

A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY OF THE CIVIL CITY OF NEW ALBANY, INDIANA, WAS HELD IN THE THIRD FLOOR ASSEMBLY ROOM AT THE CITY/COUNTY BUILDING ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2019 AT 10:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Warren V. Nash, President, Mickey Thompson, member and Cheryl Cotner-Bailey, member.

OTHERS PRESENT: Police Chief Bailey, Assistant Police Chief Fudge, Deputy Fire Chief Baylor, Russ Segraves, Linda Moeller, Krystina Jarboe, Josh Staten, Larry Summers and Vicki Glotzbach

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

BIDS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Derek Misch re: Traffic control update on Grant Line Road/Northgate Boulevard

Mr. Misch stated that it is actually for the closure at the intersection of Knob Avenue and Alice Avenue on December 30th and January 2nd from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. He said that it is the same closure they had in place last week but there is an issue with a gas line there so it needs to be closed again.

Mr. Thompson asked if they will plate it and open it at night.

Mr. Misch replied yes.

Mr. Nash asked about Grant Line Road and Northgate Boulevard.

Mr. Misch stated that they are not working there right now because there are some issues to be resolved.

Mr. Thompson moved to approve, Mrs. Cotner-Bailey second, motion carries.

2. Henry Smitley re: Curb cut at 2521 Cannon Street

Mr. Smitley stated that he doesn't really believe that he needs a curb cut but he does want to put in a driveway.

Mr. Thompson stated that it is a depressed rolled curb so it doesn't need to be cut but he wants to make sure that the driveway that he puts in sets far enough away from the intersection so that it doesn't pose a problem. He said that he has been through planning and zoning and one of the stipulations was to get approval for the curb cut which is really just the placement of driveway.

Mr. Summers stated that he is fine with it as long as we push the driveway as far back as possible from the intersection.

Mrs. Cotner-Bailey asked if building the building would help clean up the property.

Mr. Smitley replied yes.

Mr. Thompson moved to approve subject to the driveway being placed as far back from the intersection as it can be and the stipulations from planning and zoning, Mrs. Cotner-Bailey second, motion carries.

3. Scott Blair re: Concerns heard from public

Mr. Blair stated that the city council compiled a list of concerns from constituents to have a focus on what to work on going forward.

Mr. Nash stated that this board takes the city council's concerns under serious consideration.

Mr. Blair stated that the council needs to work closely with all boards and departments to improve upon things. He said that the biggest concern was dangerous driving in neighborhoods with speeding and disregarding stop signs. He also said that he foresees putting a committee together to work with the police and the street department.

Mr. Nash stated that he would add distracted drivers to the list.

Mr. Blair agreed. He said that there are design elements that can be done such as speed bumps, radar guns, striping the streets, making street signs more visible, etc. He also said that there have been improvements in the neighborhoods such as putting a flashing light on a stop sign that have made a big difference. He also mentioned the road diet on Mt. Tabor Road that was done and how making it narrower helped.

Mr. Summers stated that it is the same width as it was before but putting the curbs and gutters on makes it feel narrower as you are going down through there.

Mr. Blair stated that was an expensive project but there are things that we can do from a police standpoint and a design element that we need to explore.

Police Chief Bailey stated that he has two police officers that work only on traffic enforcement all of the time. He added that when he receives a complaint from a citizen in a particular area then he sends those officers to address those immediately and they have been very successful in that. He added that the other officers address those problems when they can too.

Mr. Blair stated that Police Chief Bailey has been very responsive to him and it may be something that we just need to expand on.

Mr. Nash stated that we have done some drastic things in the past few years such as the two-way street conversion. He stated that we had three public hearings on the conversion and it was not unanimous by any means but we went ahead and bit the bullet on it and to him that is the greatest thing that has been done as far as traffic in years.

Mr. Blair stated that there was only one concern about two-way streets in the other category on the chart so to him that shows that people were very positive and receptive to it.

Mr. Blair stated that the other top complaint they heard was code enforcement. He stated that the new council person for district 1 has a lot of concerns in her district such as unsightly yards and things accumulating in yards and so forth. He said that he thinks she has some experience in code enforcement issues and he feels she is going to be a great addition to the council.

Mr. Nash stated that a lot of her district is rural in nature.

Mr. Blair stated that even in his district there are a lot of issues and there are lawsuits out on a couple of areas. He said that they also have sent notices to landlords telling them to have their tenants clean up their properties.

Mr. Thompson stated that once the rental registry gets started that will identify some stuff that code enforcement could target better.

