



**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY & STORMWATER BOARD  
MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 1, 2024 REGULAR MEETING**

*Convened in the Goshen Police & Court Building, 111 East Jefferson St., Goshen, Indiana*

**Present:** Mayor Gina Leichty, Mike Landis, Orv Myers, Mary Nichols and Barb Swartley

**Absent:** None

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Leichty called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

**REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES:** Mayor Leichty presented the minutes of the July 25, 2024 Regular Meeting as prepared by Clerk-Treasurer Richard R. Aguirre. Board member Barb Swartley moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Board member Mike Landis. The motion passed 5-0.

**REVIEW/APPROVE AGENDA:** Mayor Leichty presented the agenda but recommended item #4, Clerk-Treasurer's Office request: Approve revised agreements for City employee time and attendance services with Right Stuff Software Corp. and ADP, through Baker Tilly, be tabled until the Aug. 8 meeting. Board member Swartley moved to approve the agenda as amended. Board member Landis seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

1) Blue Knights IN VIII Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club request: Approve street and intersection closures for the 26th annual Riding to Remember Fallen Police, Firefighter and Veteran charity motorcycle ride on Sunday, Sept. 8, 2024 (Officer James Ballard)

Goshen Police Officer James Ballard, president of the Blue Knights IN VIII Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, asked that the Board to approve street and intersection closures for the 26th Annual Riding to Remember Fallen Police, Firefighter, and Veteran charity motorcycle ride, which will be held Sunday, Sept. 8, 2024. He said the club raises money from this event for public safety and firefighter children's charities throughout Elkhart County. Attached to Officer Ballard's written request was the route of the motorcycle ride and the estimated time of arrival of the 800 to 1,100 motorcycles into Goshen, where a short memorial service will be held.

In a written request, Officer Ballard wrote that he would be asking Mayor Gina Leichty to speak along with other dignitaries during the memorial. He requested the following street closures for the Memorial service:

- 5th Street from Lincoln Avenue south to Madison Street
- Overflow closure: 5th Street south of Madison Street to Monroe Street
- Jefferson Street from Main Street to 6th Street

Officer Ballard also requested coordination between the Police and Fire Departments as well as Ballard to provide traffic control along the route at the intersections listed in his documentation.

Besides his memorandum, Ballard provided the Board with a route map, an itinerary of the event, a flier and news release about the event, and a list of Elkhart County's fallen heroes.

Mayor Leichty asked if Officer Ballard had discussed the street closures with City Street Commissioner David Gibbs. Officer Ballard said he would coordinate with Gibbs and affected City departments, including Police.

Swartley/Landis moved to approve the requested street and intersection closures for the 26th Annual Riding to Remember Fallen Police, Firefighter, and Veteran charity motorcycle ride that will be held Sunday, Sept. 8, 2024 The motion passed 5-0.

2) Environmental Resilience Department request: Authorize the purchase of Bloomerang software to assist in managing communications, donations, and volunteers



**Aaron Sawatsky Kingsley, Director of the City Department of Environmental Resilience**, asked the Board to approve the purchase of Bloomerang software to assist in managing communications, donations, and volunteers. **Sawatsky Kingsley** said this software will allow the department to regularly engage with persons and organizations that it interacts with as staff members provide services and bring public education to the community.

**Sawatsky Kingsley** said this software will provide event management assistance for workshops and events. It also will allow the department to engage volunteers online to participate in a multitude of opportunities from data entry to invasive species removal. It will make the process efficient for both our personnel and to the volunteer who will be able to complete service waivers online.

In their written request, staff members from the Environmental Resilience Department wrote that less known to the public is the fact that tree planting is not solely paid for with the City's budget. The Trail of Hope has been primarily supported by donations. As times became tough during the COVID pandemic, the Department has seen a reduction in large donations. This software is a database for managing relationships that can lead to donor opportunities. The Trail of Hope is one such example where donor generosity can make a difference.

Thanks to a USDA Forestry grant, staff members indicated that the City will benefit from an influx of new opportunities during the next three years. The department believes that the City has many generous residents and businesses that would support this work beyond the grant period.

The Environmental Resilience Department has the funds to pay for the software, \$5,000 each year for two years.

**Mayor Leichty** asked if the software usage could be expanded to other City Departments. **Sawatsky Kingsley** said it was and that preliminary discussions were held with Parks and Recreation Department staff members who are interested. The Mayor said her office might also be interested in using the software as well as the Community Relations Commission.

**Swartley/Landis** made a motion to allow **Mayor Leichty** to electronically authorize the 2-year purchase of Bloomerang software for \$5,000 per year. The motion passed 5-0.

**3) Engineering Department request: Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the Financial Rescission Letter to be submitted to the Indiana Department of Transportation**

**City Director of Public Works & Utilities Dustin Sailor** told the Board that the City of Goshen was awarded \$1,500,000.00 through the Community Crossings Matching Grant Fund (CCMGF) 2024-1.

However, **Sailor** said the City of Goshen learned that the City must rescind the awarded funds as a result of design status and utility relocation delays from the Indiana Avenue portion of the proposed project. He said the City will re-apply for state funds.

**Swartley/Landis** made a motion to approve and authorize the **Mayor** to sign the Financial Rescission Letter to be submitted to the Indiana Department of Transportation. The motion passed 5-0.

**Privilege of the Floor (opportunity for public comment for matters not on the agenda):**

**Mayor Leichty** opened Privilege of the Floor at 4:11 p.m.

**Board member Landis** said a construction boom lift, which was not approved by the Board, has been parked for a week in front of Woodruff Footwear, 129 South Main St., for some painting work. He asked if it could be moved before First Friday, Aug. 2. **Mayor Leichty** said she would need to check and that **Landis** raised a good point.

**Mayor Leichty** closed Privilege of the Floor at 4:12 p.m.



Approval of Civil City and Utility Claims

As all matters before the Board of Public Works & Safety were concluded, Mayor Leichy/Board member Swartley moved to approve Civil City and Utility claims and adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

Adjournment

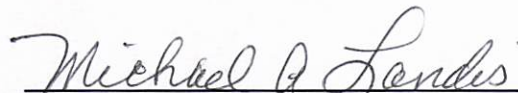
Mayor Leichy adjourned the Board of Public Works and Safety meeting at 4:12 p.m.

APPROVED:




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Mayor Gina Leichy




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Mike Landis, Member



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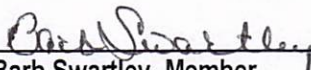
Orv Myers, Member



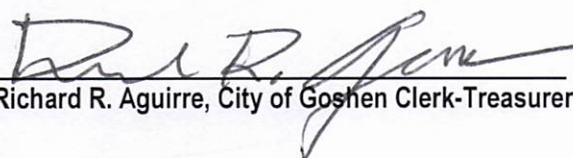
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Mary Nichols, Member



  
Barb Swartley, Member

ATTEST:

  
Richard R. Aguirre, City of Goshen Clerk-Treasurer