

FEBRUARY 28, 2018

A Special Board of Public Works and Safety met at the Knox City Hall on Monday, February 28, 2018 at 9:00 AM CST with the following members present: Mayor, Dennis Estok; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Boardmembers, Steve Dodge and City Attorney, Leslie Baker. Boardmember Jim Collins arrived late.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES REGULAR MEETING 1-24-18

Minutes of the previous regular meeting were mailed to the Boardmembers prior to the meeting for their review. Steve Dodge made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mayor Dennis Estok seconded the motion. Motion passed with Two (2) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING 2-5-18

Minutes of a Special Board of Works meeting held on 2-5-18 were mailed to the Boardmembers prior to the meeting for their review. Steve Dodge made a motion seconded by Mayor Dennis Estok to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed with Two (2) ayes and No (0) nays.

Boardmember Jim Collins arrived at this point.

RE: DISCUSSION OF ADA COMPLIANCE

Clerk-Treasurer Houston reported that the City Council had adopted certain policies and procedures at their last meeting to bring the City into compliance on ADA requirements. He gave out the web site to find the information on line. There is a seven-step program that needs implementation. An ADA Coordinator was appointed, a notice was posted, and a grievance procedure was adopted.

RE: DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY – COMMUNITY CENTER CHAIRS

Clerk-Treasurer Houston said there are about 250 chairs at the Nancy J. Dembowski Community Center that need to be disposed of. According to the State Board of Accounts IC 5-22-22-6 allows the sale of surplus property in the most efficient manner possible if the individual property is worth less than \$1,000.00 or the estimated value of more than one item is less than \$5,000.00.

Fifty of the chairs will be given to the Starke County Sheriff's Department for their conference room. The rest will be sold as a lot at \$5.00 a chair.

Steve Dodge made a motion, seconded by Jim Collins to declare the chairs surplus property and authorize the Clerk-Treasurer to dispose of them in the most efficient manner possible. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: 6 N. PEARL – UPDATE

Building and Code Compliance Director, Kenny Pfost gave an update on the progress of work being done on the distressed property at 6 N. Pearl. He said he had talked to the owner and she told him work would resume within the next month. May 22 is the one-year date of the construction permit. Obviously, all the work will not be completed by then.

Steve Dodge made a motion to require the owner to attend the next Board of Works Meeting. Jim Collins seconded the motion. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

Mayor Estok noted that the owner has another property in town that may need enforcement as well.

RE: 1 & 3 N. MAIN – UPDATE

Building and Code Compliance Director, Kenny Pfost said the owners of 1 & 3 N. Main have been working inside the buildings. He has hired Phil Johanan to take the sign down. That will be completed soon. The owner is supposed to be completed with the renovations by the start of summer.

RE: SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

In the absence of Wastewater Superintendent Kelly Clemons, Jason Clemons gave the report for that department. He gave an update on the effect of the flood on the plant. No overflow occurred, however IDEM was notified of possible violation of solid discharge. The flow was obviously above the design and pump #3 ran at 100% and ended up tripping out. The blower also went out. The Washington Street lift station ran for 60 hours straight. So far repairs to the plant cost about \$847.00. The plant was manned 24 hours a day during the flood emergency.

Water Superintendent, Todd Gardner said the Water Department had no issues with the flood. He is working with a vendor on multiple unit billing. Water testing is due in March. The superintendent will be leaving his job soon.

Building and Code Compliance Director, Kenny Pfof said he will start working on distressed properties in the Parkview Heights area with the City Attorney. One property is owned by Wanda Shields on Clark Street and another by Melvin Zieters on Maple, also the Backstage Music building on Washington.

As Knox City Fire Chief, he also noted that the Fire Department made 5 water rescues with their boat and handed out a monthly recap.

MVH Superintendent, Jeff Borg said that due to the flooding, his department sandbagged around the vault for the splash pad. The department set barricades for several closed roads.

The Superintendent contacted Traffic Control Specialists and had them set a detour sign for a truck route at Culver Road and US 35. Detour signs were also placed at 200 South and US 35, 200 South and 300 East and 300 East and Culver Road.

The Street Department is presently cleaning washed up corn stalks off Division Road. All City Streets are now open.

Police Chief Harold Smith, reported that he has hired Seth Johnson as a new officer. He has completed his tests with the State. He is working as a part time officer until the department hears that he has passed his psychological exam.

The head needs to be replaced on the 2014 Dodge pickup. The new Tahoe will arrive in about two weeks.

The Mayor announced there will be a Bid Opening for Blight Elimination on March 12th at 9:00 AM CST.

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