

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 27, 2024

The Board of Public Works and Safety met for a regular session at the Nancy J. Dembowski Community Center on Wednesday, November 27, 2024, at 9:30 A.M. CST with the following members present: Mayor Dennis Estok; Clerk-Treasurer Cyndi Kidder, and Board Members Steve Dodge, Jim Collins and City Attorney Justin Schramm.

RE: AMENDMENT TO AGENDA

Steve Dodge made a motion to add the Approval of New Officer to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Jim Collins and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES REGULAR MEETING 10/23/24

Minutes of the previous regular meeting were mailed to the Board Members prior to the meeting for their review. Steve Dodge made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Jim Collins and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: APPROVAL OF THE NEW OFFICER-DEREK RUSSELL

Chief of Police Chad Dulin informed the Board of his recommendation for the hiring of a new officer, Derek Russell. Steve Dodge made a motion to approve the hiring of the new officer. The motion was seconded by Jim Collins and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: SUPERINTENDENTS REPORTS

Street Superintendent Jeff Borg informed the Board that the City was awarded the CCMG for Street Paving, \$419,000.00. Leaf pickup is coming to an end, not many people are out racking now. Next week they will start getting all the power equipment and plows ready for winter and snow.

Water Superintendent Tim Lindewald informed the board that the water crew and himself have completed 84-meter replacements. They closed and winterized all the parks for the winter season. A & M repaired Well House #3, there was a crack in the cement ceiling. The water crew helped with the Christmas Lights in Wythogan park and have been clearing some wooded areas for the new Well Project. The crew has all completed their monthly duties including locates, work orders, painting and cleaned 7 pits.

Sewer Superintendent Jason Clemons informed the Board that OBIC completed lining 11 manholes. The sewer crew finished up land applying liquid biosolids and sent samples to Element Lab in Fort Wayne for testing. They changed the bad pump off float at the McGill Lift Station and completed 4 work orders to check the City's sewer mains. The Kruz's Lift Station needs new pumps and a new control panel. The cost of the pump replacement project is \$24,723.00. Jim Collins made a motion approving the funds for the pump replacement project. The motion was seconded by Steve Dodge and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

Building and Code Compliance Director Lonnie Boley informed the Board that so far in 2024 he has compiled a list of 89 landlords, issued 103 building permits and has 28 properties under the unsafe enforcement.

Police Chief Chad Dulin asked the board for permission to purchase 5 new laptops for \$16,000.00 for the squad cars, and body cameras and in car cameras. The body cams and in car cams will be paid for mostly with a \$25,000.00 grant the department received from Northern Indiana Community Foundation. Jim Collins made a motion approving the \$16,000.00 purchase for the laptops plus the difference of about \$10,000.00 for the body cams and in car cams purchase. The motion was seconded by Steve Dodge and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: 2025 WATER AND SEWER BUDGETS

Mayor Estok presented the 2025 Water and Sewer Budgets to the Board. Steve Dodge made a motion approving the 2025 Water and Sewer Budgets. The motion was seconded by Jim Collins and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: 253 E WASHINGTON STREET – REVIEW

Building and Code Compliance Director Lonnie Boley updated the Board about 253 E Washington Street. The property is 90% complete, according to Director Boley it looks so good and is in compliance. Director Boley recommended the Board suspend or hold the \$2,500.00 assessed fee. The property owner will complete the 10% that is not done. The fee was not recorded. No action was taken at this time.

RE: 305 – 307 E JOHN AND 104 S PRETTYMAN APARTMENT 5

Director Boley updated the Board that the owner was assessed a \$15,000.00 (\$5,000.00 each building) fee for willful non-compliance on the unsafe order. The owner was not present, two tenants were present. A long discussion was held. Steve Dodge made a motion to deem the properties as condemned. The motion was seconded by Jim Collins and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: 351 E WASHINGTON STREET – REVIEW

Director Boley gave an update to the Board. The owner is cleaning it up piece by piece, and the property will stay under enforcement. No action was taken at this time.

RE: 2026 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

MAYOR Estok Presented the 2025 Holiday Schedule to the Board. Steve dodge made a motion approving the schedule. The motion was seconded by Jim Collins and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

2025 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

JANUARY 1st WEDNESDAY - NEW YEAR'S DAY 2025

20TH MONDAY - MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

FEBRUARY 17TH MONDAY - PRESIDENT'S DAY

MARCH NONE

APRIL 18TH FRIDAY – GOOD FRIDAY

MAY 26th MONDAY - MEMORIAL DAY

JUNE NONE

JULY 4th FRIDAY - INDEPENDENCE DAY

AUGUST NONE

SEPTEMBER 1st MONDAY - LABOR DAY  
OCTOBER 13th MONDAY - COLUMBUS DAY  
NOVEMBER 11th TUESDAY – VETERAN’S DAY  
27TH THURSDAY - THANKSGIVING DAY  
28th FRIDAY – DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING  
DECEMBER 24th WEDNESDAY - CHRISTMAS EVE  
25th THURSDAY – CHRISTMAS DAY  
JANUARY 1st THURSDAY – NEW YEARS DAY 2026  
\*\*OCT. 31st, 2025, THURSDAY - TRICK OR TREAT HRS. 5:30-7:00 P.M

RE: 2025 BOW MEETING SCHEDULE

Mayor Estok presented the Board of Works Meeting Schedule to the Board. Steve Dodge made a motion approving the schedule. The motion was seconded by Jim Collins and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and no (0) nays.

2025 BOARD OF WORKS MEETINGS  
PLACE: KNOX CITY HALL  
TIME: 9:30 A.M.

\*\*Regular meetings held 4th Wednesday of each month\*\*

WEDNESDAY – JANUARY 22  
WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 26  
WEDNESDAY – MARCH 26  
WEDNESDAY – APRIL 23  
WEDNESDAY – MAY 28  
WEDNESDAY – JUNE 25  
WEDNESDAY –JULY 23  
WEDNESDAY –AUGUST 27  
WEDNESDAY –SEPTEMBER 24  
WEDNESDAY –OCTOBER 22  
WEDNESDAY – NOVEMBER 26  
WEDNESDAY– DECEMBER 24 (Subject to change)  
Board of Works Approved: November 27, 2024

RE: CITIZENS COMENT

Mathew Zink asked the Board for permission to enter his property to retrieve some of his belongings. The Board said it must be supervised by an officer, and he will need to coordinate with Director Boley to have this completed by December 11h.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time the meeting upon motion was duly adjourned.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Estok, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cyndi Kidder, Clerk-Treasurer