

**BOARD OF WORKS**  
**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2017**  
**5:00 P.M.**

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

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

**MINUTES** Motion was made by Dan Weigold to approve an overview of the October 24, 2017 meeting minutes as presented, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, Weigold and Crowder voted aye, Mayor Daniel abstained.

**PERMIT TO CUT INTO ALLEY – 406 E. JEFFERSON** Rosie Coyle reported Kelly Cearbaugh checked into this and did not see a problem with it. She advised they would still need to get locates.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder to approve the permit as presented, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**PERMIT FOR LOCATE OF UTILITY IN CITY RIGHT-OF-WAY – 393 PLAZA DR.** Rosie Coyle reported they discussed this with Jeff Walker and there were no problems. She advised they paid all of the fees.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the permit as presented, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**PERMIT FOR LOCATE OF UTILITY CITY RIGHT-OF-WAY – 2 BARBARA DR.** Rosie Coyle reported they have been conversing with she and Jeff Walker and everything was ok. Mayor Daniel expressed a concern how this may be impacted by the Wooddale improvements that are planned for next year. He just did not want to put a sidewalk over top of it and then they have to go in and have to move it.

After additional discussion, motion was made by Walt Crowder to approve at the request based upon final approval from Mayor Daniel and Jeff Walker in regards to the project, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**REQUEST FOR BLOCK OF PARKING SPACES – BLUE MOON BAKERY – 101 S. MAIN ST. (VAN BUREN ST.)** Todd Darley was present to discuss the plan for the bakery remodel. He requested 2 parking spots for the dumpster and the other issue was for the temporary enclosure; he was unsure if they needed anything for that. He advised it appeared they would eventually need to replace part of the sidewalk to make the grade work better but would come back for approval to close a portion of the sidewalk for a short period of time.

Mayor Daniel confirmed the dumpster itself would not be there much longer but questioned the timeframe on the front enclosure. Mr. Darley projected it would be another 2-3 weeks.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel for the approval of the request with the parking spaces concluding on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November and the temporary enclosure on the sidewalk concluding December 31, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**STREET CLOSING PERMIT – 2017 WHITLEY COUNTY LIGHTED CHRISTMAS PARADE**

Rosie Coyle advised everything was the same as last year.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the 2017 Whitley County Lighted Christmas Parade street closing request as presented, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**STREET CLOSING PERMIT – WHITLEY COUNTY COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS; SOUTH SIDE OF COURT HOUSE**

Rosie Coyle advised everything was the same as last year.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the Whitley County Community Christmas street closing request as presented, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**STREET CLOSING PERMIT – MISS MAGNOLIA BOUTIQUE – 114 W VAN BUREN**

Mayor Daniel noted they were requesting 3 parking stalls in the vicinity of 114 W. Van Buren Street on November 17.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder to approve the request as presented, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**SOLAR INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT**

Shawn Lickey explained this agreement would be used for any solar self-generating customer looking to hook to our power lines. He advised this was a template written by IMPA and reviewed by himself and Attorney McNagny. He shared there was a customer who would be connecting to our lines; we would not be paying for the power, IMPA would be paying them for the power. He advised the customer has sufficient safety equipment in place to prevent any sort of back feeding onto our lines in the instance of an outage or lines down. He requested approval of the agreement from the Board so that IMPA could start working with the customer on a purchase agreement.

Mayor Daniel explained the agreement would effectively be between IMPA and the customer but because we are a member of IMPA and connected with IMPA we serve as the conduit between the 2 parties. He shared they have had multiple conversations with IMPA who has stated we had to do something.

Mayor Daniel questioned if the customer was paying an additional charge. Shawn Lickey advised they currently were not but would be worked out. He explained according to the agreement the customer falls under the 'Generating Customer' under Exhibit A, which we do not have yet.

Mayor Daniel noted there was a lot of protection put in the agreement specifically because we would be the conduit.

Walt Crowder mentioned it would give the customer justification if needed for a temporary outage. Shawn Lickey advised, unfortunately, they would not. He explained the newer solar power systems were set up to where the disconnect was on the panel itself so if the house loses power it shuts the panel down completely. He noted that was another safety precaution.

Walt Crowder confirmed customers would have to register with us. Shawn Lickey advised there was an application process in which he would have to sign off on as well as the County Inspector and possibly the Board of Works, but could not remember for sure.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to approve the Solar Interconnection Agreement for self-generation in excess of 10kW, Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**QUOTE FOR UNDERGROUND FAULT FINDER – ELECTRIC**

**DEPARTMENT** Shawn Lickey shared they have talked for about 10 years about getting a fault finder. He advised their underground wires were getting to the age where they are starting to have faults. He explained they have equipment for the secondary lines but not primary lines. He shared an instance where REMC assisted us in finding a fault. He felt it was time to move forward in getting this piece of equipment and shared how the equipment works.

Mayor Daniel noted the quote was \$18,062.50. Shawn Lickey explained that cost would include a 2 year extended warranty.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the request to purchase the underground fault finder in the amount of \$18,062.50, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**2018 FIRE DEPARTMENT AGREEMENT** Tom LaRue reported nothing had changed in the agreement; it was basically the run money given to the Volunteers.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder to go into the new agreement with no changes as recommended by the Fire Chief, Dan Weigold seconded the motion.

Mayor Daniel questioned Attorney McNagny if the City would be entering into an agreement with the Volunteers collectively or as an organization. Fire Chief LaRue explained they were contracted labor. Mayor Daniel noted this was budgeted for every year and questioned if there was a need for the agreement to come before the Board of Works every year. Attorney McNagny felt there were more terms to the agreement than just the money. Mayor Daniel advised he was supportive of it but wanted to make sure what they were doing year after year still made sense versus some other kind of contractual agreement. Discussion followed. Attorney McNagny suggested it might be nice to add a provision as to what the Columbia City Volunteer Fire Department was, just to make it clear. She advised it talks about volunteers but it never really describes what that fire department is. After additional discussion, Attorney McNagny recommended changing the agreement for this year. She advised she would make the changes and have it for consideration at the next meeting.

Walt Crowder withdrew his motion for further review, Dan Weigold was in agreement.

**BILLS** Motion was made by Dan Weigold to pay the bills in the amount of \$1,473,062.90, Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**WASTEWATER – EMPLOYEE REPLACEMENT** Mike Cook advised he had an employee planning to retire in April and shared he would be coming to the Board around February or March for permission to fill the open position.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT – VEHICLE REPLACEMENT** Tony Hively reported it was that time of year that they start to look at vehicle replacement and asked approval to begin the process. Mayor Daniel questioned what type of vehicles they were leaning towards. Chief Hively advised an all-wheel drive Charger and possibly Dodge Durango.

The Board was in agreement to move forward.

**COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT – PART TIME EMPLOYEE**

**REPLACEMENT** Tony Hively shared his part time dispatcher resigned and requested permission to fill the vacancy. He was unsure when he would begin the process as they were in other processes right now but wanted to get approval.

The Board was in agreement to move forward.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT – ARSON SNIFFING DOG** Tom LaRue reported one of his volunteers was a full time police officer/firefighter for the airport. He shared he was approached by some K9 trainers from Allen County who do arson sniffing dogs; they have offered him a very inexpensive dog and wondered if Columbia City would be interested in contracting with him. Chief LaRue advised the City would pay the \$300 for the dog and put him under contract to provide services for us. He asked permission to research the idea.

Walt Crowder questioned if this was something that would be introduced to the Whitley County Chief's Association or just the City. Chief LaRue advised it would be for the City of Columbia City but felt it could be used anywhere. He wanted to see what the interest was but did not want to put a lot of effort into it if the Board was not interested.

The Board was in agreement to do the research.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

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Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

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Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle