

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
JULY 24 2019

The Board of Public Works and Safety met in regular session at the Knox City Hall on Wednesday, July 24, 2019 at 9:30 A.M. CST with the following members present: Mayor, Dennis Estok; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Boardmembers, Jim Collins, Steve Dodge, and City Attorney, Autumn Ferch.

RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Jim Collins made a motion to add "Update on 253 W. Locust" and "Amendment to Sludge Removal Contract" to the agenda. Steve Dodge seconded the motion. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

RE: 253 W LOCUST – UPDATE

City Attorney Autumn Ferch said the property owner of 253 W Locust (Mr. Givens) has hired an Attorney to represent him. His Attorney asked if the City could waive the fines and penalties if the owner complied with the order and cleaned up the property. The initial fine was \$400.00, and the second fine was \$500.00.

Jim Collins made a motion to have the City Attorney meet with the owners Attorney and offer to waive the fines pending clean up and approval of the work by August 26th.

Steve Dodge seconded the motion. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: AMENDMENT TO SLUDGE REMOVAL CONTRACT

Wastewater Superintendent, Kelly Clemons, requested a change to the sludge removal contract with J & K Excavating. She noted that when the original contract was signed the beds were too wet. Now that the beds have dried out, the fields are planted. Open fields are needed for application of the sludge. The contractor is going to have to transport it to fields by Monterey that have had winter wheat harvested from. The extra 21 miles will result in \$8,500.00 in additional costs to the contract.

Jim Collins made a motion, seconded by Steve Dodge to amend the contract with J & K Excavating to add an additional \$8,500.00. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: 204 W BENDER – UPDATE

City Attorney, Autumn Ferch said the Attorney representing the owner of 204 W Bender filed an appeal to the Board of Works order in the wrong court. The case will be transferred to Starke Circuit Court but is still pending.

RE: 6 N PEARL – UPDATE

Building and Code Compliance Director, Kenny Pfof said he has not heard from the owner of the property. Her last permit has expired. Steve Dodge made a motion to not grant any more renewals of the permit and to restart the enforcement process. Jim Collins seconded the motion. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: PART-TIME HELP – POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief, Harold Smith explained to the Board that he presently has three part time officers. He said they are often busy when they are needed for the City and as a result it results in an overtime situation for full time officers.

He requested that the Board allow him to hire two more part time officers. One is Adam Benke who is currently with the Culver Police Department and the other is Daniel Byrd who used to be an officer for the City. Jim Collins made a motion to approve the hiring of the two additional

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officers as part time help. Steve Dodge seconded the motion. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: SUPERINTENDENTS REPORTS

MVH Superintendent, Jeff Borg reported that he re-registered the composting facility with IDEM. The permit is for 5 years. Alysa Hopkins, the Permit Manager would like to come and do a site visit on August 1st.

The 2019 Community Crossing Matching Grant applications are being entered into the computer to be submitted to the State.

The Pavement Preservation Project has been completed by Rejuvtec.

The department has been crack sealing. Superintendent Borg and Jason Cornelius are attending a crack seal workshop July 25th.

Wastewater Superintendent, Kelly Clemons reported that one of the clarifiers had braces, seals, gaskets and bearings replaced. The new drawings for the Headworks Project will arrive on the 25th. Pre-bid requirements have been received. Bid opening will be next month.

Police Chief, Harold Smith said Resource Officer, Travis Schieber must attend Army Reserves starting July 29th and ending August 22nd. Officer Kisela and Chief Smith will cover his job.

Officer P.J. McKee will go for his physical on July 29th and will begin the Academy on August 5th for 15 weeks.

Building and Code Compliance Director, Kenny Pfof said he sent out three more notices of unsafe buildings. Two are vacant houses at 105 S Bower and 306 Lambert. The other building is 301 E Danker (Super Value Inn). They have 30 days to repair.

Nothing has been done yet to 13 N. Main (Republican Headquarters). They had 120 days to renovate. Kenny will contact Don White.

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