

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 22, 2022

The Board of Public Works and Safety met for a regular session at City Hall on Wednesday, June 22, 2022, at 9:30 A.M. CST with the following members present: Mayor Dennis Estok; Clerk-Treasurer Cyndi Kidder; Board Members Steve Dodge, Jim Collins, and City Attorney Autumn Ferch.

There is no amendment to the agenda.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING 5/25/22

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

RE: APPROVAL OF WORK SESSION MEETING 5/25/22

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

RE: BID OPENING – MOOSE LODGE

The bid opening is for the demolition of the Moose Lodge. Only one bid was received. Hill Excavating, their bid was \$144,639.00. Steve Dodge made a motion to take this bid under advisement. The motion was seconded by Jim Collins. The motion passed with a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: PUBLIC HEARING: 5 ½ B N MAIN ST

Mayor Estok opened the Public Hearing. Building and Code Compliance Director Ken Pfof informed the Board that he was requested to inspect the apartment at 5 ½ B N Main Street. The apartment was occupied, and he found it had no windows, no air conditioning, and no natural ventilation. These findings are against code and is considered unsafe. Director Pfof presented the tenants with an order to vacate. Director Pfof asked the Board to verify he was within his rights to do so. The owner was present and informed the Board that he bought the building that way and has someone trying to fix the air conditioning. The owner also said the tenants are being evicted for nonpayment. The tenants entered at this time and handed Director Pfof the keys to the apartment and left. The owner said he will not rent this apartment out anymore; he will use it as a storage space. Steve Dodge made a motion affirming Director Pfof's order to vacate was within his rights and the apartment shall no longer be allowed to be a rented space. 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: PUBLIC HEARING; 7 N BOWER ST

Mayor Estok opened the Public Hearing Building and Code Compliance Director Ken Pfof informed the Board this property has been under enforcement since 2019 and received special assessment in January 2022. The new owners appeared before the Board. Their plan was to rehab the property, however after further examining of the property the owners decided to demolish the house and keep the garage. The owners told the Boad they will get a permit to demolish right away. Steve Dodge made a motion that the house will be demolished, the garage will be rehabbed. The

demo is to be done within 60 days and the water and sewer services are to be retired. Jim Collins seconded the motion and motion passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays. Mayor Estok closed the Public Hearing.

RE: SUPERINTENDENTS REPORTS

Sewer Superintendent Jason Clemons updated the Board, his department has been busy mowing lift stations and right of ways. NIPSCO has been out twice fixing loss of power issues at lift stations. Sewer guys used the Vac Truck for cleaning, jetting and root cutting on lines and manholes. Superintendent Clemons had trees cut back along the lane to the Wastewater Plant. Sewer and Water Department finished installing the new water line and hydrant at the Wastewater Plant. The sewer crew replaced the motor on pump #1, manhole lid, filled a 20-yard dumpster with dried sludge and installed a rebuilt pump #2. CWG will set a delivery date and begin installation of new reeds next week.

Water Superintendent Tim Lindewald informed the Board the crew worked on 6: line at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Peerless will be cleaning well house #2 next week. The Water Crew is working on masking and covering pipe for painting. They have changed out 10 meters, repaired 2-meter pits, and fixed the water fountain at Sandy Acres Park.

Street Superintendent Jeff Berg informed the Board that his department has been doing summer mowing and weed eating at all City properties. They have been picking up lots of brush.

Chief of Police Harold Smith informed the Board that Officer Dave Comb's last day was June 16, he is going to the County. Officer Travis Schieber is back from deployment. Chief Smith let the Board know no part time officer will work, so full time Officers are covering hours with overtime. The Standard Operating Procedures for taking home police vehicles was discussed. Jim Collins made a motion approving the SOP for taking home police vehicles, to and from work and for in county travel only. The motion was seconded by Steve Dodge and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

Director of Parks and Recreation Karl Swihart informed the Board that the park has a full staff this week, they have not had one in a month. The skate park is done structurally and painting it tomorrow. Spraying the splash pad for mold and slime once a week. Park crew has been doing a lot of mowing and weed eating.

Building and Code Compliance Director Ken Pfof informed the Board that he has been doing a lot of follow up code enforcement. 253 E Washington Street is waiting on windows to come in.

Fire Chief Ken Pfof thanked the Street Superintendent Jeff Borg for lending the Fire Department the crack fuller machine so Southside Fire Station parking lot could be done. The department has received 4 applications so far. They had 15 calls this month and only 5 were medical.

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