

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY  
AUGUST 27, 2014

The Board of Public Works and Safety met on Wednesday August 27, 2014 in regular session at the Knox City Hall at 8:30 AM CST, with the following members present: Mayor, Rick Chambers; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; and Boardmembers, Ed Blue and Jim Collins. City Attorney, Dave Matsey was absent.

RE: AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

Jim Collins made a motion, second by Ed Blue to add "Condemnation of Properties Public Hearing" to the agenda. 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. Ed Blue made a motion, seconded by Jim Collins to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed with Three (3) Ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: DRUG SCREENING POLICY – DISCUSSION

Mayor Chambers noted that the City has updated its drug screening policy with the passage in April of Ordinance #1145 and now requires that only new employees be drug tested. Random drug testing is required by the state for anyone with a CDL. Department Supervisors may also request testing if any employee is suspected of drug use.

He noted that drug use has not been an issue in the past and this will save money and cut down on the time employees have to be off the job to be tested. The City Council will approve any changes needed in the Employee Handbook.

RE: TREE CUTTING BIDS

Jeff Borg, MVH Superintendent received three bids for the tree cutting program:

Aarons Perfect Cut	\$2,385.00
Pro Tree Service	\$2,800.00
Williams Tree Service	\$3,850.00

Rick Chambers made a motion, seconded by Ed Blue to accept the lowest bid of Aarons Perfect Cut. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: CONDEMNATION OF PROPERTIES – PUBLIC HEARING

Planning Commissioner and Building Inspector Bruce Williams presented properties that he recommends for condemnation. The Board can modify, affirm or rescind it.

Building Inspector Williams showed the Board pictures of 10 S Heaton owned by Elvis and Laurie Cole. He also presented the inspection report. It was noted that there was fire damage and roof damage. The owners were notified to attend the meeting or submit a letter to the Board. His recommendation was to demolish. Rick Chambers made a motion to affirm the demolition order. Ed Blue seconded the motion. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

Inspector Williams presented pictures and a demolition order for 353 E Mound Street in the name of Norma Wagner. Cleon Wagner of Culver was present and said he is in the process of putting the house in his name. He has been trying to clean up the property. He has also started paying the back taxes. He believes the property can be repaired.

Inspector Williams said he would like to inspect the foundation etc. Rick Chambers made a motion to table the order until the next meeting. Jim Collins seconded the motion. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

Inspector Williams showed pictures of 354 E Water Street. He has had no contact with the owner. The information available shows the owner as Dulcine Archer of South Bend. There are also two out buildings on the property. He would like all three buildings demolished.

Rick Chambers made a motion seconded by Ed Blue to affirm the condemnation order. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: SUPERINTENDENTS REPORTS

MVH Superintendent, Jeff Borg, reported that the price of road salt went up nearly 50% this year. The City is guaranteed 150 tons of salt that will cost \$73.32 a ton in its annual agreement with the state co-op. Last year the price was \$48.84 a ton and cost \$7,300.00. This year the City will be paying \$11,000.00. The City street paving is done. Pacific Avenue has been paved to the ditch. The Superintendent has filled out and sent in the vegetative matter composting application required by IDEM. A section on South Pearl of the storm drain needs to be repaired as well as on Lake Street by the Knights of Columbus. He will contact some contractors to get quotes.

Water Superintendent, Todd Garner announced that Bill Wakal is retiring Friday. He introduced Joe Venckus that is taking his place. The Department has been using the new mini vac machine. There are about forty pits already cleaned out and the department plans to do all of the pits in Parkview. The workers have been exercising the valves that actually should be done each year. There are three new services going in. The department has spent a lot of

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time at the industrial park making sure the work is being done correctly. Superintendent Gardner distributed a spread sheet on the Lake Street fire hydrant project that replaced three aging hydrants:

Lake Street Fire Hydrant Replacement			
Lake and East Street			
2	Duo Sleeve Couplings	\$ 353.00	\$ 706.00
2	6" Mega Lug oversize Cast with gasket and bolts	\$ 44.00	\$ 88.00
10	6" CL50 Ductile iron pipe	\$ 11.00	\$ 110.00
10	6" Mega Lug Ductile Iron with gasket and bolts	\$ 36.00	\$ 360.00
2	6" globe valve	\$ 550.00	\$ 1,100.00
1	6" ductile iron tee	\$ 96.00	\$ 96.00
2	valve box	\$ 69.00	\$ 138.00
1	Kennedy Fire Hydrant 5 foot bury	\$ 2,210.00	\$ 2,210.00
2	valve box alignment cap	\$ 19.00	\$ 38.00
	Total		\$ 4,846.00
Lake and Cleveland Street			
2	Duo Sleeve Couplings	\$ 353.00	\$ 706.00
8	6" CL50 Ductile iron pipe	\$ 11.00	\$ 88.00
2	Mega Lug oversize Cast with gasket and bolts	\$ 44.00	\$ 88.00
8	Mega Lug Ductile Iron with gasket and bolts	\$ 36.00	\$ 288.00
1	6" globe valve	\$ 550.00	\$ 550.00
1	6" ductile iron tee	\$ 96.00	\$ 96.00
1	valve box	\$ 69.00	\$ 69.00
1	Kennedy Fire Hydrant 5 1/2 foot bury	\$ 2,265.00	\$ 2,265.00
1	valve box alignment cap	\$ 19.00	\$ 19.00
	Total		\$ 4,169.00
Lake and McGill Street			
2	Duo Sleeve Couplings	\$ 272.00	\$ 544.00
2	4" Mega Lug oversize Cast with gasket and bolts	\$ 40.00	\$ 80.00
19	6" CL50 Ductile iron pipe	\$ 11.00	\$ 209.00
2	4" Mega Lug Ductile Iron with gasket and bolts	\$ 31.00	\$ 62.00
3	6" globe valve	\$ 550.00	\$ 1,650.00
2	6" ductile iron tee	\$ 96.00	\$ 192.00
3	valve box	\$ 69.00	\$ 207.00
1	Kennedy Fire Hydrant 5 1/2 foot bury	\$ 2,265.00	\$ 2,265.00
13	6" Mega Lug Ductile Iron with gasket and bolts	\$ 36.00	\$ 468.00
3	valve box alignment cap	\$ 19.00	\$ 57.00
2	6" x 4" pipe size reducer	\$ 53.00	\$ 106.00
	Total		\$ 5,840.00
1	Hired Labor, JD Excavating LLC.		\$ 900.00
	Total for the Three Fire Hydrant Replacements		\$ 15,755.00
142	Water Department Man Hours		

Wastewater Superintendent, Kelly Clemons reported that she is waiting for parts to be delivered for the new panel for the Pacific Avenue lift station. The department has been changing manhole covers to solid lids.

Police Chief, Clint Norem has been working with the Hamlet Police Department on a new application on cell phones that connect to the schools with a panic button. Officer Chad Dulin is a new father. The 2009 charger is in the shop at Marks body shop with electrical issues. The new officer is still on day shift but will be put on nights soon. The back garage door has been repaired.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rick Chambers, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffery J. Houston, Clerk-Treasurer