



November 4, 2024
Board of Works

Present:

Mike Hartman, Mayor
Gale Ryan, Board of Works
Bob Haywood, Board of Works
Angela Eck, Clerk-Treasurer
Mark Cline, Street Superintendent
Ron Mausteller, Fire Chief
Andrew Provines, City Planner
Donald Stuckey, City Attorney
Matt Traster, Police Chief

Absent:

Stuart Mutzfeld, Code Enforcement

Mayor Hartman opened the regular session of the Board of Works at 6:30 pm at 215 South Broadway.

The minutes from the October 21st meeting were presented. Mr. Haywood made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Ryan seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Mayor Hartman asked for comments or questions from audience pertaining to the agenda items.
None

Payments and Vouchers

Pay Period 10/21 to 11/3 in the amount of \$41,623.51

Annual Volunteer Firefighter Pay in the amount of \$49,083.52

October Elected Pay in the amount of \$5,371.54

Vouchers for the period 10/15 to 10/28 in the amount of \$954,556.93

Mr. Ryan made a motion to approve the claims and vouchers as presented and Mr. Haywood seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Utility Billing Adjustment Requests:

2024-43 for 136 Walnut Street. Setter in meter pit leaking. Credit account \$464.61

Mr. Haywood made a motion to approve the adjustments and Mr. Ryan seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Planning

City Planner Andrew Provines reported that the Plan Commission will meet next Monday, the 11th at 6:30 pm.



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Police Department

Police Chief Matt Traster reported that the east wall of the police station has been primed and part of the roof has been repaired.

Fire Department

Fire Chief Ron Mausteller reported that the second Lucas CPR devices is in service on truck 33.

Street Department

Street Superintendent Mark Cline presented updated quotes for the generator repairs. The new total is a little over \$400 less at a total of \$5,670.35. Mr. Haywood made a motion to approve Evapar to make the repairs to the generators at a cost not to exceed \$5,670.35 and Mr. Ryan seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Mr. Cline also reported that he has ordered 50 tons of road salt. He plans on ordering the second half next year.

Riley Hamman reported that 212 North Pearl is continuing to be improved. The second story now has drywall and that he hopes to start the exterior siding in the near future.

Mr. Ryan asked Mayor Hartman if the City is responsible for keeping people out of the former Engineered Materials Building by making it secure. Mayor Hartman replied that he is working to get steel siding donated to close the building up.

Mayor

Mayor Hartman reported that Clint Sites has agreed to be the Water Operator in Charge. It will cost the City approximately \$625 per week plus \$250 to file the monthly report. Mayor Hartman estimates that it will be about \$2,800 for the month of November. Mayor Hartman is still trying to find an outside contractor to be the Operator in Charge for next year. He expects this to cost the City about \$50,000 per year. He stated that this is much more than what Scott was being paid.

Mayor Hartman reported that he will be hiring a Pre-Treatment Wastewater Consultant to assist in the wastewater operations at a cost of approximately \$100,000 to \$150,000 per year. He will start the interviewing process soon. He is also trying to find a different company to perform the quarterly Wet Testing since the current company continues to fail our testing.

Teri Fritch from 324 Meadowmere asked Mayor Hartman who is working on the Lead Service Line inventory that was due to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management on October 16th. She asked if the City was in violation of the Lead Rule and if grants were lost because of it. Mayor Hartman stated that IDEM said that the City is "in compliance" and that we have until November 14th to get the lead line letters out.

An unidentified audience member asked Mayor Hartman if all of this extra expense was because the Clerk-Treasurer caused Scott Lanning to quit. This led to Mayor Hartman going through what he thought was the timeline of events that caused Scott to quit. Mayor Hartman stated that the



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Clerk-Treasurer didn't follow the proper chain of command and that the Clerk-Treasurer called IDEM multiple times. Mayor Hartman stated that the Clerk-Treasurer called IDEM on September 19th when Mayor Hartman was out of the country. Mayor Hartman stated that he spoke with Alex Powers at IDEM and that the Clerk-Treasurer called IDEM in September and October and initiated the conversations. Mayor Hartman stated that "had Angela not made that phone call to IDEM questioning Scott's licensing, Scott Lanning would still be in that seat." Mayor Hartman also stated that all employees, except the two assigned to her department, fall under the Mayor's office. He stated that if Clerk-Treasurer Eck didn't stay in her "sandbox" the City would be losing a lot more good employees.

Clerk-Treasurer Eck repeatedly stated that she only called IDEM once, the Thursday before Labor Day and that phone records would show that fact.

Amy Prosser asked Clerk-Treasurer Eck if she was disputing the statement that Mayor Hartman made claiming that she called IDEM multiple times. Clerk-Treasurer Eck stated yes, she only called IDEM once.

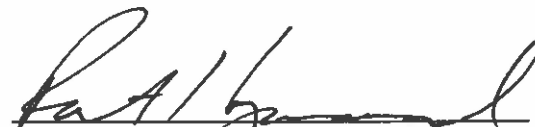
Mayor Hartman stated that Gavyn Aden is the Operator in Charge of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Mayor Hartman stated that the City may sell off the water utility to a private firm.

Terry Fritch asked Mayor Hartman who trained Scott. Mayor Hartman didn't know. Terry Fritch requested information pertaining to Scott's pay and a breakdown of how it was distributed between the utilities.

Mr. Haywood made a motion to adjourn at 7:17 pm and Mr. Ryan seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.


Mayor


Board of Works


Clerk-Treasurer


Board of Works