

**BOARD OF WORKS AND PUBLIC SAFETY
CITY OF HARTFORD CITY, INDIANA
MARCH 16, 2020
MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME: Mayor Dan Eckstein called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Works & Public Safety of Hartford City at 5:30PM.

ROLL CALL: Members of the board present were Mayor Dan Eckstein, Kristi Bonewit, and Pam Weiseman. Also present was Pam Fancher, Clerk Treasurer. City Attorney, Brandon Murphy, was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Ms. Bonewit made a motion to approve the Minutes from March 2, 2020; Ms. Weiseman seconded. Minutes approved 3-0.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Ms. Weiseman made a motion to approve claims of \$366,917.96; Ms. Bonewit seconded. Claims approved 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

A.) MOVE SEWER CREW BACK TO WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT- DISCUSSION. The tentative date for this change is June 1, 2020. Ms. Weiseman and Ms. Bonewit would like to meet with Mr. Thomas, and Mr. Williamson, Department Superintendents, to be informed of what this change will incur as to make an informed decision. An informational meeting will be arranged before the next Board of Works meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

A.) JEFF THOMAS-

1. PERMISSION TO HIRE SUMMER HELP. A motion was made by Ms. Bonewit grant permission to begin the application process for summer help; seconded by Ms. Weiseman. Permission granted 3-0.

2. \$.25 RAISE FOR CHRIS WITHERS FOR GETTING CDL LICENCE. A motion to approve \$.25 raise to Chris Withers was made by Ms. Weiseman; Seconded by Ms. Bonewit. Approved 3-0.

B.) COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR POSITION- DISCUSSION. Brian Maddox presented to the board his aspiration to hold the position of Communications Director for Hartford City. Mr. Maddox has had thirty years of experience as a communicator in radio, newspaper, and public television. He would welcome the opportunity to use his talents to fill this needed position. Sherri Brown, Community Educator with Purdue Extension, is excited to work alongside of Mr. Maddox as she needs someone with his abilities to make programs known to the public.

Council voted to change the salary ordinance to accommodate the position of Communications Director. This will begin as a temporary means of salary change as Mr. Maddox already holds the position of Parks Superintendent with a salary of \$20, 557 which is a permanent part-time position. The salary ordinance will be amended to afford \$7,500 added to Mr. Maddox's salary and to change his status to full time employment, making him eligible for benefits. This \$7,500 will be taken from EDIT fund and a line item moved to payroll under Park Superintendent.

Hours will be documented and submitted to the Clerk. Modification of this salary will be further discussed when the 2021 budget is created.

C.) Eric Woodmansee from AME Consulting introduced himself. He is from Gas City and is hoping to work with our City Department Superintendents on various projects.

BOARD INPUT:

Mayor Eckstein raised concerns over the new part-time police officers. Ms. Weiseman also expressed concern, but would not like to make those concerns public. The Board asked about the process used to hire. Chief McKissack invited the board to review the hiring policy. The board has decided to temporarily suspend the part-time officer program until they can review the policy and make sure proper guide lines are in place before moving further. A motion to suspend the Part-Time Police Officer program was made by Ms. Wiseman; Seconded by Ms. Bonewit. Motion carried 3-0.

Mayor Eckstein adjourned the meeting at 6:05.