

## Regular Board of Works Meeting In Person and Hybrid/Zoom on May 5, 2025

The Board of Public Works and Safety met in regular session on Monday, May 5, 2025 at 8:30 a.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, Tamiko Smith, Skyler York, Gene Simmons (4)

**Absent:** Peggy Moore (1)

### **Also noted in attendance:**

Deputy Attorney Ryan Beal; Izabelle Galvin Ellis, Clerk of the Board of Works; Terry Greetham, Director Special Events; Eric Williams, Assistant Director Special Events; Chief Steve Forker, Michigan City Police Department; Christine Vanderborg; Code Enforcement Manager; Tim Werner, City Engineer; Shannon Eason, Superintendent of Parks Department; Dominique Edwards, Planning Director; Andrew Matanic, IT Director; Drew White, ALCO.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Simmons made a motion to approve the April 21, 2025 minutes with edits of Cash to Kahn, seconded by Mrs. Smith and was approved with the following vote:

**AYES: (4) Antisdell, Smith, Simmons, York**

**NAYS: (0) None**

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mrs. Antisdell made a motion to approve the April 28, 2025 minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Simmons and was approved with the following vote:

**AYES: (4) Antisdell, Smith, Simmons, York**

**NAYS: (0) None**

### **Updates – Parks Department**

Shannon Eason, Superintendent of Parks Departments, addressed the Board and listed the upcoming events in June and July for the Parks Department:

June 2, 16, 30 & July 1, 15, – Bike Mike's Food Truck at Washington Park

June 3, 17, 24 & July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 – City Party on the Plaza

June 5, 12, 19, 26 & July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 – Michigan City Municipal Band Concert

June 6, 20 & July 3, 18 – Bike the City

June 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28 & July 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26 – Live at the Lakefront

June 7, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29 & July 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27– EVP Beach Volleyball Tournament at Washington Park  
 June 7 – Brew at the Zoo  
 June 11 – Bucket Golf Tour at Water Tower Park  
 June 12 & July 10 – Pour and Paint at Krueger Memorial Hall from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
 June 14 – Pride Fest at the Amphitheater  
 June 14 – Zoo Night Zoofari  
 June 16 – Washington Park Zoo Father's Day  
 June 16-19 & 23-26 & July 7-10, 14-17, 21-24 & 28-30 – Zoo Camp at Washington Park Zoo  
 June 19 – Juneteenth Event at Washington Park  
 June 21 – Kiddie Parade downtown Michigan City  
 June 27 & July 25 – Zoo Stroller Safari  
 June 28 – Patriotic Parade downtown Michigan City  
 July 4 – Fireworks at Washington Park  
 July 8, 15, 22, 29 – Paper Football League at Krueger Memorial Hall from 6 to 8 p.m.  
 July 12-13 – Soccer in the Sand  
 July 13 – Running Wild for the Zoo 5k in Washington Park  
 July 17 – Bucket Golf Tour at Pullman Field 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.  
 July 30-31st – Xinsurance Grand Prix Boat Race

### **Request to Solicit Bids**

Request for approval to solicit demolition bids for the following addresses:

- 901 Manhattan St., Michigan City, Indiana 46360
- 904 Elston St., Michigan City, Indiana 46360
- 120 W Custer Ave., Michigan City, Indiana 46360

Christine Vanderborg, Code Enforcement Manager, addressed the Board asking for approval to solicit bids to have the structures demolished.

Attorney Ryan Beal stated that an investor showed interest in 901 Manhattan St. and Mrs. Vanderborg will be in contact with him on their plans but until we get more information, Mrs. Vanderborg will continue with the bid process to demolish.

Mr. Simmons asked if it was the same investor who owns 408 W 11<sup>th</sup> St., and Mrs. Vanderborg stated no.

Mrs. Antisdell made a motion to approve the solicitation of bids, seconded by Mr. Simmons and was approved with the following vote:

**AYES: (4) Antisdell, Smith, Simmons, York**

**NAYS: (0) None**

### **Contract**

Request for approval of the Third Amendment of the lease of 113 Warren Rd., Michigan City, Indiana to American National Red Cross for three (3) years, in the amount of \$2,733.33 to be paid to the City of Michigan City each calendar year.

Chief Steve Forker, Michigan City Police Department, addressed the Board explaining that the property is mainly occupied by Emergency Management but part of it is leased out to American Red Cross to store some of their rescue and relief items, and this has been an ongoing contract since the City has obtained the property.

Mrs. Smith stated that the \$2,733.33 is payment for utilities and the lease is \$1 per month.

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

**AYES: (4) Antisdel, Smith, Simmons, York**

**NAYS: (0) None**

**Contract**

Request for approval of contract for Onboarding Entra ID and Intune for Management, in the amount not to exceed \$17,700.00.

Andrew Matanic, IT Director, addressed the Board explaining that this contract and company will help make our Microsoft 360 more secure, stating that this is a backend upgrade and the front-end users will not see much of a difference; further stating that the contract is a one-time fixed fee that will accomplish everything that is needed and will be paid for through ARPA funds.

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

**AYES: (4) Antisdel, Smith, Simmons, York**

**NAYS: (0) None**

**Contract**

Request for approval of Amendment to Agreement for Professional Consulting Services of David Albers (Duneland Consulting, LLC) for an additional six (6) months to October 31, 2025, and compensate them in the amount not to exceed \$40,000.

President York explained the contract and how Dave Albers has been helping in the Planning Department for the last six (6) months he has been with the City, stating that he is our Building Superintendent and he has been working to get CloudPermit up and running.

Mr. Simmons stated that this is money well spent.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, made a comment.

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

President York addressed Mr. Meland's comment, stating that since the CloudPermit program, we have gotten 900 permit requests and 400 permits have been issued to date but there is a hangup in the system not showing that the permits have gone through even though they have.

President York made a motion to approve the contract subject to the passing of the transfer resolution by the City Council, seconded by Mr. Simmons and was approved with the following vote:

**AYES: (4) Antisdell, Smith, Simmons, York**

**NAYS: (0) None**

### **Request for Special Purchase**

The Michigan City Police Department requested the special purchase of eight (8) 2023 Dodge Chargers from Galeana Automotive Group in the amount of \$271,592.00 total, after the government discount of \$12,466.00 per vehicle.

Chief Steve Forker, Michigan City Police Department, addressed the Board explaining the purchase of the eight (8) vehicles, stating that this will be more cost effective than what they are currently paying for leasing their vehicles and buying them out after the lease, explaining that this would be a replacement of the current fleet that they have; further stating that the current buyout for the leased vehicles that the City currently has is \$35,340.00 per vehicle.

Chief Forker stated that these vehicles are detective vehicles and would not need a lot of accessories and equipment change, stating that it can be done in house at no additional cost.

Mr. Simmons stated that it's a great swap of vehicles and asked if the leased vehicles will go back to the dealer, and Chief Forker stated yes.

Chief Forker and President York stated that the vehicles are being paid for through the Redevelopment Commission.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, made a comment.

Mrs. Smith made a motion to approve the special purchase of the new vehicles, seconded by Mr. Simmons and was approved with the following vote:

**AYES: (4) Antisdell, Smith, Simmons, York**

**NAYS: (0) None**

### **Request for Mobile Food Vendor License**

Cook Street Café, 1919 E US HWY 12, requested the approval to renew their Mobile Food Vendor License for one (1) year.

Nobody was present to address the request.

Madam Clerk Izabelle Galvin Ellis stated that this request is a renewal and that their COI has been approved.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Simmons and President York about this being a return request, stating that this is the food vendor for 4411 Suites.

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

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

**AYES: (4) Antisdell, Smith, Simmons, York**

**NAYS: (0) None**

#### **Request for Special Event 5k Road Closure**

The Michigan City Zoological Society requested road closures for their annual 5K that will be on Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The race will start in Washington Park and go down to Nevada Ave to Lakeshore Drive, then go East on Lakeshore Dr., and then runners will turn around and head back on Lakeshore Drive going West to S Lake Ave, to Arndt St, to Ohming St., to Fogarty St., to Center St. back to Lakeshore Drive and end at Washington Park Zoo.

Nobody was present to address the request.

Madam Clerk Izabelle Galvin Ellis stated that they sent all the information that they needed right when they were notified of the new policy, and they've turned in all the proper paperwork.

Chief Steve Forker, Michigan City Police Department, addressed the Board stating that this is an annual event and they approve of the closures.

