Regular Board of Works Meeting
In Person and Hybrid/Zoom on
July 6, 2026

The Board of Public Works and Safety met in regular session on Monday, July 6, 2026 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 Board President Candice Antisdel.

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

Noted present in person: Candice Antisdel, Tamiko Smith, Gene Simmons, Peggy Moore, and Patrick Voltz (5) **Absent:** None (0)

Also noted in attendance:
Corporate Counsel, Amber Lapaich; Gianna Galante, BOW Clerk; Captain Jesse, Captain of Uniform Patrol; Kyle Shiparski, Assistant Chief of Police; Eric Williams, Special Events Assistant Director; D'Marcus Briscoe, Code Enforcement Manager; Tim Werner, City Engineer; Darrell Garbacik, Central Services Superintendent; Ryan Beall, Deputy City Attorney; Melisha Henderson, Human Resources Director; David Albers, Building Superintendent, and Drew White, ALCO.

Approval of Minutes
Mr. Simmons made a motion to approve the June 15, 2026 regular meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Ms. Smith and was approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

Opening of Bids
Corporate Counsel Amber Lapaich noted that the fuel procurement bids are intended to establish a pool of vendors for future fuel purchases. Attorney Lapaich stated that only the names of the bidders would be read, not the bid prices. Attorney Lapaich noted that three bids were received: Keystone Cooperative, Petroleum Traders Corporation, and Al Warren Oil.

Ms. Smith made a motion to refer the bids to the Legal and Central Services Department; seconded by Ms. Moore and was approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

Memorandum of Understanding

Memorandum of Understanding between the Legacy Foundation, Inc. and the City of Michigan City for the NWI Thrive Initiative

Mayor Angie noted that the NWI Thrive Initiative is part of the Lilly Endowment GIFT VIII Community Leadership Implementation Grant, a $20 million grant with the Legacy Foundation and other community foundations. Mayor Angie noted that the initiative identifies the City of Michigan City as the eastern gateway to the Indiana Dunes National Park, as designated in the grant application. Mayor Angie further explained the initiative, including its concept development, renderings, informational amenities, and internal layout.

Discussion ensued among Mayor Angie and the Board regarding the specifications of the initiative.

Tommy Kulavick (1316 Ohio Street) made a comment.

Ms. Moore made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding; seconded by Mr. Simmons and was approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

Honorary Street Sign

Kameeliah Dillard-Sims is requesting to have an honorary street sign named after the late Evangelist Brenda D. Patrick to be added to Michigan City Boulevard

Pastor Kameeliah Dillard-Sims (296 Jerry Street, Gary, Indiana) and Nolan Garrett (306 Village Trail) introduced themselves for the record. Pastor Dillard-Sims noted that she is requesting an honorary street sign for Brenda D. Patrick, noting that Ms. Patrick was a pillar of the community, a devoted mother, a spiritual leader, and an employee of the Michigan City Transit Department for more than 38 years. Mr. Garrett noted that Ms. Patrick had a significant impact on the community.

Ms. Moore asked whether Michigan Boulevard is a state road. Ms. Lapaich and Mr. Werner noted that Michigan Boulevard is under the jurisdiction of the City of Michigan City.

Pastor Dillard-Sims noted that Edward Street was proposed as an alternate location.

Tommy Kulavick (1316 Ohio Street) made a public comment.

Mayor Angie noted that Pastor Dillard-Sims should speak with Pastor Swan at Bethel Church on Michigan Boulevard, as Ms. Patrick was a member of the church.

Mr. Simmons made a motion to table the request for an honorary street sign to the July 20th meeting; seconded by Ms. Smith and was approved with the following vote:

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

NAYS: (0) None

Request to Purchase City Owned Property

Rahul Kumar Chohan is requesting to purchase the following parcels next to his property in the City of Michigan City:

- 460132161015000022
- 460132161010000022
- 460132161009000022
- 460132161008000022
- 460132161007000022
- 460132160004000022
- 460132159005000022

Mr. Chohan noted that he owns property near the requested parcels and is wanting to develop low-income housing on the property.

Corporate Counsel Amber Lapaich recommended referring the matter to the Legal and Planning Departments and having it reappear on the August 3, 2026, Board of Works agenda.

Tommy Kulavick (1316 Ohio Street) made a comment.

Ms. Moore made a motion to table the request to purchase City owned property to the Legal and Planning Department's for further review and to bring the matter back up at the August 3rd meeting; seconded by Mr. Voltz and was approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

Road Closure for Construction

Hunter's Precision Construction and Roofing, Inc. is requesting the closures of the sidewalks and parking spaces along East 6th and Franklin Streets as well as the alley along Trinity Church for reroofing purposes for an approximate time period of July 15th to October 7th

Captain Jesse noted that his only concern is the Boat Parade on August 1 and ensuring that the parking spaces and sidewalks along Franklin Street and East 6th Street remain available.

