

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
REGULAR MEETING
September 25, 2024

The Board of Public Works and Safety met for a regular session at City Hall on Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at 9:30 A.M. CST with the following members present: Mayor Dennis Estok; Clerk-Treasurer Cyndi Kidder, and Board Member Steve Dodge, Jim Collins and City Attorney Justin Schramm.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES REGULAR MEETING 8/28/24

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

RE: SUPERINTENDENTS REPORTS

Street Superintendent Jeff Borg informed the Board that the Street Crew and himself have been preparing the power equipment for leaf pickup and snow removal. Jeff also completed the 2024 Street Inventory Report.

Sewer Superintendent Jason Clemons informed the Board that the sewer crew assisted on the repair for the sewer lateral for 413 Maple Drive. A Cummins Service Tech did maintenance inspection on the sewer plants backup generator. Keith and Justin have been prepping manholes with the vac truck for the new lines to be installed. The crew pumped out the aeration tank and cleaned it out with the vac truck. They also installed 188 new diffusers in the aeration system and cleaned and recalibrated the DO probe. The bypass pump isn't working right now, flow Tech may fix it, it could be factory defect. The sewer guys gave the honey wagon a once over and are gathering things lined up for the fall land application. Sewer Superintendent Clemons asked the Board for their approval for a new slide gate with an opener. Clemons reached out to a few fencing contractors and only received 2 estimates. Mullet's Fencing \$17,149.32. Mike's Fencing \$17,459.00. Jim Collins made a motion to approve the lowest bid for the slide gate. The motion was seconded by Steve Dodge and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

Chief of Police Chad Dulin informed the board that the new officer Joe West is scheduled for PERF77 evaluation in October. Officer Chambers is doing well at the Academy. Total accidents/call outs for the month were 494. There were no building repairs to report, but we are having repair issues with a couple older cars.

Water Superintendent Tim Lindewald was absent but left his report with Mayor Estok to read to the Board.

RE: CANCELLATION OF MOU – SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER – KNOX PD AND KNOX COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

Superintendent at Knox Community School Corporation Greg Mikulich spoke to the Board. Mr. Mikulich thanked the City and Knox PD for their support over the years at KCSC. The KCSC will be terminating the MOU as of September 29, 2024, with Knox PD. The KCSC will be starting their own Police Department in house.

RE: PUBLIC HEARING – 305 E HOHN STREET

Mayor Estok opened the Public Hering. Director Boley updated the Board that the owner of the property has continued being non-compliant with the previous order. The Board decided to reinstate the balance of the assessment fee for \$1,500.00. The owner of the Apartment Building was present, Tin Hlong Doek. A long discussion was held about the inspection of 4 units. There are several violations and updates that need completed and all units need exterminated. Mayor Estok made a motion for Director Boley and the property owner to work together to get all violations corrected. The motion was seconded by Steve Dodge and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and NO (0) nays. Mayor Estok closed the Public Hering.

RE: 401 E LAKE STRET – UPDATE

Director Boley informed the Board that the property was sold on tax sale September 11, 2024. The owners are still living there even with it being declared unsafe and refusing to leave. City Attorney Justin Schramm also spoke to the Board about continuing with the court order to clean up the property without the owner's consent.

RE: 503 E CULVER ROAD – REVIEW

The property owners were present. Director Boley undated the Board about the overpopulated 2-bedroom home on their property. So far 1 person has moved out, others are still working on acquiring housing. A short discussion was held. No action was taken at this time.

RE: 253 E WASHINGTON STREET – REVIEW

Director Boley informed the Board that the siding was to be completed by August 1st and only 10% of the siding is done. No penalty has ever been assessed for this property. Director Boley recommended the \$2,500.00 penalty be assessed but not recorded so it can be revoked if the siding work gets finished soon. Mayor Estok made a motion to assess the \$2,500.00 penalty. The motion was seconded by Steve Dodge and passed by a vote of Three (3) ayes and no (0) nays.

RE: 705 E NEW YORK STREET – REVIEW

Director Boley informed the Board about the progress since the order on June 26, 2024. The owner is working at cleaning up the junk vehicles and scrap metals. New garage doors have been installed. The owner did pay his civil penalty of \$2,500.00 assessed at the previous meeting. Director Boley recommended the owner come to the next meeting for an update. No action was taken at this time; the owner will continue to be under enforcement, but he is making major improvements.

RE: BEFORE ADJOURNMENT

Before the meeting was adjourned Carl Balaszek asked about the status of their prior inquiries.

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