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

**AYES: (4) Antisdell, Smith, Simmons, York**

**NAYS: (0) None**

#### **Payroll Claims Docket**

<b>Payroll Docket</b>	<b>April 17, 2025</b>	<b>\$736,645.67</b>
<b>Payroll Pension Docket</b>	<b>May 1, 2025</b>	<b>\$209,254.30</b>
<b>Payroll Docket</b>	<b>May 2, 2025</b>	<b>\$755,275.28</b>

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

**AYES: (4) Antisdell, Smith, Simmons, York**

**NAYS: (0) None**

### **Claims Docket**

**May 5, 2025**

<b>Municipal</b>	<b>\$715,979.61</b>
<b>CDBG</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>
<b>Health &amp; Life</b>	<b>\$494,505.30</b>
<b>Special Events</b>	<b>\$38,422.05</b>
<b>Zoo Casino Agreement</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Workers Comp</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>ARP Local Fiscal Recovery</b>	<b>\$518,514.53</b>
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS:</b>	<b>\$1,767,571.49</b>

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

**AYES: (4) Antisdell, Smith, Simmons, York**

**NAYS: (0) None**

### **Request for Stop Sign – Unfinished Business**

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. This was tabled from April 21, 2025.

Chief Steve Forker, Michigan City Police Department, addressed the Board stating that Captain Greg Jesse has reviewed the intersection and they believe that a crossing guard or button is not warranted at that intersection, and did not see any line-of-sight issues with the trucks parked on the side of the street.

Tim Werner, City Engineer, addressed the Board stating that the only warrant for a stop sign at the intersection is because of the elementary school but there is already a stop sign at the intersections North and South of that intersection, concurring with Chief Forker on his recommendation.

Mr. Simmons stated that the requestor's main concern was children crossing at that intersection because of the school and playground.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, made a comment.

Mr. Werner suggested adding signage stating, "All Vehicles Must Stop for Pedestrians".

Chief Forker addressed the sight lines, stating that they can do special enforcement in the area before and after school to ensure there are no sight line issues.

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

Mrs. Antisdell made a comment stating that the park at the school is a City Park that is frequently visited when school is not in session, so there are people frequently crossing there more than just before and after school.

Mrs. Antisdell made a motion to table the request until the June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 meeting for investigation of sight lines when school is out of session, seconded by Mr. Simmons and was approved with the following vote:

**AYES: (4) Antisdell, Smith, Simmons, York**

**NAYS: (0) None**

### **Public Comment**

Tom Nassact, 214 Ann St., made a comment regarding the rehab facility that is being planned on Ann St., stating that they feel it's a bad location due to safety concerns.

Tommy Kulavik, 1316 Ohio St., made a comment stating that the park sticker office is now open and the process is very smooth; further reminding residents that Compost starts this week, May 12<sup>th</sup>.

Earnie Hollyhan, 302 Gladys St, made a comment about the Woodland Ave. CSX crossing, and asking why it is not fixed yet.

Mr. Hollyhan also commented on pot holes that need fixed on Warnke Rd. and in his alleyway.

Scott Meland, 200 Kenwood Place, made a comment about the painting of lines and curbs on the newly paved roads around the City.

Mr. Meland made a comment following up on Mr. Kulavik's comment regarding compost, stating that there are new rules for compost pick-up; further stating that you can't have more than four (4) cans and no paper bags.

Mr. Meland made a comment about why the organization who is opening the rehab facility, is putting it on Ann St.

Mr. Meland also made a comment stating that we should have a strong preference and encourage organizations to hold events at the 7<sup>th</sup> St. and Franklin space, stating that we could have permanent Emergency Plans and set ups for that space.

Tim Werner, City Engineer, stated that he has been in contact with Jeff Reeder, from CSX, on scheduling when the Woodland Ave. and Buffalo St., CSX crossings will be fixed.

### **Board Comment**

President York introduced Dr. Dominique Edwards, the new Planning Director for the City, and Dr. Edwards gave some background on herself.


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

**AYES: (4) Antisdal, Smith, Simmons, York**

**NAYS: (0) None**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.**

  
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**Skyler York, BOW President**

  
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**Izabelle Galvin Ellis, BOW Clerk**