Mr. Blair stated that the last top item was street and sidewalk repairs and he knows we are going to have a lot of activity this upcoming year on street and sidewalk improvements.

Mr. Summers stated that we do have a paving inventory of what needs to be done and do the streets that are in the worst condition and have the most traffic.

Mr. Blair stated that there are lot of sidewalks that need to be repaired. He said that the best repair is if you can just tear them all out and repair them but there are ways that we can get companies to come in and level the concrete back up instead of having to tear out an entire section.

Mr. Nash asked how many we have done.

Mr. Thompson stated that the street department has done a lot in the last couple of years.

Mr. Blair stated that there has been a lot of work done in his district but they have been there for 50 years and no one has touched them.

Mr. Summers stated that having tree cover over sidewalks makes for a great walk but trees are the worst enemy of the sidewalks.

Mr. Nash stated that for years the wrong kind of trees were planted.

Mr. Thompson stated that they have increased the size of the tree wells to try to have room for the roots to grow.

Mr. Blair stated that we are an older city and are going to have this ongoing maintenance stuff so he just wanted to bring to the board's attention what they heard while they were out campaigning. He also stated that he looks forward to working with the board to solve some of these issues and continue to make the community better.

Mr. Phipps stated that he concurs with everything that Mr. Blair said.

Police Chief Bailey said that if there is a particular area that needs to be patrolled, he should text him or call him to let him know.

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC:

Mr. Larry McIntire, Beam, Longest & Neff, reported the following:

Notice to Proceed Date: Commence on or before 4/15/2019

Final Completion Date: 240 Calendar Days from NTP or 12/10/2019 (To be Revised)

Approximate % Complete: 40%

Progress for the Week:

- Contractor installed large inlet near to large box culvert.
- Contractor installed inlets at Laib Drive intersection.
- Contractor repaired trench for storm pipe installation at Laib Drive.

Upcoming Activities:

- Contractor will do rough grading for elliptical pipe west of box culvert.
- Contractor will rough grading along edge of roadway.
- Contractor will be rough grading around yard drains.

Construction / Safety / Utility Issues:

- Designer is looking at drainage below restaurant awning and south culvert.
- Contractor is working on installation plan for culvert crossing south of school.

- Contractor will continue using flaggers to control traffic at this time.

Mr. McIntire stated that they would like to request closing the street from 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 11th until Monday, January 13th at 5:00 a.m. He said that they will have all of the barricades up and a detour sign around Old Ford and all of the same notices out that they did before which seemed to work pretty smoothly.

Mrs. Cotner-Bailey stated that she would like to see a map of the location as well as where the signs will be located.

Mr. McIntire stated that he can bring a map to the next meeting.

Mr. Nash asked what they are doing.

Mr. McIntire stated that there is a small culvert just south of the school that needs to be placed.

Mr. Thompson stated that it worked well the last time and by doing the complete closure they were done by Sunday and had it opened before Monday morning.

Mrs. Cotner-Bailey asked if there are any residents or businesses that won't have access due to the closure.

Mr. McIntire replied no.

Mrs. Cotner-Bailey asked if this is weather dependent.

Mr. McIntire stated that this one is not as bad as the first one so unless it is really pouring down rain, they will do it.

Mrs. Cotner-Bailey moved to approve the closure request subject to being provided a map, Mr. Thompson second, motion carries.

Mr. Brandon Frazier, Jacobi, Toombs & Lanz, stated that the contractor is not working this week on Grant Line Road due to the holiday.

Mr. Nash stated that the trees that have been planted are leaning pretty badly especially in front of Walmart.

Mr. Frazier said that he can definitely have the contractor take a look at the installation and make sure that they did them properly.

Mr. Nash asked if he would also find out what type of trees they are.

Mr. Frazier stated that he would check on that.

Mr. Nash asked how near done they are.

Mr. Frazier stated that they should be pretty close because the traffic signal installation is the last major item but he is not sure what they are still working on with that installation.

Mr. Nash stated that there were a couple of guys walking the project yesterday.

Mr. Thompson said that one of them was an inspector.

Mr. Frazier stated that he may have been reviewing the site.

Mr. Greg Phipps, 3rd District Councilman, stated that he visited a business at the Underground Station recently and the owner suggested that maybe some type of sign could be placed on Main Street with directions to the Underground Station. He said that there is one on the Sew Fit

Building that you can see when you are westbound on Main Street but when you are eastbound, you really can't see that. He stated that he initially thought that a directional sign could be put on one of the traffic signal poles but Mr. Thompson stated that there is usually a policy against having signs on those unless they are official signs.

