

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY
VALPARAISO, INDIANA
January 12, 2024**

The Board of Public Works & Safety of Valparaiso, Indiana met January 12, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. in City Hall. Present were Holly Howe, Mayor Costas and Bill Oeding. Mayor Costas called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion: Holly Howe moved that the minutes of the December 20, 2023 meeting be approved. Seconded by Bill Oeding and so approved with a 3-0 vote.

Motion: Bill Oeding moved that the claims be approved for payment subject to appropriation balances. Seconded by Holly Howe and so approved with a 3-0 vote.

McCord Road Improvements – Topographic Survey

Max Rehlander addressed the Board. The Engineering Department has reached out for proposals from multiple firms to provide a topographic survey for McCord Road between Calumet Ave and Roosevelt Road. The topographic survey will be used to assist with roadway improvement design. In addition, Engineering Staff are reviewing potential for storm sewer and pathway improvements. The Engineering Department received the following lump sum fee proposals:

Abonmarche	\$5,800 (Lowest Consultant)
McMahon	\$14,200
A & Z Engineering	\$18,600

The Engineering Department recommends approval of the Abonmarche agreement in complete topographic survey in the amount of \$5,800.

Mayor Costas – What is the end goal of the improvements?

Max Rehlander – Overall redesign of the roadway itself. Storm sewer improvements. Pathway or sidewalk. And addressing the road condition.

Holly Howe – Currently there are no sidewalks on McCord?

Max Rehlander – There is. It is a patchwork of old sidewalk. The City did a pathway on the south side of McCord from Fairlane to Calumet. The topographic survey will do research on the right of way. They will also find the rods for any property corners.

MOTION: Mayor Costas moved to approve the Abonmarche agreement in complete topographic survey in the amount of \$5,800. Holly Howe seconded the motion and so approved with a 3-0 vote.

Von Tobel's Land Lease Termination

Bill Oeding addressed the Board. The lease with Von Tobel's for the land west of the Franklin House (rail spur and lumber storage area) requires a 12-month termination notice. Von Tobel will make the final annual rent payment in January for calendar year 2024 and requests that the Lease be terminated on December 31, 2024.

MOTION: Mayor Costas moved to accept the Notice of Land Lease Termination from Von Tobel. Holly Howe seconded the motion and so approved with a 3-0 vote.

C Lee Construction Services Proposal

Bill Oeding addressed the Board. He presented a proposal from C. Lee for demolition of the pole barn at the old Public Works on Don Hovey Drive. C. Lee was the lowest proposal at \$39,515.00.

MOTION: Holly Howe moved to approve the Contract from C. Lee in the amount of \$39,515 for demolition of the building at 405 Don Hovey Drive subject to Attorney Lyp's review and approval. Bill Oeding seconded the motion and so approved with a 3-0 vote.

Public Official Position Schedule Bond

Debbie Cook addressed the Board. She presented Public Official Position Schedule Bond for the Deputy Clerks, Mayor, City Administrator, Transportation Director, Fire Pension Secretary and Police Pension Secretary. These do not require a signature just an approval.

MOTION: Mayor Costas moved to approve the Public Official Position Schedule Bonds. Bill Oeding seconded the motion and so approved with a 3-0 vote.

Request for Street Closures

- Katherine & Pierce Kelly Annual Hog Roast, Saturday, June 8, 2024 Noon-11:00 pm.

This has been reviewed and approved by all impacted departments.

MOTION: Mayor Costas moved to approve the Request for Street Closure as presented. Holly Howe seconded the motion and so approved with a 3-0 vote.

Anton Presentation – Property and Casualty Insurance Renewal

Jim Anton addressed the Board. The liability coverages: premises liability (\$10,000), public officials' errors and omissions (\$10,000), police professional liability (\$10,000), employment practices liability (\$10,000), employee benefits liability (\$1,000) and the excess liability limits all remain the same. The limits continue to satisfy the \$5,000,000 statutory cap for any one loss. All liability deductibles remain the same.

Blanket property limits were increased by almost \$4 Million. This includes inflationary factors as well as the addition of two solar arrays. The deductible did increase to \$15,000. This is largely due to claims and total property values - \$56,444,476. (\$270,769.22 Claims paid 2019-2023)

Inland Marine or mobile equipment values were increased by almost \$300,000. Similar to the property, this is to track inflation. The deductible remains the same. (\$1,000)

Auto Liability limits remain the same and the number of units was increased by a net total of 3 – 269 total. The auto liability deductible has increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000. This is due to claims and the size of the fleet. Additionally, \$925,000 was added to the physical damage schedule based on changes made last year. Auto physical damage deductibles have also increased from \$1,000 on comprehensive and \$2,500 on collision to \$5,000 respectively. Fire trucks are still insured on a replacement cost basis.

Workers' Compensation payroll was increased by approximately \$2.5M to reflect the most recent audit. Recent favorable claims and bad claims experiences falling off has led to the experience modification going from a 1.24 to 1.13.

Cyber Liability limits and terms remain the same. As a result of diligence in maintaining the network and enhanced security, the City will enjoy a premium savings of about \$27,242.45 for this line of coverage.

Overall, with the changes noted the City will see a 1% increase in cost for the 2024-2025 policy term. This represents an increase of \$3,004.55. total annual premium for all lines is \$885,267.55. The favorable cyber terms offset the increases presented by the other lines of coverage. This premium does not include any bonds.

2024-2025 Package Premium: \$444,691 (+\$14,916) HCC Tokyo Marine

2024-2025 Work Comp Premium: \$413,330 (+\$15,331) IPEP

2024-2025 Cyber Premium: \$27,246.55 (-\$27,242.45) Cowbell

Mayor Costas – What strategies do you use to make sure the City is getting the best coverage?

Jim Anton – They check the markets. This year there was not a lot of interest because of claims. In September of 2024 they will check again. All of the companies they solicit are A- or better. He will meet with all Department Heads to discuss insurance coverage.

MOTION: Mayor Costas moved to authorize Anton to proceed with coverage for 2024. Holly Howe seconded the motion and so approved with a 3-0 vote.

Public Comment

None

MOTION: Mayor Costas moved to adjourn. Bill Oeding seconded the motion and so approved with a 3-0 vote.

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned.