

**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
MINUTES OF JULY 14, 2022**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety convened at 9:04 a.m. on Thursday, July 14, 2022, in the Council Chambers of Hammond City Hall. A roll call was taken: Mr. Margraf – present; Mr. Long – present; Mr. Perez – present.

Motion by Mr. Long to approve the Minutes of the meeting of July 7, 2022; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Under Correspondence, correspondence received from City Engineer, Dean Button requesting the approval of Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$74,422.00 for the 5th District Water Improvements – Schneider Avenue and 171st Street submitted for approval. Mr. Button advises not to sign green sheet, Water Department has agreed to pay for the work. Motion by Mr. Long to approve; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-423)

Correspondence received from the following Councilman requesting gaming funds be allocated to the Park Gaming Fund 2449: 4th District Councilman, Bill Emerson - \$5,000; 5th District Councilman, Dave Woerpel - \$25,000 and \$15,000; 6th District Councilman, Scott Rakos - \$25,000 and \$15,000; 2nd District Councilman, Pete Torres - \$25,000 and \$10,000 submitted for approval. Motion by Mr. Long to approve; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-424)

Correspondence received from Chief of Police, William Short, submitting the Petition for Retirement of Sergeant Tracy Betustak, who has served the citizens of Hammond for 27 years, effective the close of business on July 25, 2022; requesting Correctional Officer Antonio Villalobos receive the promotional raise due to him effective July 13, 2022; and advising that Sergeant Adam Clark was transferred from the CID/Detective Bureau to Internal Affairs effective July 7, 2022. Motion by Mr. Long to approve; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-425)

Correspondence received from Councilman Barry Tyler, Jr. requesting residential parking signs on the 2600 and 2700 blocks of 162nd Place submitted for approval. Motion by Mr. Long to set for status on August 4, 2022; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-426)

Correspondence received from Gariup Construction requesting lane restrictions on Indianapolis Blvd. on July 18, 2022 and July 19, 2022 for the Indianapolis Blvd. Planter Repair submitted for approval. Mr. Button states Port Authority requested the repair and the State has approved their lane restrictions. The Board acknowledges. (Ins. No. 22-427)

Correspondence received from Tom Dabertin, Chairman of Pierogi Fest requesting permission for street closures and parking bans for their Annual Pierogi Fest Parade scheduled

for Friday, July 29, 2022 with parade route attached. Additionally, requesting parking along the route be banned from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and parking ban notices be posted a day prior to the event. Motion by Mr. Long to approve; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-428)

Correspondence received from Brian Miller, Director of Public Safety, Purdue University Northwest requesting permission to have outdoor music on August 18, 2022 and August 19, 2022 in the parking lot area at the University Village Housing Area for their “move-in” days. Motion by Mr. Long to approve; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-429)

Correspondence received from David Pustek, 2523 New York Avenue, requesting permission to place a removable garden shed in his driveway that crosses the parkway, it will not obstruct sidewalk. Mr. Pustek is present and asks for this approval. After much discussion, Mr. Smith suggests that an agreement for right of encroachment with the terms, times, description and location be signed. Motion by Mr. Long to set for status on August 4, 2022; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-430)

Correspondence received from resident Villegas requesting permission to close part of 4400 block of Hickory for a bounce house on July 17, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. for a wedding celebration. Mr. Smith states no bounce house allowed in the street and requests proof of insurance from vendor. Motion by Mr. Long to approve closure and no bounce house in street; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-431)

Under Matters from Board Members, Mr. Long advises NIPSCO states they will be working on Sohl Avenue to replace poles and has notified the residence. Mr. Button has no objections but would like them to complete a right-of way permit. He will notify them to give them approval and ratify next week.

Under New Business, Insurance Services Agreement submitted by Controller’s Office. Motion by Mr. Long to approve; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-432)

A Resolution of the Board of Public Works & Safety of the City of Hammond, Indiana, Regarding an Interlocal Agreement Between Itself and the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission with supporting Agreement. Mr. Smith states Dan Repay is present and the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission has agreed to give the city \$1M for the pedestrian bridge. Motion by Mr. Long to approve; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. Res. No. 4112 (Ins. No. 22-433)

Demolition hearings regarding the following properties: 726 167th Street (garage) Mr. Smith states the owner is Douglas Meding and the garage needs a new roof, door is in despair, broken windows on side and facial is missing in spots. Attorney Poracky and Mr. Meding appear

via Zoom. Mr. Poracky states his client is pursuing contractors and is finding it difficult because of the up charging with materials and wants to do the work himself. Mr. Kearney states he can do the work himself as a homeowner. Mr. Smith requests the Findings and Order be approved but will stay the Order for 90 days. Motion by Mr. Long to affirm, stay the Order for 90 days and set for status on September 8, 2022; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-434)

7944 Bertram Avenue (garage) – Mr. Smith states the owner is Robert Harry Sampson Trust and the garage appears to be a wood garage with missing windows, roof is in significant disrepair and the wood siding is lacking paint and a hole where the door was. Owner has been notified. Motion by Mr. Long to affirm the Order; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-434)

