

May 17, 2017

The Board of Public Works and Safety met for a regular meeting at 8:00 a.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Members present were: Mayor Bill McKean, Ron Dull and Curtis Wurster. Attorney Dave Baumgartner and Gwen Maller were also present. The meeting agenda was posted at the front entrance to the city building.

On a motion by Ron Dull and a second by Curtis Wurster, the minutes from the April 19, 2017 and April 28, 2017 meetings were unanimously approved.

Dumpster Ordinance

Attorney Baumgartner presented an ordinance to regulate the disposal of trash at the City Garage. The Board reviewed the ordinance and discussion was held. Mayor McKean stated that the dumpsters were overflowing and the area was a mess again on Monday, even after heavy trash pick up the week before. Ron Dull stated that he is in favor of getting the ordinance passed and signs in place to see if it helps reduce the amount of trash at the Jefferson Street garage. He stated that he isn't opposed to a fence or cameras, but wanted to wait to see if the first step would work. Ron Dull made a motion to recommend that the Ordinance be forwarded to Council for their review. Curtis Wurster made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

Mayor McKean stated that he came across an article about the need for automated external defibrillators (AED) and stated that this is something that he sees as a need due to his heart issues a couple of years ago. He stated that he is not sure if our police cars even have one. The cost estimate is \$1,500 - \$2,000 per unit. Ron Dull stated that the Mayor should talk to the Police Chief and come up with a proposal.

Annual Township Fire Contracts

The annual fire contracts were presented for Board approval. The contracts are for fire protection for Monroe, Jefferson, Hartford, French, Wabash and Blue Creek townships. The contracts are for 2018 and represent a 3% increase from the 2017 contracts. Curtis Wurster made a motion to approve the 2018 contracts with the six townships with the 3% increase. Ron Dull made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

Other

Shannon Smitley reported that he has been trying to contact Bill Zahn, whose company did the demolition of the Dunbar property, to find out when he will put the top soil on the property or if we need to find someone else to do the job.

Board Comments

Ron Dull asked who was paying for the cost of the new sidewalk on the east side of Jefferson Street between the alley north of Franklin Street and South of Main. Mayor McKean reported that the City is paying for it since the curb was so bad. Liter Concrete stated that it wouldn't cost much more to do the whole sidewalk than just repairing the curb. Mayor McKean stated that the sidewalk to the Kaup Pharmacy drive thru window on the west side of Jefferson in the same area was paid for by Kaup Pharmacy. The street is scheduled to be milled down and repaved later this summer. Kaup already applied and paid for the street markings, due to safety and the new one-way direction and the City will redo the markings after the street is repaved for an estimated cost of \$1,600.00.

Ron also asked what happened to the plan for diagonal parking in that area. Shannon stated that it was changed before it went to the Plan Commission, because it was determined that the street was not wide enough and there would be too much congestion. Only one space was lost due to the change. Ron also asked if we need to inform the public again about the change.

Ron asked about the golf cart ordinance and the restriction for 18-year-old drivers. He felt that if a sixteen-year-old can get an Indiana driver's license and drive a much larger vehicle, why should Berne's golf cart ordinance be more restrictive. He commented that we should see what Decatur and Monroe require. Mayor McKean agrees and thinks it a step in the right direction if we require a valid driver's license if the Police Chief approves. It was decided that the Police Chief should be contacted and then report back at the next Board of Works meeting.

Attorney Dave Baumgartner reported that he and the Mayor attended a meeting with Adams County Sherriff Shane Rekeweg, County Councilman Doug Bauman, Mayor Ken Meyers, Attorney Tim Baker, and Rob Johnson from Geneva. The meeting was concerning the 911 calls and dispatchers being overwhelmed with all the calls. The addition of personnel and obtaining better technology were two of the solutions presented with all entities (Cities and County) sharing in the cost according to population. There was a lot of discussion and several different funding options are being researched.

There being no other business to come before the Board and upon a motion to adjourn by Ron Dull and seconded by Curtis Wurster, adjournment followed.