

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
OCTOBER 24, 2018

The Board of Public Works and Safety met in regular session at the Knox City Hall on Wednesday, October 24, 2018 at 9:30 A.M. CST with the following members present: Mayor Dennis Estok; Clerk-Treasurer Jeff Houston; Board Members Steve Dodge and Jim Collins; and City Attorney Leslie Baker.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES REGULAR MEETING 9/26/18

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

RE: 8 S MAIN STREET – UNSAFE BUILDING

Building Commissioner, Kenny Pfof reported that he received a complaint on August 9th that the roof had collapsed inside 8 S Main. The building formerly housed the Independent Biker Association. He contacted the owner and set up an inspection. There was quite a bit of water damage to the first floor. An area the entire width of the building along the alley had collapsed into the basement. The ceiling in the apartment upstairs was gone. Pfof has sealed the building.

He spoke to the owner and they do not have insurance or the funds to repair or demolish the building.

Mayor Estok suggested putting the building under enforcement and hiring a structural engineer. He noted there may be money available under the Blight elimination Grant program or a program for rehabilitation, but he warned that a lot of qualifications would probably have to be met.

Steve Dodge made a motion to proceed with enforcement action under the unsafe building statutes and to hire an engineer. Jim Collins seconded the motion. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: 310 OSTRANDER COURT – UPDATE

Building Commissioner Kenny Pfof reported that 310 Ostrander is owned by Melvin Zieters. He said the yard is cleaned and cars removed. The renter has been evicted, but people have been inside. The home will be re-inspected before new tenants will be allowed to move in.

RE: 1 & 3 N MAIN STREET – UPDATE

Building Commissioner Pfof said the owner is continuing to do work on the building. There was a small claims court hearing on October 2nd. There will be a status hearing after the November Board of Works meeting. Steve Dodge stated that the owner needs to be aware that the small claims actions are for actions taken in the past and any actions from the hearing on could result in additional action by the City.

Fire Chief Pfof said he has talked to a couple of other Chiefs and fire escapes are to be kept free of rust. They are to be inspected every five years by a professional. There are load limits and rail height regulations. It may be pulling away from the building a little. City Attorney Baker said he has been notified that the fire escape needs to be inspected.

RE: 6 N PEARL – UPDATE

The owner of 6 N Pearl was present and gave an update on her progress on the property's rehabilitation.

She is still looking for a local contractor and seeking damages against the one she had working on the property. She said she hopes she can have a nice home when it is completed. New support will need to be added to safely shore up the upstairs. The Board asked her to keep in contact with Commissioner Pfof. Steve Dodge made a motion to renew the construction permit. Jim Collins seconded the motion. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
OCTOBER 24, 2018

RE: SUPERINTENDENTS REPORTS

MVH Superintendent, Jeff Borg reported he has checked the asphalt and the work that Globe Asphalt is doing at the street scape. He said the work is being done well and appears to be moving along well.

Leaf pick up has started and will be done on Mondays and Fridays each week until it snows.

The department is presently preparing their equipment for winter operations.

Jason Clemons gave the report for the Wastewater Department in the absence of the Superintendent. All planning for the grant application has been completed.

All manholes are presently being inspected and linings checked. Videos of the lines were taken, and the department is waiting for a report on the inspection.

The Ellis and Roosevelt lift station has been upgraded. New guide rails and mounting brackets were installed as well as two new pumps, a new panel and floats. One check valve will still need to be replaced.

The Pacific lift station will be the next one to be rebuilt, including installation of a bypass.

Acting Water Superintendent, Tim Vogelzang gave an update on Well #1. Efficiency has improved markedly since being rebuilt. The City should see savings on electrical bills also. Currently the department is flushing hydrants. All heaters are turned on at the well houses. He is getting various pieces of equipment ready for winter.

The inspection of the water towers has been completed. There is some internal damage to a ladder in the #2 Tower.

Police Chief Harold Smith gave a report on the two new hires for the force. Chuck Leonhardt has completed his 40 hours of pre-basic training with Chris Kisela. He is now on the street by himself patrolling.

Patrick McKee has completed his medical testing and psychological testing. He has been approved for PERF. He is looking for a 40-hour pre-basic class for him to train. They will both have one year to complete academy training.

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

Dennis Estok, Mayor

Attest: _____
Jeffery J. Houston, Clerk-Treasurer