

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
REGULAR MEETING
February 26, 2025

The Board of Public Works and Safety met for a regular session at the Knox City Hall on Tuesday, February 26, 2025, at 9:30 AM CST. With the following members present: Mayor Dennis Estok; Clerk-Treasurer Cyndi Kidder, and Board Members Steve Dodge and Jim Collins, City Attorney Justin Schramm was absent.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES REGULAR MEETING 1/22/25

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: SUPERINTENDENTS REPORTS

Water Superintendent Tim Lindewald informed the Board the water crew has been working on maintaining the water plant. They have also been changing out many meters.

Street Superintendent Jeff Borg informed the Board that he ordered new risers for all the storm drains on the CCMG paving streets. The 4th load of road salt is coming next week. The Street crew is always working on their daily duties.

Knox Police Chief Chad Dulin informed the Board that officer Nathan Chambers completed and passed all requirements to be promoted to 1st Class Patrolman. Jim Collins made a motion to promote Nathan Chambers to 1st Class Patrolman. The motion was seconded by Steve Dodge and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays. Chief Dulin purchased two black 2022 Tahoe's, they are fully equipped. The RDC paid for one vehicle and the other one was paid for by Police Department Funds. Chief Dulin also spoke about our newest officer Derek Russell, he came to us already as a trainer for officers, so he is a vital asset. January the department had 551 calls.

RE: JW HICKS - VACATION OF WATER /SEWER LINES ETC

Representatives of J.W. Hicks and Bob Alois with J.P.R. came before the Board updating them on their improvement projects and asked for approval of different aspects of these plans.

A motion was made by Steve Dodge approving the vacation of the water line per blueprint plus adding a blowout as specified by Water Superintendent Lindewald. The motion was seconded by Jim Collins and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

A motion was made by Steve Dodge recommending to the City Council for an approval for the right of way usage. The motion was seconded by Jim Collins and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

A motion was made by Mayor Estok recommending the BZA for approval of the variances needed by J.W. Hicks. The motion was seconded by Steve Dodge and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

A motion was made by Jim Collins for the removal of the storm drain and replace with a 10" line and 2 manholes per specs on the blueprints. The motion was seconded by Steve Dodge and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

Mayor Estok will have the City Attorney Justin Schramm contact J.W. Hicks about the tax abatement process.

RE: 308 E JOHN STREET – PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Estok opened the Public Hearing. The owner was not present. The owner had the sewage cleaned up and lines repaired by February 3rd, 5 days after the order was issued. The owner also registered the property as a rental. A motion was made by Steve Dodge to close this case. The motion was seconded by Jim Collins and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays. Mayor Estok closed the Public Hearing.

RE: 101 W LAKE STREET – PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Estok opened the Public Hearing. Director Boley issued an order to vacate on February 5th due to a lady living in a camper on commercial zoned property. On February 12th a \$2,500.00 fine was issued for non-compliance. The camper was removed from the property on the 19th, the owner was present and stated he was only trying to help someone in need. Mayor Estok reminded the property owner that the property is zoned commercial only and that the issue is solved now with the removal of the camper. Steve Dodge made a motion to void the fine and close this case. The motion was seconded by Jim Collins and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays. Mayor Estok closed the Public Hearing.

RE: 109 S MCGILL – REVIEW

Director Boley updated the Board about the property's current issues. The owner's daughter lives here and was present. She informed the Board that she just needs more time to get the property cleaned up. Mayor Estok made a motion to hold any fines and to give her time until next month's meeting to get it taken care of. The motion was seconded by Steve Dodge and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: 202 N FISHER – TABLED – REVIEW

The case was tabled at the last meeting. The owner is deceased. The children have had no estate created, there has been no contact with them in 6 months. A civil penalty of \$2,500.00 was issued August 2024. This matter should be revisited when spring taxes are due. Jim Collins made a motion that Director Boley review this case with the City's Attorney. The motion was seconded by Steve Dodge and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: 53 W LAKE – TABLED – REVIEW

This case was tabled at the last meeting. The owner came into Director Boley's office on February 25th to reschedule the missed appointments for rental inspection.

RE: ADDITIONAL REVIEWS

Melvin Zeiters came in and paid his reduced fines. Director Boley recommends that he has fulfilled his part.

307 W Bender an order to vacate has been issued after the police tried to serve a warrant at the home. After that Director Boley was called in and it was named uninhabitable.

305 W John has had no water service since 2020 and Director Boley is still investigating, no action currently taken

18 S Main, the demo started today.

North of 18 S Main is currently being handled by lawyers.

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