Mr. Nash asked if the business owner has a sign.

Mr. Phipps stated that in a perfect world the business owner would pay for the sign but after speaking with him, he thinks a broader approach would be to have a sign saying Underground Station instead of any particular business. He said that he thinks the development is a little bit isolated so it might help visibility if there was some marker there that people could see.

Mr. Nash stated that he agrees but thinks that the owner should provide the sign.

Mr. Phipps stated that he said he would be willing to pay for one for his business but he thinks that maybe it should just be a generic sign that all of the businesses can chip in on.

Mr. Thompson stated that Mr. Phipps is talking about a wayfinding sign.

Mr. Nash asked if they want one sign or two signs.

Mr. Phipps stated that one would be fine if it is two-sided.

Mrs. Cotner-Bailey said that it make sense to look into it especially with city hall being right there.

Mr. Phipps then asked if the wayfinding signs have been checked since the two-way conversion because a lot of them have directions based on the one-way streets and he feels that they probably need to be reconsidered. He then said that we need a New Albany sign as you enter the city on Spring Street. He thanked the board for getting the signs up on Water Street as you come across the levy but the one that says 18th Street has never been put up nor the one that says 6th Street.

Mr. Thompson stated that he has asked the street department to look into those.

Mr. Phipps stated that Mr. Sumler who lives at 315 E. 10th Street, which is the old Market Street Brewery Building, has recently reactivated the driveway on the south side of the building. He said that residents of the apartment building next door have parked there for years and are still parking there so he wanted to put a yellow stripe there so that people don't park in front of his driveway.

Police Chief Bailey stated that he is aware of the situation and thinks that a yellow line would be appropriate there.

Mr. Phipps stated that the other issue he has is Jay Street and Elm Street. He said that site lines are difficult when you are going from Jay Street to Elm Street particularly if you are going north on Jay Street. He also said that there have been a couple of fender benders there and a couple of residents are requesting a four way stop. He said that they cite that there wasn't one at Jay Street and Oak Street but one was placed there several years ago and they want to know why the one on Oak Street is justified but not one on Elm Street.

Mr. Summers stated that traffic on Oak Street is less than on Elm Street.

Mr. Phipps stated that he understands that too but if you go out there and look and there are cars parked there then it is very difficult.

Mr. Summers stated that if there is a site distance issue then we can look into it. He also stated that we can't use stop signs to control speed but if it is a site issue, we can look into it.

Mr. Phipps stated that when you say we can't do that mean it is by state law.

Mr. Summers stated that it's in the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices which is the manual that every engineer in the U.S. looks at in terms of how they are going to implement traffic control devices.

Mr. Phipps stated that there are some four way stops that don't meet those standards so would you go take those down.

Mr. Summers stated that he could be he hasn't.

Mr. Nash stated that there have been administrations that put up signs for anyone that requested one.

Mr. Phipps stated that he recommends to put a stop sign at 4th Street and Elm Street as well as at 13th Street and Market Street.

Mr. Summers stated that he has looked at the one at 13th Street and Market Street because of how well it did work on Elm Street. He also stated that the fire house is at 4th Street and one at 4th Street and Elm Street could help with traffic surrounding the fire house.

Mr. Phipps asked if that would back the traffic up so the fire truck couldn't get out.

Mr. Summers stated having worked at 4th Street and Elm Street, he has seen some issues there and will have to look at that one closer.

Mr. Phipps stated that somewhere between 7th Street and 15th Street on Spring Street is going to need something more than a stop sign.

Mr. Nash said that some people think that the 7th Street stoplight does not need to be there.

Mr. Phipps stated that based on the code it doesn't, but without that you would really have a long stretch without a stop. He then stated that the traffic signal at Bank Street and Main Street has been very successful and popular. He said that he is not sure that we need a signal at Pearl Street and Market Street and thinks that if we removed it and made a four way stop there our downtown would look a lot better. He also said that you would have extra equipment there if you needed it somewhere else.

Mr. Summers stated that was part of a federal aid project and if they were to audit us and it not be there then we would have to pay the whole thing back.

Mr. Phipps asked how long you are bound to that.

Mr. Summers stated that he believes seven to ten years.

Mrs. Cotner-Bailey asked Mr. Summers if he would check into those three locations for the stops.

