

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
SPECIAL MEETING
JULY 1, 2021

The Board of Public Works and Safety met for a special session at the Knox Community Center on Thursday, July 1, 2021 at 9:30 A.M. CST with the following members present: Mayor Dennis Estok; Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Shari Spaid; Board Members Jim Collins and Steve Dodge and City Attorney Autumn Ferch.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

RE: APPROVAL OF POLICE DEPARTMENT NEW HIRE – ASHLEY VANDERMARK

A discussion was held and questions were asked by the Board while reviewing the application of Ashley Vandermark for the Knox Police Department. Motion was made by Board Member Dodge to hire Ashley Vandermark as a patrolman for the Knox Police Department. Motion was seconded by Board Member Collins and was passed by a vote of Three (3) Ayes and No (0) Nays.

RE: EMERGENCY HEARING – 401 W. BENDER ST.

A public hearing was open regarding the order to vacate and repair 401 W. Bender Street.

The order to vacate 401 W. Bender Street was issued on Tuesday, June 29, 2021. The Fire Department responded to the call and found the home was in bad condition and unsafe for living.

Debra Cunningham, who resided at the Bender Street address, informed the Board that her and her husband were out of the home the same day the order to vacate was issued. Her husband is at her mother's home recovering from surgery. She has returned to their home only to clean. She asked the Board for 30 days in order to do this. Mayor Estok told her she has 30 days according to the order. She asked the Board if she could have more than 30 days if it was required. Mayor Estok told her to come to the next regular board meeting on Wednesday, July 28 and they will review the situation to consider whether to issue an additional 30 days.

Vicky McNeece and some of her family are helping with the cleaning process. She asked Chief of Police Harold Smith if they could have increased patrolling at the house because she caught a neighbor tearing open bags that they have filled. The Chief of Police said he could arrange it.

The public hearing was closed.

Motion was made by Board Member Dodge to allow residents of 401 W. Bender Street 30 days to clean and make repairs as needed. Motion was seconded by Board Member Collins and was passed by a vote of Three (3) Ayes and No (0) Nays.

RE: THEINEMAN – FINAL PAYMENT – WWTP PROJECT

Steve Henschen from JPR presented change order #4 reducing the contract amount. The final payment to Theineman will be \$64,500, releasing the remaining retainage.

Wastewater Superintendent Jason Clemons spoke of the various problems they were having including not being able to see the plant from his computer at home. Mayor Estok said that all the problems we have are included in the warranties. He asked Jason if he was happy with the way Thieneman was cooperating and responding to these problems. Jason told the Board that he was happy with them in that way and recommended we approve the final payment but these problems need to be addressed quickly. Steve Henschen told them that we will get a plan together to address all problems instead of hit and miss as they occur.

City Attorney Autumn Ferch advised the Board to release the retainage. The warranties guarantee their continued cooperation. If we push the issues and not pay them they may not continue to be cooperative.

Motion was made by Board Member Collins, after evaluation and with a pending plan to fix problems, to release retainage amount of \$64,500. Motion was seconded by Board Member Dodge and was passed by a vote of Three (3) Ayes and No (0) Nays.

RE: WATER DEPARTMENT – FILTERS

Water Superintendent Tim Lindewald told the Board that the filters need iron removal. The cost will be \$75,000.00. He asked if they would consider the issue by the next meeting.

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

Dennis Estok, Mayor

Attest: _____
Shari Spaid, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer