

BOARD OF WORKS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2013
5:15 P.M.

Mayor Ryan Daniel – Present
Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle – Present
Attorney Marcia McNagny – Present
Daniel Weigold – Present
Walt 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 August 13, 2013 meeting minutes as presented, Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Motion was made by Weigold to approve an overview of the August 22, 2013 meeting minutes as presented, Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

FIBER NETWORK - SPECTRUM ENGINEERING Terry Wherry advised he put information in the drop box for the Board to review regarding the proposed project. He shared that he and Shawn Lickey would like approval on the preliminary agreement to see if the route Shawn has laid out would be possible.

Dan Weigold questioned whether we would be able to put this on the GIS. Shawn Lickey advised they would.

Walt Crowder questioned if they were looking for approval on Phase I. Shawn felt it made sense to do everything up to the bidding process which would be Phase I and II. Walt questioned if the support for this from an investment standpoint would be through the electric department. Shawn explained originally each department was going to combine funds but suggested that it may be more feasible for the electric department to finance the project and lease to the other departments. He stated that would be part of the next step, to figure the financing out. Mayor Daniel noted the total for the first two phases was \$12,771.00.

Walt Crowder felt it was time to take the step and see what it was going to look like. Dan Weigold and Mayor Daniel agreed.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to enter into an agreement for Phase I and II with Spectrum Engineering with the completed total amount being \$12,771.00, motion was seconded Weigold, all voted aye.

FIRE TRUCK BIDS Tom LaRue reported the Truck Committee had been working on getting the truck specs ready for bid. He advised they were ready pending approval of the Board of Works. He reported it would replace the 1990 KME fire truck and would not be an additional truck.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to allow Chief LaRue and the Fire Truck Committee to move forward in getting bids for a new fire truck, Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Walt Crowder felt it was important to note that we have been setting money aside for several years in the Cum Fund; our goal was to pay cash for the truck and although we will be short we have a substantial amount to pay cash so it will still save the tax payers.

Upon the motion, all voted aye.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER Tim Longenbaugh advised he put the Memo of Understanding in the Board's Drop Box along with the rolls and responsibilities of the SRO.

Dr. O'Connor shared some background on the School Resource Officer idea. She explained they started a Safety Initiative which was a collaboration of school administrators and law enforcement who met to discuss concerns of school safety and issues as well as walk through the schools.

Dr. O'Connor advised the Indiana Secured Safety Grant Program was passed by lawmakers which provides matching grants to the schools. She explained this would allow us to secure \$50,000 a year towards the Safety Initiative. She stated the grant provides that you may hire a Safety Officer, conduct a threat assessment or purchase equipment to restrict access to the school.

Dr. O'Connor explained when talking about a School Resource Officer they look at traditional law enforcement who would promote safe and orderly school environment, support school personnel, provide safe learning environments, assist in implementation of a the emergency preparedness plan. She added that the SRO would work with the students on safety and conduct internal mentoring, counseling and serve as a liaison between students and social service agencies. She advised they have developed rules and responsibilities for the position.

Dr. O'Connor reported 11 out of 18 school districts that surround our school corporation already have their own SRO.

Dr. O'Connor explained in order to make application for the grant they were required to enter in a Memorandum of Understanding with local law enforcement. She advised they have been working jointly with the City on the MOU. She explained this would be a 2 year agreement, they have already agreed to the job description, the City would underwrite 27% of the salary with WCCS underwriting almost 73% which would be paid to the City twice a year. She advised the training and equipment would be paid by the City, discipline would be handled by the Chief of Police, interviews would be conducted jointly, the position would be a patrolman's position of about 40 hrs. per week. She explained the MOU needed to be approved by both the School Corporation and the City.

Dan Weigold felt it was also important to note the City would be taking care of the longevity pay and insurance. Mayor Daniel clarified the cost includes wages and benefits. He added that City Council would either have to accept or change the job description; WCCS understood that.

Walt Crowder questioned if there was a timeline of when this would go into effect. Dr. O'Connor advised the timeline to apply was September 30 and they should hear back between November 1 – 15. She stated it was their hope to have the position start sometime after the first of the year. Mayor Daniel stated they were looking at 2 calendar years beginning January 2014 for the MOU. Walt Crowder questioned if after the 2 years if it would fall under the City from that point on or would it go back to negotiations. Mayor Daniel felt it was something, as they approach the end of the MOU, they would go back and evaluate. He stated it seemed like they were looking at something long term. Dr. O'Connor agreed that was their hope. Mayor Daniel noted that if for some reason we do not move forward with the MOU after the 2 years the patrolman would fall back into our rotation.

Walt Crowder clarified that this partnership would not take away all of our other resources through the State and County police. Chief Longenbaugh advised that was correct.