Mr. Summers replied yes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

TABLED ITEMS:

COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OFFICIALS:

- 1. Vicki Glotzbach for Lee Barker re: Pod request at 207 Main Street from 1/15-1/30**

Mrs. Glotzbach explained that Mr. Barker is moving to New Albany and would like to place a pod at 207 Main Street from January 15th through January 30th to do some work on his home.

Mr. Thompson stated that Mr. Barker didn't return his call so he is not sure if it is East Main or West Main.

Mr. Nash stated that we have some time so we can wait for his call. He then stated that there is a dumpster on Hauss Square.

Mr. Thompson stated that they switched from the Scribner side of the building to the Hauss Square side of the building and they didn't come to us to request to put that dumpster there. He said that he would contact the contractor.

2. Larry Summers re: Signal project change order

Mr. Summers explained that as part of the signal project at Bank Street and Main Street, we discovered that the soil conditions under the road were rather poor. He stated that as the contractors were driving over it with the trucks, you could see the whole road deforming. He said that he brought in a geotechnical engineer and asked for a recommendation on what to do to stabilize the road and the change order is a result of those recommendations. He also said that if we had not done the change order the road itself could have failed in the next year or two so this was in an effort to make sure that we built a road that would last. He stated that the cost associated with the change order is \$165,087.04.

Mr. Nash asked what subgrade treatment is.

Mr. Summers stated that they had to dig down to get below the poor soils and put down a geotechnical grid and then put down some stones and repeated that to build the road back up. He added that there was additional asphalt put on there to help to make sure that section was stronger than the rest because it was so weak before we did that change.

Mr. Nash asked how long it will last now.

Mr. Summers stated that it should last the life of the road. He recommended approval of the change order.

Mr. Thompson moved to approve subject to an accurate signature page on the agreement, Mrs. Cotner-Bailey second, motion carries.

3. Warren Nash re: Rainbow Drive and Charlestown Road

Mr. Nash stated that the left turn lane signal is messing things up and backing up traffic coming off Mt. Tabor Road.

Mr. Summers stated that the left turn lane has always been there but there has never been a signal associated with that left turn lane. He also stated that the communication between the controller and the new signal has not been worked out and they are still working on that. He said that there was a timing plan that was in the old controllers that allowed one signal to change prior to the other and since it is a new controller, they are not communicating.

Mr. Nash asked when they will do that.

Mr. Summers stated that he will contact them after this meeting to find out.

4. Warren Nash re: Academy Drive and Grant Line Road

Mr. Nash asked how much the left turn signal is used there because it is backing up traffic.

Mr. Summers stated that it shouldn't come on unless there is someone there.

Mr. Nash said that something is backing traffic up to Rolling Creek.

Mr. Summers stated that we do have a communication device between McDonald Lane, Rolling Creek and University Woods and it is communicating but the timing is not right.

Mrs. Cotner-Bailey asked how come that can't be fixed as soon as they are done with that.

Mr. Summers stated that it has to have an engineer that knows how to do timing plans.

Mr. Nash stated that there is also a turn signal on Sleepy Drive and Grant Line Road and asked if that is activated by anything.

Mr. Summers stated that it is controlled by loops.

5. Warren Nash re: Signs in rights-of-way

Mr. Nash asked Mr. Thompson to mention to Mr. Main that they need to pick up signs again.

5. Mickey Thompson re: CSX update

Mr. Thompson stated that they have done the pavement restoration and are currently working on replacing cross ties and removing some rails as well as some of the switches. He said that they have saw cut the crossings and are still waiting on word from the city on whether or not we can get any of those converted to concrete.

APPOINTMENTS:

CLAIMS:

Mrs. Moeller presented the following claims for the period of 12/10/19 to 12/23/19 in the amount of \$2,126,523.81:

General Claims (Bank 1):	766,203.84	
Fire Department:	19,829.57	
Police Department:	13,254.07	
Street Department:	18,994.17	
Parks Department:	43,156.50	
	Total From Above:	861,438.15
Medical/Drug Fund:	22,079.73	
(Bank L)		
Payroll Claims:	858,519.64	
(Bank 2)		
Sanitation Fund:	-	

Thursday Utility Claims: 384,486.29

Total From Above: 1,265,085.66

Grand Total: 2,126,523.81

Mrs. Cotner-Bailey moved to approve, Mr. Thompson second, motion carries.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mrs. Cotner-Bailey moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for December 17, 2019, Mr. Thompson second, motion carries.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Warren V. Nash, President

Vicki Glotzbach, City Clerk