

SPECIAL MEETING – December 30, 2008

The Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Michigan City, Indiana met in SPECIAL SESSION on Tuesday morning, December 30, 2008, at the hour of 8:30 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.

Also noted in attendance:

Sgt. Jeff Loniewski, Traffic Division, M.C.P.D.
Jim Elwell, Superintendent, Central Services
Jack Kahn, Street Director, Central Services
Bill Phelps, City Engineer
John Pugh, Director, Planning and Inspection
Chuck Greis, Deputy Chief, M.C.F.D.
Shelley Dunleavy, Personnel Director

Gale Neulieb, City Deputy Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Schaefer moved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 15, 2008 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.**

CONTRACT EXTENSIONS

Boyd Phelps, City Engineer advised that the Board received a letter from Deutscher Construction requesting to renew the contract for the City sidewalk program for 2009. Mr. Phelps stated that Deutscher Construction would use the proposed unit price from 2008 for the 2009 City sidewalk program.

Mr. Phelps stated the Board also received a letter from Lakeshore Landscaping, Inc. requesting to renew their maintenance agreement for the 2009. (Franklin Street from Coolspring Avenue to 11th Street).

Mayor Oberlie made the motion to approve the extension for the 2009 contracts discussed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schaefer and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Schaefer, Oberlie and Metzcus (3). NAYS: None (0).**

CONTRACT

Chuck Greis, Deputy Chief, M.C.F.D. explained the execution of agreement for the refurbish of the 1995 Pierce Lance 100' PAP Platform truck between the Board of Public Works and Safety and Pierce Manufacturing, Inc. Refurbish Plant.

Deputy Greis advised Mr. Schaefer the total cost of the contract to refurbish the truck is \$336,330.00 and explained the warranty coverage.

John Schaefer made the motion to approve the agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Metzcus and carried as follows: **AYES; MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0).**

PERSONNEL

Shelley Dunleavy, Personnel Director addressed the Board on behalf of an employee, through the provisions of his contract between the City of Michigan City and Local Operating Engineers. Ms. Dunleavy stated he is requesting an unpaid leave of absence of up to ninety (90) days from his position due to an injury he sustained.

Ms. Dunleavy advised the Board the agreement made regarding his health insurance coverage.

Mayor Oberlie moved to accept the recommendation requesting an unpaid leave of absence of up to ninety (90) days. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schaefer and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0).**

CLAIMS AND PAYROLL

Mayor Oberlie, 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	12/17/2008	\$413,232.53
1 of 3	12/23/2008	\$249,024.53

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

Page	Date	Amount
1 of 4	12/29/2008	\$483,436.17

REQUEST FOR HANDICAP PARKING SIGN

405 E. 9th Street

The following correspondence was received in the Clerks Office on December 23, 2008, from Valarie Snyder, 405 E. 9th Street, M.C.:

I am handicap with a handicap license plate. On numerous occasions, neighbors and their visitors have been parking in front of our home, forcing me to park elsewhere. It would be best if my husband and I could park directly in front of our house.

If you need additional information, please call me at (219) 879-6327.

Sgt. Jeff Loniewski, Traffic Division, M.C.P.D. addressed the Board regarding this request, stating that he spoke to Ms. Snyder at her residence and that it does appear to be a valid request. Sgt. Loniewski asked for more time to review this matter with the Planning Department.

Mayor Oberlie moved to **TABLE** this matter until the next meeting (January 5, 2009). The motion was seconded by John Schaefer and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Schaefer, Oberlie and Metzcus (3). NAYS: None (0).**

John Pugh, Director, Planning & Inspection, presented the following report regarding the lighting on Kiefer Road:

Street lighting

400 North from Cleveland Ave to 1100W/Hitchcock St.

'08

Existing Conditions:

- There are 54 poles total on the northern edge of 400N.
- Pole setbacks vary from seven (7) feet to 20'.
- Most poles have been recently installed due to roadway remodel.
- Only three poles are lamped through NIPSCO; two (2) recent installs on intersection 421/Franklin St. and one (1) at intersection with Southwind Dr..

Suggestions:

Not to show favoritism towards private sector; suggest lamp installations at following locations due to various reasoning.

Traveling from the East:

- Pole # 951/508 pre-Cleveland Ave. intersection.
- Pole # 961/552 post-Cleveland Ave. intersection.
- Pole # 951/754 road condition change.
- Pole # 951/751 mid-distances between Wal-Mart entries.
- Pole # 242/963 to assist illumination of Stop sign near Wal-Mart entrance.
- Pole # 242/964 mid-distances between Holiday-Inn entries.
- Pole # 950/643 road condition change.
- Pole # 226/467 Ohio St. intersection.
- Pole # 229/100 to assist illumination of future placement of "lane merges" signage.

Mayor Oberlie moved to authorize the Clerk's Office to submit the necessary letter to NIPSCO for the lighting/poles mentioned in the Planning Departments report. Motion was seconded by John Schaefer and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie, and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0).**

Sgt. Jeff Loniewski, Traffic Division, M.C.P.C. addressed the Board regarding the speed limit on Kiefer Road, stating that Bill Phelps, City Engineer has had conversations with the County and has arrived at 35 MPH compromise. Sgt. Loniewski requested that the Board give their approval to allow the 35MPH speed limit signs be placed on the City's portion of Kiefer Road as soon as possible.

John Schaefer moved to approve the speed limit signs that are needed on Kiefer Road. Motion was seconded by Mayor Oberlie and carried as follows: **AYES: Members Schaefer, Oberlie and Metzcus. NAYS: None (0).**

John Schaefer advised the City would be changing carriers regarding cell phone service. Mr. Schaefer presented the following amendment regarding the cell phone policy in the Employee Hand Book:

The City's cell phone policy will be amended to include the following:

Text messaging is NOT provided by the City. Any City employee that desires that feature will be required to fully reimburse the City at the rate charged by the provider.

Any City employee that desires a multi-function cell phone (i.e., Blackberry) must first obtain approval of the Mayor. If the Mayor's approval includes internet access, the City and employee will share in the cost equally based on the rate charged by the provider.

If an employee wishes to purchase the phone from the City upon retirement or Other voluntary separation of employment, the employee will pay the City an Amount based on the age and original cost of the phone (less than 1 year = 100%, 1 year but less than 2 years = 80%, 2 years but less than 3 years = 50%, 3 years and older = 20%).

John Schaefer made the motion to approve the amendment. The motion was seconded by Mayor Oberlie and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Schaefer, Metzcus and Oberlie (3). Nays: None (0).**

DISPOSITION OF GRIEVANCE

Mayor Oberlie stated the Board of Public Works and Safety held a grievance hearing on December 15, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. relating to an issue in Municipal Coach Department. Mayor Oberlie moved to accept the recommendation advised by the Attorney, the finding of facts, conclusion and decision should be termination. The motion was seconded by John Schaefer, carried by the following vote: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Schaefer, and Oberlie (3). NAYS: None (0).**

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 8:50 a.m.).

Thomas F. Fedder, City Clerk