Mr. Werner requested a pedestrian detour plan.

Ms. Lapaich recommended tabling the request until an updated certificate of insurance (COI) and pedestrian detour plan are received.

Ms. Antisdel inquired about refuse collection during the proposed alley closure adjacent to Trinity Church.

Ms. Smith made a motion to table the road closure for construction request pending verification of the detour plan, updated COI, confirmation from the Refuse Department regarding the plan for the alley closure, and to bring the matter back to the Board at the August 3rd meeting; seconded by Mr. Simmons and was approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

<u>Road Closure for a Special Event</u>

The Michigan City Police Department is requesting the approval of National Night Out against crime Community Block Party from 4:00 pm.to 8:00 p.m. on August 4, 2026 at the intersection of West 7th and Franklin Streets and Washington and W 7th Streets

Assistant Police Chief Kyle Shiparski noted that National Night Out is the Michigan City Police Department's annual community outreach event and that participation has increased each year. Ms. Smith asked what year the event was entering. Assistant Chief Shiparski confirmed that this year marks the fourth annual event. Ms. Moore asked whether the event continues to grow. Assistant Chief Shiparski stated that engagement from officers, vendors, and community members has continued to increase. Discussion ensued between the Board and Assistant Chief Shiparski regarding the details of the National Night Out event.

Tommy Kulavick (1316 Ohio Street) made a comment.

Mr. Simmons made a motion to approve the Road Closure for a Special Event; seconded by Mr. Voltz and was approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

<u>Sponsorship Agreement</u>

The Michigan City Special Events Department is requesting approval of the following sponsorship agreement:

- Silver Sponsorship between the City of Michigan City and Bay Logistics in an amount not to exceed $5000.00

Eric Williams, Assistant Director of Special Events, noted that this is a returning Silver Sponsor from last year. Mr. Williams stated that the sponsorship agreement is in the amount of $5,000.00, bringing the total sponsorship contributions for the year to $107,000.00.

Mr. Voltz made a motion to approve the Sponsorship Agreement; seconded by Ms. Smith and was approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

Service Agreement
The Human Resources Department is requesting the approval of a Service Agreement between the City of Michigan City and Figment Group to provide commercial driver's license drug and alcohol clearinghouse services

Melisha Henderson, Human Resources Director, noted that Figment currently administers the City's random drug and alcohol testing program for employees, including pre-employment testing for CDL drivers. Ms. Henderson stated that CDL drivers who test positive are required to complete a Substance Abuse Professional (SAP) program and comply with all applicable Federal regulations.

Ms. Smith asked whether the City already has a program in place for those services.

Ms. Henderson clarified that Figment is the same company that performs the City's random testing, but the proposed agreement would expand its services to include the required SAP program for CDL drivers.

Tommy Kulavick (1316 Ohio Street) made a comment.

Mr. Simmons made a motion to approve the Service Agreement; seconded by Ms. Moore and was approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

New Employee Handbook
The Human Resources Department is requesting the approval of a New Employee Handbook

Melisha Henderson, Human Resources Director, noted that a handbook committee was created to review the existing employee handbook and recommend revisions. Ms. Henderson outlined the major changes included in the updated handbook. Discussion ensued among the Board, Ms. Henderson, and Darrell Garbacik, Superintendent of Central Services, regarding the revisions and provisions of the employee handbook.

Mr. Meland (200 Kenwood Place) made a comment.

Mr. Simmons made a motion to approve the New Employee Handbook seconded by Ms. Smith and was approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz

NAYS: (0) None

Contract
Contract between the City of Michigan City and the Amalgamated Transit Union, Local #517 for 2026 through 2028

Corporate Counsel Amber Lapaich noted that the contract incorporates the 2 percent raise received by all employees in 2026. Attorney Lapaich further explained the additional changes included in the contract.

Tommy Kulavick (1316 Ohio Street) made a comment.

Mr. Voltz made a motion to approve the Contract seconded by Ms. Moore and was approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

Contract
Contract with the City of Michigan City to provide Street Sweeping Services to the Department of Transportation for the following locations:

- US 20 – Porter/LaPorte County Line to Johnson Rd. for 9.0 curb miles
- US 12 – Wabash St. to Center St. (Blue Chip Casino) for 4.0 curb miles
- US 421 – US 20 to 400 N (Kieffer Rd.) for 2.5 curb miles

Corporate Counsel Amber Lapaich noted that the Board previously approved an earlier version of the contract; however, the updated contract provides additional funding to the City for performing these services for INDOT.

