

# MINUTES of July 26, 2021 Regular Meeting Board of Public Works & Safety and Stormwater Board

Held 2:00 p.m. Goshen Police & Court Building, 111 East Jefferson Street, Goshen, Indiana

Present: Member Mary Nichols, Member Mike Landis, Member Barb Swartley, Member DeWayne Riouse

Absent: Chair Jeremy Stutsman

Nichols/Riouse moved to approve the minutes of July 6 and July 19, 2021 as presented. Passed 4-0 Nichols/Riouse moved to approve the agenda as presented. Passed 4-0

## Bridge Closure: Indiana Avenue for Seal Coat

Director or Public Works Dustin Sailor presented the packet memo.

Sailor confirmed the Elkhart County Fair would be over by the time the closure is to begin.

Nichols/Riouse moved to approve the closure of Indiana Avenue Bridge the week of August 2, 2021 for seal coating, weather permitting. Passed 4-0

#### Bad Debt and Contractual Write Offs

Assistant Chief of EMS Bruce Nethercutt presented the packet memo.

Landis asked if this was only for the year 2021 as some of the dates were as far back as 2013.

Nethercutt asked the Board to check with Fire Chief Dan Sink as Sink was not able to attend the meeting and would know more. He explained that insurance companies pay only a percentage of the invoice. He added that the cities collection rate of 73% is considered high.

Nichols/Riouse moved to approve the Goshen Fire Department's request to write off bad debts and contractual write offs for January 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021 in the amount of \$388,275.81. Passed 4-0



## Resolution 2021-18: Authorization of Purchase of Ambulance Chassis

City Attorney Bodie Stegelmann presented the packet memo.

Fleet Maintenance Manager Carl Gaines stated the Goshen Fire Department is short on ambulances due to mechanical issues and a battery fire that damaged a chassis. Added that the wait time for an ordered chassis is a year and more parts cannot be ordered until the chassis comes in.

Nichols/Riouse moved to adopt Resolution 2021-18 and approve an Agreement with Selking International to purchase a certain 2019 International CV515 SFA Ambulance Chassis at a cost of \$77,100.00. Passed 4-0

### Privilege of the Floor

No one spoke.

## Building Commissioner Order: 521 South Main Street

Rental Housing Inspector Ryan Conrad presented the updated inspection report. (Attached as Exhibit A)

Conrad reviewed each time the property was inspected and how no repairs have been done. Conrad explained each violation listed on page one if the order. Cited the chimney is not structurally sound. Conrad stated it was the Building Department's recommendation that the Order be referred to the Legal Department for enforcement.

Conrad added that a property manager working for Property Owner Ron Davidhizar was on site this morning making repairs. Conrad stated the repairs we not performed in the best workmanship. Davidhizar was not present for the meeting and the property manager was notified of the hearing. The property manager informed Conrad that Davidhizar was ill.

Landis asked that with Davidhizar's health, if the City could combine all the homes Davidhizar owns that are not in compliance into one Order and what would happen to the remaining homes.

Stegelmann listed the options the Board could take and what actions the Legal Department could act upon. Added that a receiver could be appointed and repairs would be billed to the property owner.

Swartley commented that inspecting house by house costs the City a large amount of time and money. Added this process has been going on for many years. Swartley mentioned that she remembers the house in questions once was a doctor's office she used to visit.

Riouse said that he is sympathetic towards Davidhizar's health issues. However, the home has been in a decaying state for years.



Landis/Nichols moved to find the five items listed on page one of the Order to not be up to City Code and unsafe for habitation for the property at 521 South Main Street and to refer the matter to the Legal Department for future action. Passed 4-0

Landis/Nichols moved to approve Civil City and Utility claims and adjourn. Passed 4-0

Adjournment at 2:20 p.m.

Exhibit A: Building Department Updated Inspection Report. 12 pages

**APPROVED** 

Jeremy Stutsman, Chair

Michael Landis, Member

Mary Nichols, Member

Barb Swartley, Member

DeWayne Riouse, Member



**ATTEST** 

Richard Aguirre, Clerk-Treasurer