

# REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 7, 2008

The Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Michigan City, Indiana, met in REGULAR SESSION on Monday, morning, January 7, 2008, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., in the Council Chambers, in the City Hall Building, located at 100 East Michigan Boulevard, Michigan City, Indiana - a regular meeting room of this Board.

The meeting was called to order by Anthony Metzcus, who presided.

**Noted Present:** Anthony Metzcus, President; Mayor Charles Oberlie, Member; and John Schaefer, Member (3).

**Absent:** None (0).

**A QUORUM WAS NOTED PRESENT.**

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Schaefer moved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 26, 2007 be approved as printed. The Motion was seconded by Mayor Oberlie and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

Also noted in attendance:

John Espar, City Attorney and Board Counsel  
Jim Elwell, Superintendent, Central Services  
Cpl. Jeff Loniewski, Traffic Division, M.C.P.D.  
Al Walus, General Manager, Sanitary District  
Joe Siegel, Zoning Administrator  
Russ Hatfield, Code Inspector  
John Pugh, Director, Planning & Inspection  
Boyd Phelps, City Engineer  
Dave Lamb, Fire Chief, M.C. Fire Dept.  
Jason Miller, The News Dispatch

Gale Neulieb, Deputy Clerk  
Kim Sliwa, Assistant Deputy Clerk

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mayor Oberlie made the motion to retain the current officers of the Board; seconded by John Schaefer and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

## **DEMOLITION REVIEW**

### **910 Green Street** – James and Doris Gast, owners

Russ Hatfield, Code Enforcement Officer addressed the Board stating they are waiting for a schedule and a contract for a buyer from the Gast family.

Doris Gast owner of 910 Green Street stated that the first potential buyer for this property fell through, but they do have a Land Contract signed with Cassandra English and a schedule for exterior repairs; Ms. English is asking that the Board grant her 180 to 240 days to complete the following repairs: 1) replace roof on main structure 2) replace siding 3) replace broken windows throughout, with the interior work being done following these repairs (and periodically if financing allows). Ms. English has had the work looked at by Mike Garrett of “Those One Guys Construction”. Ms. English will start the work within 30 days, starting with the roof first.

Inspector Hatfield recommended to the Board that if no progress is made on the property in 30 days that they continue on with the demolition. Mayor Oberlie requested that a status report be brought back to the Board every 60 days for review. The Board asked Ms. Gast for a copy of the letter from Ms. English and a copy of the signed Land Contract for the record. Inspector Hatfield asked Ms. Gast to have Ms. English contact him to formalize and complete the paperwork; then it be forwarded to the City Attorney.

Mayor Oberlie asked for a status report every 60 days; seconded by John Schaefer and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

## **FIRE MERIT COMMISSION ELECTION RESULTS**

Mr. Keith Harris was elected to the Fire Merit Commission by a vote of 15 to 7 on December 20, 2007.

Mayor Oberlie explained the Ordinance requires the election to be held by the Board, with certification being tabulated by the Board for acceptance. Reviewing of the voting records certifies that both candidates are qualified as Republicans which is required under the Ordinance.

Mayor Oberlie moved to accept the results of the election effective as of this date; seconded by John Schaefer and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

## **4-WAY STOP REQUEST**

The following correspondence was received from Rose Taylor:

I live on 950 West off of 400 N. by the Cleveland Ave. extension. I am requesting that a 4 way stop be installed at that intersection. The traffic on 400 N. continues to increase and when a vehicle on Cleveland Ave. gets a break in traffic to turn the vehicles behind them continue to turn (without stopping) even though I have the right of way. A week ago Tuesday this occurred and I thought I was going to get hit. This has happened often and I am concerned for the safety of vehicles that are trying to turn on 400 N. from 950 W. With a 4 lane road in the works this will only escalate the chances of accidents occurring from both ends. Please consider it for the safety of the area.

John Pugh, Director, Inspection & Planning addressed the Board and stated reasons for the request to be held until construction is finished.

Mayor Oberlie moved that Mr. Pugh meet with the County Commissioner to address/evaluate this intersection to see if something could be done in the interim period to help with this problem; seconded by Mr. Metzcus and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

Rose Taylor addressed the Board with her concerns regarding this safety issue.

**CLAIMS AND PAYROLL**

John Schaefer, City Controller moved that the claims set forth in the Register of Claims (in possession of the City Controller) and appearing in the Register be severally allowed and ordered paid and proper warrants for payment thereof hereby ordered issued in the stated amounts to person(s) and/or firm(s) as set forth, and payrolls approved. The motion was seconded by Mayor Oberlie and carried as follows: **AYES: MEMBERS Metzcus, Oberlie, and Schaefer (3). NAYS: None (0). Motion carries.**

The Board signed: Payroll Items in Register of Claims for informational purposes (which Register is in the possession of the City Controller) as follows:

Page	Date	Amount
1 of 7	01/04/2008	\$403,727.97
1 of 3	12/28/2007	\$313,978.47
1 of 1	12/31/2007	\$43,751.02

**CLERK’S MEMO**

Tony Metzcus, Board President, stated that the following dates will change for the Board of Works and Safety Meetings in 2008.

**Monday, January 21, 2008 to Tuesday, January 22, 2008**  
**Monday, February 18, 2008 to Tuesday, February 19, 2008**  
**Monday, September 1, 2008 to Tuesday, September 2, 2008**

Mayor Oberlie moved to accept the changes in the schedule for the above Board Meetings for 2008. Motion seconded by Mr. Metzcus, and carried by the following vote: **AYES: MEMBERS Schaefer, Metzcus, and Oberlie (0). NAYS: None (0).**

**PLAN COMMISSION APPOINTMENT**

Mayor Oberlie moved to reappoint Mr. John Carr to the Plan Commission to represent the Board of Works; seconded by John Schaefer and carried by the following vote:  
**AYES: MEMBERS Schaefer, Metzcus, and Oberlie (0). NAYS: None (0).**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The presiding officer inquired whether there was anything else to be considered by the Board at this time and, there being none, declared the meeting ADJOURNED (approximately 9:12 a.m.)

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Thomas F. Fedder, City Clerk