BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY

Regular Meeting May 13, 2014

The regular meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Shelbyville, Indiana, was held in the Common Council Chambers of City Hall on Tuesday, May 13, 2014, at 8:31 A.M. All members were present, and Mayor DeBaun presided.

Mr. Williams moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on May 5, 2014, and Mr. Finkel seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote.

Mr. Finkel moved to approve the claims as presented, and Mr. Williams seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote.

Under old business, on the Locust St. Road Reconstruction project, Street Commissioner Jennifer Jones recommended Atwood Concrete Construction's bid of $180,000.00 be awarded. Mr. Williams moved to approve her request, and Mr. Finkel seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote.

Mayor DeBaun read a Proclamation concerning Huntington's Disease Awareness Day, to be held on May 17, and Huntington's Disease Awareness Month for the month of May. Mayor DeBaun presented Melanie Nagy with the proclamation, who said she lost a classmate friend in 2010 to this disease, and she was only 38. In memory of her friend, the third annual walk will be held this Saturday at McCormick's Creek State Park.

Under new business, Dann Bird, Building and Plan Commission Director, had two issues to be brought before the Board. The first was at 103 S. Hamilton St., where the property is up for sale, but he said it has a lot of items that need to be addressed. The property is owned by First Financial Collateral, out of Cincinnati, Ohio. Dann said he'd like a representative from the bank to attend the next meeting so the items could be addressed. Mr. Williams moved to approve the order to appear at the next meeting, and Mr. Finkel seconded. There being no discussion, the motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote. The second item was located at 14 ½ E. Broadway St., an apartment above a business. Dann said an effort has been made for the owner to make improvements over a period of time, and some have been made, but there still is a need to install smoke detectors in the apartment. Dann said he'd like to continue working with the owner to install the smoke detectors, but if they don't, he'd like to eventually have the owner appear in the future. Mr. Finkel said it's very important to have working smoke detectors in apartments, especially if it's over a commercial business, which is a restaurant. Mayor DeBaun said he'd like Dann to come before the Board if he can't work things out with the owner.

Mayor DeBaun said there were two dog bite cases to come to the Board today. The first one was on Charity Popplewell, who did not appear. Animal Control Officer Jim Lane described the situation, saying the girlfriend of Charity's daughter went into a closed room with the puppies and their mother, and she was told not to go in there. When the girl tried petting a puppy, the mother dog bit her on the face and the wrist. According to the mother of the victim, the bites were scratches, and her daughter shouldn't have gone in the room. Jim said both parties were notified of today's hearing, but neither party attended. Mr. Williams asked if the dog was immunized. Jim said after the dog was quarantined for ten days at Charity's home, he told her it needed to be immunized. Mr. Williams moved to have the dog immunized, and Mr. Finkel seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote.
On the second dog bite case, Randi Catt-Stacy, the owner of the dogs, was asked to come forward. Mayor DeBaun said there was a preliminary indication that she wanted to relinquish the dogs to the Animal Shelter at this time. In talking with Animal Shelter employees yesterday, Randi said they recommended taking all of the dogs back, except for Molly, the black Lab. Randi said Molly is in heat, and she's very aggressive. A homeless friend staying with Randi was bitten by Molly when she tried breaking up the dog fights, but it apparently wasn't too serious. A total of four dogs were taken to the Animal Shelter, and none of them have been immunized by a licensed veterinarian. When asked by Mr. Finkel if he thought the three dogs, excluding the black Lab, would be safe in the home, Officer Lane said he's worried about the condition of the home, at 22 Colescott St., but he thinks they're loved. Officer Lane said he's concerned about the cleanliness of the home, and its overall structure. He said he went no further than the front room of the home, but the odor of urine and feces was pretty strong. He

also said that Molly is still showing aggression, and should be euthanized. Randi said she didn't realize the dogs needed to be immunized until Officer Lane took the dogs to the Animal Shelter. Mayor DeBaun asked Randi if she had paid the judgments handed down by Judge Riggins in 2010 and 2011. She said she still had not paid them. Mayor DeBaun asked Randi if she can afford to keep three dogs, because she has judgments to pay and associated costs for keeping the dogs at the Animal Shelter, and vet bills. Is it in her best interest? She broke down and said she didn't know. Mayor DeBaun said he understood her emotional attachment to the dogs, but with all of the issues facing her, he has a concern. Mayor DeBaun said he's inclined to have the Building Department do an inspection of her home to make sure it's habitable. Reluctantly, she said she would be willing to have an inspection done of her property. Mayor DeBaun said he'd like to take this under advisement so he has time to look into Family Services' report about three weeks earlier, and the Building Department's assessment. Mr. Williams moved to take this issue under advisement, Mr. Finkel seconded, and the motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote. Mayor DeBaun said the dogs will remain at the Animal Shelter, and he wanted Randi to meet with Dann Bird to set up a scheduled appointment to inspect the house. Mayor DeBaun also asked City Attorney Trent Meltzer to check with the Department of Family Services to see if there is a report the City could review on her case. Mayor DeBaun said Randi is to meet back with the Board next week.

Mr. Finkel said he will not be attending the June 17 Board meeting because he's taking his daughter to Space Camp.

There being no further business, Mr. Williams moved to adjourn.

Thomas D. DeBaun
Mayor

ATTEST:

Frank M. Zerr
Clerk-Treasurer