

BOARD OF WORKS
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2016
5:00 P.M.

Mayor Ryan Daniel – Present
Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle – Present
Attorney Marcia McNagny – Present
Daniel Weigold – Present
Walter Crowder – Present

The Columbia City Board of Works met in regular session with all members present, Mayor Daniel presiding.

MINUTES Motion was made by Weigold to approve an overview of the October 25, 2016 meeting minutes as presented, Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

HIRE OF FIREFIGHTER Tom LaRue mentioned at the hiring process of their last firefighter there was discussion regarding the need to hire another firefighter. He reported he talked with Rosie about the financial side of it and was requesting permission to hire another firefighter.

Mayor Daniel confirmed this would be a new position for the department. Chief LaRue advised that was correct.

Walt Crowder questioned if it would be for this year. Chief LaRue advised it would be.

Dan Weigold felt it was a great idea; he did not like to see just one person going into a situation. He felt for safety purposes this would be a wise move.

Mayor Daniel shared from a financial aspect, in weighing the different options, he felt it made sense.

The Board of Works unanimously voted in favor of the hiring of a new firefighter.

K-9 PROPOSAL Tony Hively reminded the Board of their prior approval to research and rejuvenate the K-9 program. He introduced Sergeant Archbold who was selected as the K-9 Handler and shared his background with the department. He advised the department has been without a K-9 since August, 2014 and have been reliant on area counties or departments to provide a canine when needed.

Chief Hively advised the department was totally committed to the program; they would provide and mandate training consistent with State and national organizations, have constant case law updates and constant supervision of the K-9 team. He explained the K-9 would be a tool not a weapon; 90% of the work is done with their nose and not the teeth. He advised if approved he would be asking for dual purpose which would mean the dog would do narcotic searches as well as the patrol work. He shared they would be doing the certification training through the National Police Working Dog Association. He stated part of the liability concern was making sure

policies were constantly updated. He explained the training would be 6 weeks long and would be offsite.

Chief Hively reported they have software programs that can track the work the dog does. He advised there would be weekly, monthly and yearly reports if the Board of Works so desired.

Chief Hively reviewed the expense sheet with the Board. He reported the maintenance and training, if they go through F.M. K9 in Elkhart, would be provided at no cost. He shared that Sergeant Archbold was able to secure a commitment from Line Street Vet for free medical care for the dog until it would be retired as well as a commitment to sell us dog food at cost.

Chief Hively compared quotes from Vohne Liche for \$23,399.00 and F.M. K9 for \$18,675.00. He advised the average annual costs would be about \$2,500.00 and was hoping to be able to generate that through an already established budget line item and donations from the community. He shared the \$2,500.00 did not include vehicle costs for fuel, oil, etc. He noted they still had the last K-9 vehicle, 2011 Ford Expedition, and purposely set that vehicle aside knowing at some point they would be pushing for a K-9 program. He explained there would be a \$2,500.00 equipment upgrade needed to the vehicle.

Chief Hively asked for approval to start the K-9 program. Mayor Daniel questioned if there was a difference in quality between the 2 firms. Chief Hively advised he visited both locations personally and talked with both owners. He shared Vohn Liche was nationally known and has over 300 dogs on site to pick from at all times. He stated they were in it for the business and did not feel we would get the individual attention as we would with F.M. K9. He explained F.M. K9 was a local sheriff's department retiree who was still involved with police reserve work. He shared the class sizes were 6 – 8 and also nationally certified. He felt at F.M. K9 their heart and intent was in the K9 program as well as the success of the police officers, which was why free training was offered. He felt with Vohn Liche it was more of a business and they were in it to sell dogs and training. Sergeant Archbold felt the same. Chief Hively recommended, if the program was approved, selecting a dog and training from F.M. K9.