Rosie Coyle confirmed the City would take care of everything for this person and the school would reimburse us a percentage. Mayor Daniel advised that was correct. He

explained this person was basically a patrolman who is on special assignment as SRO during the school time period of which a portion of the salary and benefits would be reimbursed by the school for that special assignment and when school was out of session they would be patrolling the streets.

Motion was made by Crowder to go into agreement with Whitley County School Corporation and the City of Columbia City for a School Resource Officer as defined in the agreement and allow Mayor Daniel signature power representing all Board members for final approval, Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

ADVANCED DISPOSAL AGREEMENT AMENDMENT Attorney McNagly explained there was a change to the agreement basically stating in the event of a dispute we would go to arbitration first. She felt it should be approved since it was a change in the contract.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the change of terms to the contract for Advanced Disposal, Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

STREET CLOSING PERMIT: MOVIE ON THE SQUARE Liane Minier with the Columbia City Main Street Association was present to request a street closing request for Chauncey Street from Van Buren to Market Street for September 21. She advised they would be showing a movie on the courthouse square. She explained the purpose of the Main Street program was that they were trying to get State certified approval to become the Columbia City Main Street Organization which means they have to meet criteria of 4 different pillars. She advised if they get the certification they would be able to draw grant funds to improve the downtown.

Motion was made by Weigold to approve the street closing request, Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

STREET CLOSING PERMIT: HOMECOMING PARADE Mayor Daniel advised the request was the same as in the past.

Motion was made by Crowder to accept the street closing as presented for the Homecoming parade, Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

BILLS Motion was made by Weigold to pay the bills as presented in the amount of \$960,044.76, Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

CURB CUT REQUEST – ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS Kevin McCrory who was part of the design team working on the expansion to the church property was present to discuss the curb cut request. He reviewed a drawing and explained the alley between the church and new building would still physically be there but they would be putting collapsible bollards there so when there was a funeral, etc. they could have traffic go through but would be pedestrian for all of the other times. He advised they reconfigured the parking lot and were asking for a new entry onto Line Street, 27 ft. south of Ellsworth Street. He advised there was a precedence already set on the NW corner of Line Street and Spencer. He stated time wise the traffic coming in and out of the entry would be limited to mass on Saturday afternoons, Sundays and evenings that there are special events going on.

Mayor Daniel questioned on the east side of the property if there would be any separation of the parking lot and alley. Mr. McCrory advised there was no curb there as they were given approval for drainage to sheet flow as it currently does; if they were to put curbs there it would disrupt the sheet flow and would be a snow plowing nightmare in the winter.

Walt Crowder questioned if they had a Plan B if the curb cut was not approved. Mr. McCrory advised it would be to dead end the parking lot. He asked the Board to consider developing the parking lot with the access but if it becomes problematic they would block it off with permanent barricades. Crowder questioned if there was an ordinance in place about how close you could put an access. Jeff Walker advised there was in the zoning ordinance; 75 ft. back and if you cannot do 75 ft. then you can consider it but the preference is to go on the interior street that is less traveled which in this case would be Ellsworth Street. Crowder clarified by approving this it would be going against the zoning ordinance. He advised the Board of Works has the discretion to adjust it but as it stands it would be going against the ordinance.

Mayor Daniel questioned if they would decide not to do the curb cut if it would be worthwhile for the City to pave the alley to stop the washout and be more durable in regards to traffic. Kelly Cearbaugh felt that could be a possibility for next year and may solve the problem of washing stone onto Spencer Street.

Walt Crowder questioned if there was a reason for blocking off the alley and not leaving it as it is today. Mr. McCrory advised it was mainly because there will be more pedestrian traffic; now that there will be a building there they would be generating cause for people to be going back and forth.

Walt Crowder advised he just could not see the value of opening that up into Line Street when there were so many other exits and ways to get in there. Mr. McCrory advised it was primarily not to make it a dead end parking lot. Kelly Cearbaugh questioned if they could make it an entrance only, no exit there. Mr. McCrory was not sure that would solve the problem.

Dan Weigold shared that he was looking at it as cosmetic and did not feel it was that big of a deal. Walt Crowder advised the zoning ordinance was in place, they all agree there was blockage there when two cars pull out at the same time and just felt it was something they would want to stay away from. Mayor Daniel shared his concerns for the line of sight issues there but would like to put the alley on 2014 paving list.

FIREWORKS - LABOR DAY WEEKEND Mayor Daniel shared a question from a resident who typically puts on a fireworks show on the Saturday of Labor Day weekend. He stated in our ordinance it says Labor Day and the day prior. He asked the Board of Works to exempt Saturday as being a firework day.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to allow fireworks to take place this Saturday until midnight, Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle