

Regular Board of Works Meeting In Person and Hybrid/Zoom on April 21, 2025

The Board of Public Works and Safety met in regular session on Monday, April 21, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, City of Michigan City, on Hybrid/Zoom and streamed live on the "Access LaPorte County" Facebook page.

The meeting was called to order by President Skyler York.

On the call of roll, the following Board Members were found to be present or absent.

Noted present in person: Candice Antisdell, Peggy Moore, Tamiko Smith, Skyler York, Gene Simmons (5)

Absent: None (0)

Also noted in attendance:

Corporate Counsel Amber Lapaich; Izabelle Galvin Ellis, Clerk of the Board of Works; Eric Williams, Assistant Director Special Events; Captain Greg Jesse, Michigan City Police Department; Shem Kahlil, Global Engineering; Jeanette Hicks, Global Engineering; Drew White, ALCO.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Mrs. Moore and was approved with the following vote:

AYES: (5) Antisdell, Moore, Smith, Simmons, York

NAYS: (0) None

Opening of Bids

Opening of Bids for the 2025-1 CCMG Paving Project.

President York asked if there were any more bids to be submitted and no more were submitted.

President York made a motion to close the acceptance of bids for the 2025-1 CCMG Paving Project, seconded by Mrs. Smith and was approved with the following vote:

AYES: (5) Antisdell, Moore, Smith, Simmons, York

NAYS: (0) None

Corporate Counsel Amber Lapaich stated that we received two (2) bids for the 2025-1 CCMG Paving Project and opened the bids and read them aloud:

- Reith & Riley Construction Co., Inc. for a total base bid amount, for locations 1 through 36, in the amount of \$3,018,076.19.

- Milestone Contractors, LLP total base bid amount, for locations 1 through 36, in the amount of \$3,468,035.54.

Corporate Counsel Lapaich recommended that the bids be referred to herself, the City Engineer and Global Engineering for further review and stated that we will be scheduling a-Special Board of Works Meeting on Monday, April 28, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. to award the bid.

President York made a motion to refer the bids to the City Engineer, Global Engineering and the City Attorney for further review, seconded by Mr. Simmons and was approved with the following vote:

AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Smith, Simmons, York

NAYS: (0) None

President York made a motion to hold a Special Meeting to award the bid of the 2025-1 CCMG Project on Monday, April 28, 2025 in the Council Chambers, seconded by Mr. Simmons and was approved with the following vote:

AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Smith, Simmons, York

NAYS: (0) None

Road Closure for Parade

The American Legion JFM Post 37 requested road closures for their annual Memorial Day Parade on May 26, 2025 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. They requested closures along their private route as follows: Starting at Ames field on Pytynia Parkway, then going North on Franklin St. to Decatur St., then East on Decatur St. to Greenwood Cemetery.

Nobody was present to address the request.

Captain Greg Jesse, Michigan City Police Department, addressed the Board stating that he approves of the event and will be in contact with the American Legion.

Madam Clerk Izabelle Galvin Ellis stated that this request was submitted less than 90 days out, but it is an annual event and they had submitted all the proper paperwork.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio St., made a comment.

Mrs. Smith made a motion to approve the road closure for the parade, seconded by Mrs. Moore and was approved with the following vote:

AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Smith, Simmons, York

NAYS: (0) None

Request for Stop Sign

Collin Kahn, 716 York St, requested a stop sign or a crossing button on the corner of Oak St. and Belden St. to allow children and pedestrians to cross safely.

Collin Kahn, 716 York St., addressed the Board explaining his reasoning why there should be a sign at the intersection, stating that kids will cross that intersection and jump out in front of cars because there are two (2) big trucks that block the view of both the pedestrians crossing and cars stopping.

Mr. Simmons asked if he is requesting two (2) stop signs on Oak St. because Beldon St. already has two (2) stop signs.

Captain Greg Jesse, Michigan City Police Department, stated that he has not gone through that area during the times the black trucks are parked on the corner after school but will look into the after school hours aspect of it; further stating that since January 2020 there have been nine (9) calls for service, eight (8) if them being traffic stops and one (1) of them being a call for an animal.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, made a comment.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio St., made a comment.

Wendy Vachet, Director of Public Works, made a comment recommending that we refer the request to Police and the City Engineer, and Mr. York and Mr. Simmons concurred.

Mr. Simmons made a motion to refer the request to the City Engineer and our Traffic Control Police Officer Captain Greg Jesse for further review and investigation, seconded by Mrs. Smith and was approved with the following vote:

AYES: (5) Antisdell, Moore, Smith, Simmons, York

NAYS: (0) None

Request for Signage

Walter Johns, 102 Garrettson Ave., requested two (2) "No Littering" signs on Franklin St. going North, right before the intersections of Coolspring Ave. and Barker Ave.

Walter Johns, 102 Garrettson Ave., addressed the Board explaining why the signs are needed to help deter people from littering.

Mrs. Antisdell stated that Mr. Johns had submitted four (4) letters from neighbors in support of the signs.

Mr. Simmons stated that he does not think signage will fix the issue and is against putting up signs, and Mrs. Moore stated that she concurs but believes that something should be done on a City-wide level.

Discussion ensued between Mrs. Moore and Mr. Johns.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio St., made a comment.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, made a comment.

Mr. Simmons stated that the Board and the City are concerned about keeping the City beautiful, and collectively we need to address the attitudes of the people in the City to get them to stop littering.

Mrs. Antisdell made a motion to deny the request for signage, seconded by Mrs. Smith and was denied with the following vote:

AYES: (5) Antisdell, Moore, Smith, Simmons, York

NAYS: (0) None

Request for Road Closure for Construction

Ziolkowski Construction requested to close Ann St. from Washington St. to Franklin St. and close street parking on Washington St. in front of St. Stanislaus Church for church restoration for the following dates, Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.: May 5th – 20th, 2025, August 4th – 25th, 2025, and December 15th – 26th, 2025.

Camille Huddington, St. Stanislaus Church, addressed the Board explaining the project and dates of closures: stating that the May 5th date is based on approval of the dioceses, and they would be putting up the scaffolding then, August 4th closures will be the tentative dates to install the columns in the bell tower, and then the December 15th dates will be the tentative dates to take down the scaffolding.

Corporate Counsel Amber Lapaich stated that their Certificate of Insurance expires on June 1, 2025 so we will need an updated COI after that date.

Wendy Vachet, Director of Public Works, addressed the Board further explaining the multi-phase project on the St. Stanislaus Church.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, made a comment.

President York stated that the road closures will be from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 pm. Monday through Friday.

President York made a motion to approve the road closures, subject to an updated COI when it expires in June 2025, seconded by Mr. Simmons and was approved with the following vote:

AYES: (5) Antisdell, Moore, Smith, Simmons, York

NAYS: (0) None

Request for Solicitor Vendor License

Fox Pest Control requested a Solicitor Vendor License for one (1) year to sell subscriptions for their pest management services.

Ethan Snyzek, Fox Pest Control South Bend, addressed the Board explaining their business and what they're selling to people door-to-door, stating that what they do is seasonal work and will only be in town for five (5) to seven (7) days sometimes during the months of May through August.

Mrs. Moore asked Mr. Snyzek their process of selling their products and how they are able to do it in such a short time span.

Mr. Snyzek stated that their service is a subscription-based service, and the subscription is normally a year-long contract or more, so they do not have anything physical that they're selling at the door.

Mrs. Moore asked how the purchase of their product works, and Mr. Snyzek stated that most of the time people will sign up immediately or they will be referred to their website.

Mrs. Moore stated that she had found that Fox Pest Control has had numerous complaints through the Better Business Bureau, and other review sites as well, due to people not being able to cancel their subscription.

Corporate Counsel Amber Lapaich asked what their hours of operation will be when they're going door to door because it was not listed on their application and when the exact days they will be operating, and Mr. Snyzek stated that he doesn't know what exact days he will be operating but they normally go door-to-door starting in the afternoon into the evening.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, made a comment.

Mrs. Antisdel stated that she is in agreement with Mrs. Moore and explained that if this request is denied it's not preventing Fox Pest from doing business in Michigan City, just denying them from going door-to-door to sell their products, and Mr. Simmons concurred.

Mrs. Moore made a motion to deny the request for solicitor vendor license, seconded by Mrs. Antisdel and was denied with the following vote:

AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Smith, Simmons, York

NAYS: (0) None

Contract

Contract between the City of Michigan City and Schneider Geospatial, LLC to host an ArcGIS Server based Web Feature Service for the City containing GIS spatial data layers from LaPorte County, Indiana's existing GIS sources, starting May 1, 2025 until December 31, 2026, for a total amount of \$9,104.00

Andrew Matanic, Director of IT, addressed the Board explaining what the contract will entail, stating that anything that is changed in Beacon La Porte County will be updated in our system automatically, for example if ownership is changed on a parcel it will be automatically updated in our GIS system, Cloudpermit system and Work Order System; further explaining that previously they needed to update everything manually when they received updates from the County.

President York further explained some of the issues they've had with GIS not updating right away on our end.

Mr. Matanic stated that this program will start May 1, 2025 and explained the cost breakdown, stating that the first year will be \$3,536.00 and the second year will cost \$5,568.00.

Mrs. Antisdel asked if they have been manually importing every change into GIS, and Mr. Matanic stated yes.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, made a comment.

Wendy Vachet, Director of Public Works, made a comment supporting the contract and further explained the need for it and how it will help with efficiency of the department.

Mr. Simmons made a motion to approve the contract, seconded by Mrs. Smith and was approved with the following vote:

AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Smith, Simmons, York

NAYS: (0) None

Contract

The Michigan City Special Events Department requested the approval of a Silver Sponsorship (\$5,000) from Comcast – Greater Chicago Region for their 2025 event season.

Eric Williams, Assistant Director of Special Events, addressed the Board stating that Comcast is a returning Sponsor and they're thankful to have them back as a sponsor, and this will mean they have raised \$84,000 this year compared to \$70,000 last year.

President York asked what the goal was, and Mr. Williams stated their goal for fundraising is \$100,000.

Mrs. Antisdel made a comment thanking our sponsors for donating to help make our events incredible for the City.

Mrs. Smith made a motion to approve the sponsorship contract, seconded by Mrs. Antisdel and was approved with the following vote:

AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Smith, Simmons, York

NAYS: (0) None

Contract Negotiations

The International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 150, requested to start negotiations regarding the purpose of wages.

Corporate Counsel Amber Lapaich stated that she has been in contact with their attorney and they will be waiting to start negotiations due to the legislative session.

CLAIMS DOCKET

April 21, 2025

Municipal	\$278,261.69
CDBG	\$995.71
Health & Life	\$2,306.64
Special Events	\$12,713.77
Zoo Casino Agreement	\$3,024.03
Workers Comp	\$0.00
ARP Local Fiscal Recovery	\$101,429.00
TOTAL CLAIMS:	\$398,730.84

Mr. Simmons made a motion to approve the claims docket as presented, seconded by Mrs. Smith and was approved with the following vote:

AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Smith, Simmons, York

NAYS: (0) None

Public Comment

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio St., made a comment about County Road 400 North, stating that the County owns that area.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, made a comment stating that we should evaluate the striping that failed and evaluate the work they've done.

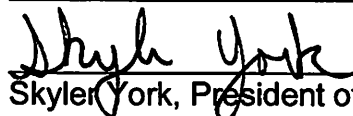
Board Comment

Mr. Simmons made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Smith and was approved with the following vote:

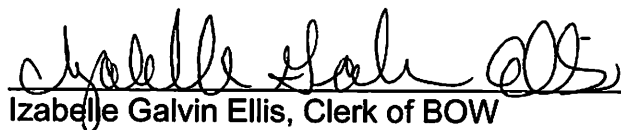
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Smith, Simmons, York

NAYS: (0) None

Meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.



Skyler York, President of BOW



Izabelle Galvin Ellis, Clerk of BOW