
Russ Hatfield, Code Inspector  
Dave Lamb, Fire Department  
Randy Novak, Fire Department  
John Jones, Emergency Management  
Ben Nietzel, Chief, M.C.P.D.  
Shelley Dunleavy, Personnel  
Jason Miller, The News Dispatch

Thomas Fedder, City Clerk  
Kim Sliwa, Assistant Deputy Clerk

### STATUS REPORTS

#### ORDERS TO DEMOLISH – 910 Green Street, Doris and James Gast, Owners

Russ Hatfield, Code Enforcement Officer, informed the Board of the status of this property. An Order to Demolish was put into place on this property on October 16, 2006. Mr. and Mrs. Gast were granted time to make repairs on this home in December of 2006; to date no repairs have been made. Throughout the Summer and Fall of 2007 Inspector Hatfield has been in contact with the Gasts' and they informed him that they had a buyer for this property. Inspector Hatfield repeatedly requested information be sent to him as to who the interested buyer was and what the intentions were for this property should it change hands; the Gasts' have yet to sent him any documentation in regards to a sale on this property. On November 26, 2007, Inspector Hatfield sent a certified letter to the Gasts' informing them of the City of Michigan City's intent to pursue the demolitions; this letter informed them that after ten (10) days upon receipt of the notice that demolition would be immediately scheduled. This time limit has expired with no contact from the Gasts'; the demolition bid submitted by Phelps Construction was accepted by the Board on December 28, 2006 in the amount of \$10,800. Inspector Hatfield has spoken with Robert Phelps of Phelps Construction and he has agreed to honor this bid; it is Inspector Hatfield's request that the Board allow Phelps Construction to schedule this demolition at the earliest possible date. The property has not been sold; and Doris Gast signed for the certified letter on November 29, 2007. Mayor Oberlie moved that the Board accept the recommendation; the motion was seconded by John Schaefer and carries as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie, and Schaefer (3).** **NAYS: None (0).**  
**Motion carries.**

### CORRESPONDENCE

The following letter was received in the Clerk's Office from Brent T. Soller, Director LaPorte County 911 Communication Center:

To Whom It May Concern,

On November 26, 2007 the LaPorte County Council agreed that the LaPorte County E-0-1-1 Regional Dispatch Center hire all of the City of Michigan City Dispatchers so all emergency agencies can be dispatched out of one location.

We anticipate the go-live date to be April 1, 2008 but this is tentative as some training will need to be completed and equipment transferred from Michigan City to LaPorte. To help with this transition we would like to present the Michigan City Dispatchers with a Dispatcher Transfer Agreement (a copy is enclosed) to start finding out who out of the nine (9) are actually interested in coming to LaPorte County. If a final decision by your committee could be expedited so this process could be started, it would be greatly appreciated.

We are hoping that you will work with our department in allowing this to occur as it will not only help out the City of Michigan City but all the citizens of LaPorte County.

Chief Ben Nietzel, Michigan City Police Department and John Jones, LaPorte County Councilman, addressed the Board with regards to this Dispatch Transfer Agreement. The agreement would be with the Michigan City Dispatchers that wish to take part of the merger with LaPorte County. Mayor Oberlie moved to clarified the Boards responsibilities to acknowledge and accept the communication from Mr. Soller’s office in terms of the offer to the Michigan City Dispatchers; and secondly authorize the Controller to put into writing the City’s commitments to the Dispatchers, specifically being those who transfer the City would be buying/paying for all their banked time (vacation, sick, etc...) and the City would continue to provide insurance coverage for the employees transferring until they are eligible for the County’s plan. The motion was seconded by John Schaefer and carries as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie, and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

The following letter was received in the Clerk’s Office from Richard Delco:

To the Board of Public Works and Safety:

I am a owner of a house and land on Pahs Road. The school on Pahs Road is building a parking lot that is so big the water from that area will flood Pahs Road. We need 3’ to 4’ drainage line down Pahs Road to Trail Creek. If this is not done Pahs Road will be flooded. Being a Plumber by trade I think this needs to be looked into and the school should put the sewer in for drainage for winter and summer rains.

Al Walus, General Manager, Sanitary District addressed the Board stating when his office receives notification from the Clerk’s office it will be reviewed and a report will be provided at a future meeting. Richard Delco addressed the Board regarding his concerns about this issue. Mayor Oberlie made the motion to refer to the Sanitary District; the motion was seconded by John Schaefer and carries as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie, and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

**APPROVAL OF CONTRACT**

Charlie Cate, Superintendent, Central Maintenance addressed the Board regarding a Side Letter of Agreement between the City of Michigan City and the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local #150 for the year 2008 regarding shift rotation and vacation selection. Mr. Cate requests that the Board approves this Addendum to the Contract. Mayor Oberlie made the motion; and it was seconded by John Schaefer and carries as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie, and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

**ACCEPTANCE OF AGREEMENT**

Shelley Dunleavy, Personnel Director addressed the Board stating that Midwest Eye Consultants and Dr. Golightly currently have an agreement with the City to perform eye examinations for the Police and Fire Departments, and CDL holders; they have agreed to continue to provide this service in 2008 for the same cost of \$27.00 per/exam. Mrs. Dunleavy requested that the Board accept this agreement. Mayor Oberlie made the motion to approve; the motion was seconded by Tony Metzcus and carries as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie, and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

**CLAIMS AND PAYROLL**

John Schaefer, City Controller 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) and/or firm(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). Motion carries.**

The Board signed: Payroll Items in Register of Claims for informational purposes (which Register is in the possession of the City Controller) as follows:

Page	Date	Amount
1 of 8	12/7/2007	\$418,009.57
1 of 5	11/30/2007	\$386,422.53

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

Page	Date	Amount
1 of 8	12/10/07	\$3,449,152.34

**BRIDGE CLOSING**

The Board of Public Works and Safety received a Memo regarding the Official Closing of the Franklin Street Bridge to boat traffic from Saturday, December 1, 2007 at 6:00 a.m. and will re-open on Monday, March 12, 2008 at 6:00 a.m. Any boat traffic that needs the bridge opened will need to give 12 hours notice; and contact the LaPorte County 911 Center at (219) 362-6205 or (219) 879-6700 to provide advance notice.

**EXTENTION OF CONTRACT**

Bill Phelps, City Engineer addressed the Board regarding renewing the current contract with The Airmarking Co., Inc. for the 2008 Paving Program using the 2007 unit prices. Mr. Phelps recommended that the Board accept the proposal. John Schaefer moved to approve; Mayor Oberlie seconded the motion and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie, and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

**FIRE MERIT ELECTION**

Dave Lamb, Fire Chief, Michigan City Fire Department addressed the Board regarding the recent Fire Merit Commissioner Election that took place in November 2007. The Ordinance requires a Notice of Election posted at each of the stations; since this did not take place, a new election is necessary. The election will be held in the Clerks Office on Thursday, December 20, 2007. The Clerk’s Office was advised to prepare the notice; and the Fire Chief’s Office will be responsible for posting the notice at each of the fire stations. Mayor Oberlie made the motion; John Schaefer seconded the motion and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie, and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

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 9:25 a.m.)

---

Thomas F. Fedder, City Clerk