Ms. Moore inquired about the term of the payments listed in the contract. Ms. Lapaich clarified that the term is from 2025.

Mr. Simmons made a motion to approve the Contract seconded by Ms. Moore and was approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

Contract
Contract between Reedy Financial Group P.C. and the City of Michigan City for Financial Consulting Services including LIT Analysis and State Revenue Change Support Services

Corporate Counsel Amber Lapaich noted that the Controller's Office recommended this contract to study the impact of new legislation on the City's budget and future Local Income Tax (LIT) revenue. Ms. Lapaich stated that the study will provide the City with a better analysis of its future financial position.

Mayor Angie noted that she is part of a Mayors' study group working with the County to evaluate potential county-wide or city-wide local income tax options and stated that the contract is intended to help prepare the City for those discussions.

Discussion ensued among Mayor Angie and the Board regarding the details of the contract.

Ms. Moore made a motion to approve the Contract seconded by Mr. Voltz and was approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

Agreement
The Controller's Office is requesting the approval of an agreement between Baker Tilly Advisory Group, LP and the City of Michigan City for Budget Support and ARPA Closeout

Ms. Smith noted that the contract continues the City's relationship with Baker Tilly, which has worked with the City for numerous years, to assist with the City's budget process. Ms. Smith further noted that the ARPA closeout will occur this year.

Mr. Meland (200 Kenwood Place) made a comment.

Ms. Smith made a motion to approve the Contract seconded by Mr. Simmons and was approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

Claims Docket

July 6, 2026

Municipal	**$3,350,227.45**
CDBG	**$1,770.54**
Health & Life	**$356,061.87**
Special Events	**$8,046.29**
Zoo Casino Agreement	**$6.691.99**
ARP Local Fiscal Recovery	**$ 1,438.44**
TOTAL CLAIMS:	**$3,724,236.58**

Ms. Moore made a motion to approve the claims docket as presented; seconded by Ms. Smith and approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

Payroll Claims Docket

Payroll Claims Docket	**June 26, 2026**	**$908,397.77**
Payroll Claims Docket	**July 1, 2026**	**$190,991,71**

Ms. Smith made a motion to approve the payroll claims docket as presented; seconded by Mr. Simmons and approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business at this time.

Public Comment
Tommy Kulavick (1316 Ohio Street) made a comment regarding Prime House Direct Mobile Meat Truck advertising that they would be operating at Lowe's in Michigan City. Mr. Kulavick noted that the vendor had not received a permit to operate at that location and expressed concerns regarding parking issues. Mr. Kulavick also noted that the property located at 9th and Elston needs to be torn down and listed other concerns as well.

Scott Meland (200 Kenwood Place) made a comment regarding unlicensed vendors and retroactive enforcement for violations of City regulations. Mr. Meland further expressed concerns regarding inquiries raised during meetings that are not included as agenda items, but which he believes should be addressed when they may create liability concerns for the City.

Mayor Angie addressed Mr. Meland's comments and noted that his concerns regarding striping had been addressed by City staff. Mayor Angie thanked the Board members and the Clerk of the Board of Works for their service and commented on the importance of supporting City staff, reducing unnecessary requests, improving public communication, and prioritizing the City's efforts toward larger, more impactful initiatives.

Captain Greg Jesse thanked the Parks Department, Special Events, Street Department, and others for their hard work and dedication in organizing the fireworks event.

Administrative Hearing

Demolition of 512 Holiday Street

Corporate Counsel Amber Lapaich opened the administrative hearing and asked Attorney Beall whether he had a notification and affidavit of service he intended to submit. Deputy Attorney Ryan Beall began cross-examining Mr. Briscoe. Mr. Briscoe confirmed that Mr. Hock was notified of the meetings via certified mail and provided the date of service. The administrative hearing continued.

Ms. Moore made a motion to affirm the Demolition Order as presented; seconded by Mr. Simmons and approved with the following vote:
AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

Board Comment

Ms. Moore commented that she would like clarification regarding the process for addressing non-agenda item issues.

Corporate Counsel Amber Lapaich stated that public comment provides an opportunity for individuals to bring potential issues forward and that she is comfortable with the processes currently in place. Attorney Lapaich noted that she takes notes during meetings, as do other department heads.

Mr. Werner stated that when issues involving the Engineering Department arise, he addresses them immediately.

Adjournment

Mr. Simmons made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Smith and approved with the following vote.

AYES: (5) Antisdel, Moore, Simmons Smith, Voltz
NAYS: (0) None

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

~~BOW President, Candice Antisdel~~
BOW Vice President, Peggy Moore

BOW Clerk, Gianna Galante