



MADISON *Indiana*

Board of Public Works and Safety Minutes

MEETING DATE: December 19, 2022

MEETING PLACE: City Hall- Council Chambers

The Board of Public Works and Safety, City of Madison, Indiana, met at 11:30 AM in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

Present: Eaglin, Courtney, and Carlow (3-0).

Minutes: Carlow moved to approve December 5th, 2022, minutes, seconded by Eaglin. All in favor (3-0).

Adjustments: None.

Unfinished business: None.

New business:

HMI Lot Site Improvements Engineering & Permitting Services Agreement: Tony Steinhardt, City of Madison's Economic Development Director, presented the Board with a request to hire JTL to help with work associated with the Poplar St. site lot and the front lot at the corner of Vaughn and Poplar. This would fulfill the obligations with Historic Madison Incorporated real estate transfer, as well as some other improvements to Poplar St.

Motion: Courtney moved to approve Engagement JTL as presented, seconded by Eaglin. All in favor (3-0).

Fire Department Changes to SOPs: Kenny Washer, City of Madison Fire Chief, gave an update to the Board on the events from the past weekend. Shop with a Firefighter took place, Saturday, December 17th, 2022. The firefighters shopped with 90 kids and provided each kid with \$200.00. The firefighters partnered with the Elks, and were able to provide breakfast, pizza, and a visit with Santa Claus too. Kenny Washer then presented the Board with the Fire Department SOPs which are being revised. He is submitting them only for the Board's review at this time and will come back for the first meeting in January.

Blight Update: 705 Walnut St., the owner will be meeting with the building staff to review a plan and remove the unsafe structure. 755 W. 3rd St., a demo permit has been issued and there are plans for demolition. The owner is requesting a few days to grab a few more belongings out of the structure before demolition takes place.. 1207 Walnut St., the owner of the property is in the process of demolishing the structure with plans to rebuild.



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Blight Elimination PowerPoint: Duane O'Neal and Landon Ralston, the City of Madison Code Enforcement Officer and Building Inspector, gave the Board a presentation on 10 – 12 different properties regarding Blight Elimination. 427 nuisance cases were opened in 2022, 68 total neglected properties were identified, and 16 are in the abatement process now. Planning and Preservation are reporting to HDBR before the demolition of structures as a courtesy, but it is not a requirement.

Public Comment Regarding Blight: Jan Vetrhus, made a statement about another property on 4th street, suggesting the Board consider that similar to structures at Pearl Park as contributing to Historical Society Black History.

Pace Midpoint: 812 Walnut St.-Cynthia Stewart is requesting disbursement of 12,500,00. It has been deemed a dilapidated structure and she has finished over 50% of the project. Mostly interior work and now starting on exterior.

Motion: Eaglin moved to approve the midpoint, seconded by Carlow. All in favor (3-0).

Open Gov Live Demonstration: Nicole Schell, Director of Planning, gave the Board an overview and demonstration of the new permitting platform, Open Gov. Open Gov will make it a smoother process for both the public and staff and is still a work in progress that has not yet been launched but has plans to launch on January 1st, 2023.

Crystal Beach Updates: Tony Steinhardt updated the Board on Crystal Beach. The elevator has arrived and is currently being worked on. Tony introduced Tim Dolan to the Board. The city only received one bid for the pool construction, RL Turner, for \$8,030,000.00. The bid has been evaluated and RL Turner has been deemed reputable and capable of doing the work. Tim Dolan's recommendation is that the Board takes the bid under advisement and see if there are any additional changes to cut costs. There is a 30-day hold on the bid. The Board will review the scope of the project and discuss it at the January 3, 2023, meeting.

Claims: Carlow moved to approve, seconded by Eaglin. All in favor (3-0).

Mayor's comments: Mayor Courtney had a few comments he wanted to bring to the Board's attention. The city put into place a sidewalk asset management plan where there is a rating system for sidewalks around the city based on the need for improvement. A bid was awarded a few weeks ago for a fall sidewalk project. Another investment toward safer sidewalk improvement was the purchase of a sidewalk grinder to help with trip hazards. The Street Department has already addressed 35 hazardous spots around the downtown area.



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Mayor Courtney then invited City of Madison Police Chief, John Wallace, to talk about the success of Shop with a Cop. Wallace also requested that the Board approve the retirement of Officer Ben Flint's K9 Meko. Meko is 10 years old, and that is usually the standard age for a Police K9. Officer Ben Flint is also leaving the MPD to serve as the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department's Sheriff and the K-9 will stay with the family. It was also noted that the Community Foundation donated funds to assist with the purchase of Officer Midget's canine, Kane. MPD worked with ICAC (Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program) which resulted in an arrest of an individual at Jefferson Proving Ground over the weekend.

Motion: Eaglin moved to approve retiring Meko, seconded by Carlow. All in favor (3-0).

Public comment: Jan Vetrhus, 701 E. 2nd St, commented that finding contractors able to work on historic properties is difficult. Jan also had one question regarding the Paul Brun Grant that was awarded to Madison for working with PACE. She would like to know where the city is currently with that grant. Nicole Schell, Director of Planning, was able to answer her question, and let her know the city is working on getting the application processing and guidelines set up. A press release will be sent out when it is officially ready to go.

Shelby Boldery made a comment about demolitions and unsafe barriers surrounding them. He also requested an update with the Crooked Creek situation. Mayor Courtney informed him that the detention basin being built on the hilltop will assist with this issue at a minimal cost to the city. The city is still waiting on the response from the Army Corp of Engineers and money has been set aside to tackle this issue once the response is returned.

Adjourn: Carlow moved to adjourn, seconded by Eaglin. All in favor (3-0).

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 11:30 a.m.

Attested:


Kathleen M. Rampy, Clerk-Treasurer


Mayor Bob Courtney


David Carlow


Karl Eaglin