Rosie Coyle advised she was waiting to hear back from the insurance company but in recalling with Stryker, the cost was not that much.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to proceed forward and reinstitute the K-9 program for Columbia City, Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Chief Hively shared in the budget planning process of the program, the initial numbers were for \$15,000 to come out of LOIT dollars, but with the numbers just presented he was at \$18,000 and is what would be needed to start up the program. Mayor Daniel felt there were a couple things that could be done and requested to sit down to look at that.

ORDINANCE VIOLATION - 516 N. WASHINGTON STREET Mayor Daniel understood there to be 3 vehicles in violation.

Terry & Lori Reader were present to discuss the issue. Mrs. Reader explained between the two of them they have 6 vehicles; they were all running, worth more than their scrap, were all plated and insured. She explained they have kept 2 - 3 of the vehicles in the yard to keep them off of the street. She explained there was one vehicle in a tent and that was their daughter's who was away at college, the truck in the yard was only driven in the winter or to pull the boat. She advised everything was to the back of the property and covered.

Mayor Daniel noted, according to the report, there was a gold Taurus with expired plates. Mrs. Reader advised the plates have been renewed and the vehicle was being driven. She noted that everything just recently renewed.

After some discussion, Mayor Daniel felt there needed to be a recheck of the vehicles. He noted the restoration vehicle was not fully functional. Mrs. Reader advised that was correct. Mayor Daniel questioned when the restoration would be completed. Mr. Reader advised everything was back on, it was just still up on the jacks.

Mrs. Reader questioned what she was to do with the truck parked in the yard. Chief Hively questioned if it was properly plated. Mrs. Reader advised it was, everything renewed in October and November for them. She questioned if she could leave the truck in the yard. Mayor Daniel suggested they do a recheck on all 3 vehicles and understood the situation of not wanting to park on the street, especially since the vehicle was only driven in the winter. He was not sure specifically what the ordinances say about having a vehicle in the yard.

Chief Hively advised on the recheck he would make sure they were provided documentation of the ordinances they need to comply with. Mrs. Reader questioned again if they would need to move the truck out of the yard. Mayor Daniel suggested we do a recheck but also have Chief Hively get the information on the issue of parking and delay this until the next Board of Works meeting. He advised if Chief Hively does the recheck and everything is ok then they would not need to come to the next meeting.

Mr. Reader questioned the boat. Mayor Daniel advised the trailer would need to be properly plated.

Chief Hively advised he would need to pull the information and make sure it was consistent with what the pictures were showing.

Mayor Daniel suggested this be put on hold for 2 weeks, have the rechecks done and asked Chief Hively to notify them whether they need to come to the next Board meeting.

ORDINANCE VIOLATION – 443 S. ARROWHEAD CT. Mayor Daniel noted at 443 S. Arrowhead Ct. there was an additional driveway that has not been improved and the residents have been driving over the sidewalk. Rosie Coyle asked to postpone this issue.

ANIMAL REQUEST FOR ADOPTION Kathleen Davisson was present to discuss the possibility of adopting Ziggy. Mayor Daniel advised they received the information regarding Ziggy from Mr. Turner; he also took a trip to the Humane Shelter to talk with Sandy Grube,

Executive Director of the Shelter. He explained that Pals for Paws contacted the Shelter and asked that Ziggy be released to Mrs. Davisson so that she may foster the dog for their program. He stated in talking with Sandy about Ziggy's initial testing he scored 42 points, which was a lot of points. He advised as he dug a little deeper he was informed that, of those 42 points, 20 points were immediately given to him because of the prior event. He questioned Sandy, had that event not happened, what points Ziggy would have had. He advised she suggested Ziggy would probably have scored around 20-21 points. He stated that would have put him as a 'B' dog and Sandy said they typically put 'B' dogs up for adoption. He added that Sandy did mention that at the end of the day they still knew there was an issue and something triggered the dog.

Mayor Daniel confirmed with Mrs. Davisson that she would like to fully adopt the dog. Mrs. Davisson advised she did. Mayor Daniel noted that the Board of Works made a determination at a previous meeting not to allow the dog to be adopted in the City limits; the Humane Shelter also stated they would not adopt the dog out. He noted in the meeting minutes Chief Hively mentioned that a certified professional and their credentials may trump the Humane Society's assessment of the dog.

Mrs. Davisson shared that she has had the dog assessed two times; one individual has worked with dogs for 11 years and the second individual was a certified behaviorist and trainer. She shared the second individual was definitive that Ziggy was not an aggressive dog. She advised she has seen significant improvement in him over the past few weeks.

Dan Weigold questioned what liability the City would be under if something were to happen. Attorney McNagny explained if the Humane Shelter says the dog is dangerous but the Board decides to allow the dog in the City limits and something happens then someone might be able to argue that the City did not do what was supposed to have been done. Mayor Daniel advised he talked with Sandy more about that; he was trying to understand why they would allow the dog to be given to Kat through a non-profit versus adopting it out. He shared it was explained to him that when a non-profit takes over they basically take liability from the shelter. Mrs. Davisson pointed out that the original owner could have paid the fees, as she did, and taken the dog back to the same situation it was in regardless. Mayor Daniel advised if the owner would have done that they would have had to come before the Board of Works and do all of the things to register the dog.

Rosie Coyle questioned Mrs. Davisson if she was fostering the dog until she could find him a home. Mrs. Davisson advised she was fostering him right now but would like to adopt him. Mayor Daniel confirmed she had one dog at home already. Mrs. Davisson advised she did. Mayor Daniel questioned how they interacted with each other. Mrs. Davisson advised they did really well together. She shared that she had also taken the dog to a friend's house, who also had a dog, just to see how Ziggy would react in a setting that was at another dog's home and they did fantastic together.

Mayor Daniel felt if Mrs. Davisson was going to take on the responsibility there needed to be parameters such as having the dog registered. Attorney McNagny advised if the Board would allow the dog to be adopted, the code allows her to adopt the dog, she just has to register it as a

dangerous dog and do what needed to be done. Dan Weigold recalled an incident the Board dealt with before regarding a dangerous dog.

Mayor Daniel advised he just wanted to make sure they would not be risking anything else but in reading the assessment he did not feel there would be a huge risk.

Walt Crowder felt there have been several layers of opinions and was willing to take the risk.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to allow the adoption of Ziggy inside the City limits specifically to Kat Davisson following the guidelines of the dangerous dog ordinance that is in our ordinances regarding registration, up to date vaccinations and all of the things that come along with it.

Walt Crowder felt it was important that the dog be adopted only to Kat; he would hate to see it given to someone else who may not have the same natural abilities.

Upon the motion, Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY MANUAL Mayor Daniel advised the manual was put in the dropbox for review and asked if there were any questions.

Beth Igney, Human Resource Director, noted under the drug and alcohol program for police and fire there was zero tolerance but on the civil side there were still some parameters.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to accept and approve the changes to the public safety employee handbook as presented, Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

STREET CLOSING REQUEST – 2016 CHRISTMAS PARADE Jennifer Zartman – Romano advised the closing was the same as last year.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the 2016 Whitley County lighted Christmas parade street closing permit request for Friday, November 25, 2016 from 4 – 8 p.m. as presented, Weigold seconded, all voted aye.

STREET CLOSING REQUEST – CHAPMAN'S BREWERY Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the Huntington County Beer Collective Tap Takeover street closing permit request for Sunday, November 13, 2016 from 2-10 p.m. with the caviot that Main Street Association is notified, Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

BILLS Motion was made by Weigold to pay the bills as presented in the amount \$666,512.08, Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

WASTEWATER NEW TRUCK SPECIFICATIONS Mike Cook advised he had specs ready for a new service truck and requested permission to send out request for bids. He stated he had 6 companies selected. Mayor Daniel confirmed this was included in Umbaugh's rate review and would be replacing a truck. Mike Cook advised that was correct.

The Board was in agreement to move forward.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle