

**BOARD OF WORKS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2024
5:00 PM**

Mayor Ryan Daniel – Present
Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle – Present
Attorney Marcia McNagny – Absent
Daniel Weigold – Present
Lisa Smith – Present

The Columbia City Board of Works met in regular session with all members present. Mayor Daniel called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

MINUTES Mayor Daniel noted a possible spelling correction under the park trail bid award discussion and requested to double check that. Dan Weigold made a motion to approve the October 22, 2024, meeting minutes. Lisa Smith seconded the motion, Dan Weigold and Lisa Smith voted unanimously; Mayor Daniel abstained.

Mayor Daniel noted his name was spelled incorrectly under the Conflict-of-Interest discussion. Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the minutes from November 12, 2024, with the noted change. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, Mayor Daniel and Dan Weigold voted unanimously; Lisa Smith abstained.

AGREEMENT FOR PARKVIEW SHARED CLINIC Mayor Daniel explained that we currently have an agreement with the school corporation and then the school is the agreement holder with Parkview for our clinic. He reported that Parkview and the school corporation have decided to move to a shared clinic model which basically means that if other companies want to buy into the clinic, they can do that. He expressed that one of our biggest concerns was making sure our employees have the option to get into the clinic and not have to wait a long time. He advised Parkview has assured us that our employees will not see much of a difference and have said they have 3 levers they can pull; one lever being the expansion of times that are offered, two being that they can expand the providers at the clinic and three is they can add additional locations. He explained from our side, it will be a direct pay situation rather than us paying the school. He added that currently there are outside costs for certain tests and services but those will now be rolled into this agreement. He advised it will be a two-year agreement and we will actually see a decrease in the fees. He felt it was a win for now and has assured our Wellness Committee and Parkview that if for some reason we feel this is not a win for the city, then we will be opting out of the contract after the two years.

Mayor Daniel thought our current fee was \$67 per participant and this will knock it down to \$50.00 per participant with a 3% increase annually.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the Health and Wellness Services Agreement with Parkview Employer Solutions as presented. Lisa Smith seconded the motion, all voted unanimously.

ACCEPTANCE OF REAL PROPERTY – JAIL Mayor Daniel advised we were approached by the county with the consideration of whether or not the city had an interest in acquiring the Whitley County Jail when they move out. He explained the first thing they did was take a walk through and then engaged an engineer to take a look at the property to see if it was in good shape, bad shape or if there were issues. He reported the engineer came back and said it was a solid building. He felt that the county has been very forthright with us and has given us all the records that they have on the building. He advised the building has been well maintained, it was not super old but obviously structurally very strong and very sound, and it is on the courthouse square which holds a lot of value for the city to have control of, at the very least.

Mayor Daniel shared they were putting in some planning as to what potentially could go in there. He stated that the Police Department is spread out on three different levels here in City Hall and it was probably time for them to have their own space. He advised they have training areas out at Eagle Park, we have police cars out at the MSF, they just have a lot of things that are scattered, and this would bring everything in house as well as some other things that could go in there.

Mayor Daniel explained the agreement in the meeting packet was for the property transfer and the Resolution will be considered by Council so the Board's acceptance of the property will be pending the Council's approval. He reviewed some of the provisions of the agreement. He noted the possession date would be on or before March 1, 2025, and there would be no direct costs involved, we would not be paying the county for this property, it would be a donation to the city for the good of our citizens and for the good of Whitley County. He explained this has to be a multi-step process, the Board of Works would be the one to accept the property and then the Council would have to approve the agreement. He noted it would include the parking lot in the back.

Dan Weigold felt it was good to take advantage of the situation. He understood that we would probably have to put some expenses towards it to make it more convenient and fit our needs. He felt there will be a lot of possibilities there.

Mayor Daniel shared that he and Rosie have been working a little bit on funding mechanisms to do renovations for the building. He noted that the nice thing about this was that if for some reason we either cannot find the funding, or we decide to go a different direction, we can either give it back to the county or, if they do not want it, we can then figure out how to dispose of it. He felt it was worth a shot.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the Real Property Transfer Agreement and accept the property from Whitley County as presented. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted unanimously.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION – PARKING REQUESTS Mayor Daniel explained the request was for parking on the South side of the courthouse square as they have requested every other year. He noted the only concern was from the electric department regarding not receiving permission to use the pole lights and requested Rosie let them know to get things worked out with Shawn when reporting back to them on the closing.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the Whitley County Community Celebration as presented. Lisa Smith seconded the motion, all voted unanimously.

STREET CLOSING – LIGHTED CHRISTMAS PARADE Mayor Daniel noted the change that was discussed last year about closing the 200 block of West Van Buren as well as the 100 block of South Chauncey Street. He felt that made a lot of sense for safety reasons.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the 12th annual Whitley County Lighted Christmas Parade as presented. Lisa Smith seconded the motion, all voted unanimously.

BILLS Lisa Smith made a motion to pay all accounts payable in the amount of \$371,716.74 from the allowance of accounts payable vouchers dated 11/26/24 for checks. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted unanimously.

Lisa Smith made a motion to pay all accounts payable in the amount of \$1,401,058.25 from the allowance of accounts payable vouchers dated 11/26/24 for EFT payments. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted unanimously.

Lisa Smith made a motion to pay all accounts payable in the amount of \$2,758.69 for the allowance of account payable vouchers dated 11/25/24 for meter deposit credits. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted unanimously.

PAYROLL Lisa Smith made a motion to pay all accounts payable except overtime in the amount of \$291,670.42 plus overtime in the amount of \$6,814.27 for a total of \$298,484.69 for the pay file ending 11/15/24. Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS **Kelly Cearbaugh** - update on Timbers Edge Subdivision, working with one of the guys from Fleming about doing sewer testing after the holidays, continue with leaf pickup and grating alleys, making transition with new 811 process. **Chip Hill** - Blue River Trail will start February/March and light poles were being poured today at Eagle Park. Mayor Daniel shared information on the Retail Live event he and Chip attended in Indianapolis. **Matt Heiden** - winterizing buildings, starting to build the props for the father/daughter dance, waiting to hear when they can get the DeVol tunnel inspected, Park Board accepted new rates for the pool, memberships and pavilion rental rates. **Gary Parrett** – Jeffrey Ewing and Jamall Smith have both been approved and will start Monday, December 2nd, Officer Fuller has started in the FTO process prior to him going out to the schools as a SRO, took new vehicles to Cops Gear to be fully equipped, Stuff the Cruiser coming up on December 6th and 7th from 6 to 8 pm, Patrolling for Presents will be December 15th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm and are expecting about 80 to 100 children, Lighted Christmas Parade is this Friday, Turkey Trot is Thanksgiving morning at the YMCA, dispatched changed out tabletop. **Terry Wherry** – Test Kitchen in final phases for the work he needs to complete, continuing with server migration, Spectrum was in to install software on the new SCADA server, shut the network down this morning for about 45 minutes to upgrade our VM's. **Mike Shoda** – update on lead line testing. **Tom LaRue** – update on repair of fire training facility, December 24th will be their annual candy giveaway, update on hiring process, the building facade is complete except for Craycraft Signs is producing a new Maltese cross that will go in the center, performance evaluations are about half done, test Baby Box daily.

MAYOR REPORT Mayor Daniel reminded everyone that City Hall will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday and Shop Small Saturday is the following Saturday. He gave an update on the new 811 locate process.

Having no further business to come before the Board, Mayor Daniel called the meeting adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle