

**Board of Public Works and Safety
Berne City Building, 158 W Franklin Street
Wednesday, January 18, 2017
Minutes**

Mayor McKean-Present

Curtis Wurster-Present

Ron Dull- **Absent**

The Board of Public Works and Safety met on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 8:00 am in council chambers along with City Attorney Dave Baumgartner and Secretary of Record Becky Sprunger. An agenda was posted at the door.

Others in attendance: city employees Kurt Dailey, John Crider, Police Chief Tim Taylor, Shannon Smitley and Gary Nussbaum.

Mayor McKean called the meeting to order and verified a quorum.

Approval of Minutes On a motion by Curtis and a second by Mayor McKean, the minutes from December 21, 2016 were unanimously approved as written.

Black Bear Meadows Addition II: Petition for Annexation, Dedication and Declaration of Protective Restrictions, Covenants, Limitations, Easements and Approvals: Dave reported that the Plan Commission previously approved the Plat Plan for Black Bear Meadows Addition II. There will still be a hearing for the Plan Commission and the Council on Monday, January 23, 2017 for Black Bear Meadows , but the Board of Works also has to approve the annexation. On a motion by Curtis and a second by Mayor McKean, the board unanimously approved accepting the petition for annexation of Black Bear Meadows, Addition II.

Request for Street Repair Mayor McKean shared pictures of Columbia Drive that a resident brought in to his office showing the poor condition of the street. They have asked the city in prior years if the street could be repaved instead of always trying to patch the street every spring. Mayor McKean asked Street Superintendent Gary Nussbaum if he would look at the street and advise if it can be milled and paved this year as part of the annual street repair program. Gary will look in to the street and report back but believes it can be done.

Mayor McKean said he had another citizen ask if West Franklin street is on the 2017 paving list. Gary reported that the area in question is not in bad shape and the board agreed that it should not be considered for paving this year.

“Free” Newspaper Littering: Mayor McKean reported that he has taken complaints from citizens about the littering of free papers, mainly the Echo. Papers are delivered to homes that do not want them, or homes that are unoccupied. Clint Anderson of the Berne Witness also commented that he was interested in what the board might be able to do as he is not pleased about the practice either, adding that his paper, the Berne Witness receives complaints because citizens think that the Witness is distributing the free papers.

Dave advised the board that caution should be taken to not infringe on the publications right of Freedom of the Press, but perhaps a letter encouraging better polices might be in order. After further discussion, Dave said he will do some research to see if a property owner can request that they not receive the Echo or Berne Shopping news, something like the no call list. He will report back to the board.

Board Comments- Mayor McKean asked Shannon to give an update on the storm water pond behind the Fire Station. Shannon reported that Kurt had jetted the line, but water was still not going down. Shannon said that after calling Bluhm and Reber the line was cleaned out and the water did go down. Shannon said Mike Dubach will also be cleaning out the pond.

With nothing else to come before the board and on a motion by Curtis and a second by Mayor McKean, the meeting was adjourned.