7336 Jackson Avenue (garage) – Self demolished. No action.

6547 Madison Avenue (garage) – Mr. Smith states owner is listed as Jean Seliger at the same address. The garage is in significant disrepair, including hole in the roof, fascia exposed, fence knocked down into the alley, overgrowth and collapsed roof. Owner has been notified. Motion by Mr. Long to affirm order and set for status on July 28, 2022; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-434)

36 Mason Street (garage) - Mr. Smith states the owner is listed as Mazella and Corsette Mays at the same address. The garage appears to be in need of a paint job, holes in the roof and roof has collapsed. Property owner present and states it does need to be repaired but doesn't have the money to repair it and has notified insurance company to see what they can do. Motion by Mr. Long to affirm order and set for status on September 8, 2022; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-434)

1524 Michigan Street (garage) – Mr. Smith states the owner is listed as Marvell Garrett at the same address and that the house appears to be in good shape but the garage roof has collapsed. Motion by Mr. Long to affirm Order; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-434)

7105 Missouri Avenue (garage) – Self demolished. No action.

6720 Ontario (garage) – Mr. Smith states the owner is listed as Virginia Blank at the same address. The garage appears to be in general disrepair including missing soffit, sagging roof line above the garage door, wall bowing out, appears to have an illegal fence erected around the garage. Motion by Mr. Long to affirm Order; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-434)

861 Wilcox (garage) – Mr. Smith states the owner is listed as John and Linda Hawthorne at 901 Wilcox. The garage is in terrible shape, roof has a hole, collapsing, no door and is rotting.

Motion by Mr. Long to affirm Order; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-434)

Right of Way Permits (2) submitted for approval from Engineering Department. Motion by Mr. Long to approve; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-435)

Amusement Devices submitted for approval from Controller's Office. Motion by Mr. Long to approve; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-436)

Garage Sale Permits submitted for approval. Motion by Mr. Long to approve; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-437)

Under Old Business, Status – 4436, 4438 and 4440 Torrence. Mr. Smith requests a 60-day status to rescind the orders. Motion by Mr. Long to set for status on September 18, 2022; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

4240 Wabash – Mr. Smith requests a 60-day status. Motion by Mr. Long to set for status on September 18, 2022; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

7025 Van Buren (garage) – Mr. Smith states this is the Tyvek garage and requests the approval of the Order to Rescind. Motion by Mr. Long to approve the Rescind Order; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-438)

Temporary stop signs – corner of Vine and Arizona – 90-day status. Mr. Button has no objections to temporarily remain during the construction and set for another 90-day status. Motion by Mr. Long to set for a 90-day status on October 6, 2022; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Stop sign at Hohman and Huehn. Mr. Button states he needs the accident reports in order to have a solution to improve. Mr. Long states he has the number of accident reports but needs additional time to get the actual report. Motion by Mr. Long to set for status on July 28, 2022; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

1038 and 1042 Cleveland. Mr. Kearney states these properties were late in 2022 and the fees were waived, they are late for 2021 and 2022 and should be turned over to Smith Sersic. Motion by Mr. Long to submit to Smith Sersic for collections; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Under Rental Registration, 418 Conkey St. (2); 420 Conkey St. (2) - Property owner present. Motion by Mr. Long to waive the late fee; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-439)

7728 Catalpa - No action.

6348 Hohman – Property owner states she sent it in late. Motion by Mr. Long to waive the late fee; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-439)

2616 167th St. 6129 McCook, 4739 Elm, 4744 Elm – Property owner stated it was an oversight. Motion by Mr. Long to waive the late fee; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-439)

1308 150th St. – Property owner present. No action due to no paperwork.

7107 Oakdale Ave. – Illegal homestead. Motion by Mr. Long to waive the late fee and complete the homestead paperwork; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-439)

1153 Indiana St. – Owner not present. Motion by Mr. Long to deny; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried. (Ins. No. 22-439)

Under Meeting Open to the Public, Mr. Alvin Cheeks questions the stop sign at Cleveland and Tapper. Mr. Gordish requests it be referred to Engineering. Motion by Mr. Long to set for status on July 21, 2022; seconded by Mr. Perez. AYES ALL. Motion carried.

Mr. Cheeks states an Officer approached him while he was working security, doesn't want him to approach him this weekend while he is at festival with his child or doing business. Mr. Long advises this is an ongoing investigation with internal affairs and will meet at the conclusion of the investigation.

Ms. Awilda Quintanilla, 4841 Columbia, has a complaint against her neighbors on both sides that do not take care of their property, looks like a junk yard. She has called multiple times to complain but nothing seems to get done. Mr. Kearney states he will look into this and follow up to see if any citations or if the properties have been tagged. Ms. Quintanilla also questions who would cut down her tree in the back that is touching the power lines. Mr. Kearney explains to her that the city cannot go on private property and that she would need to contact a tree trimming service herself.

Councilman Emerson states he has not been around lately because he is a truant officer with the school system, interesting to be at the meetings because he learns a lot, thanks Dan Repay and the Commission with support of the bike bridge, and thanks to Linda for sending notices every week. Mr. Emerson asks about the process for residents who are asking for one sided street parking.

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion by Mr. Long to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Perez. The regularly scheduled meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.


APPROVED:

BY:



Jeffery Long, Vice President

ATTEST:



Linda Norville-Moles, Board Secretary