BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY

Regular Meeting June 9, 2015

The regular meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Shelbyville, Indiana, was held in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Tuesday, June 9, 2015, at 8:31 A.M. All members were present, and Mayor DeBaun presided.

Mr. Finkel moved to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2015 meeting, and Mayor DeBaun seconded. The motion was carried on a 2-0-1 voice vote, with Mr. Williams abstaining.

Mr. Williams moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on June 1, 2015, and Mayor DeBaun seconded. The motion was carried on a 2-0-1 voice vote, with Mr. Finkel abstaining.

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

Under old business, Mayor DeBaun asked Street Commissioner Jennifer Jones if the overlay project's bids, opened last week, was being awarded to Crim and Sons Paving, and she said yes. Mr. Finkel moved to approve Crim and Sons' bid of $146,786.00, and Mr. Williams seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote.

Under new business, Mayor DeBaun asked Rhonda Fansler to come forward, who is the founder and organizer of Hunt for a Cure-CJD 5K Run/Walk. In its third year, Rhonda said they have outgrown having the event at Progress Parkway, where it was held for the last two years. They plan to have the event at Blue River Memorial Park on August 8, 2015. She also asked if Lee Blvd. could be closed from Old Rushville Rd. to Wal-Mart, from thirty minutes before the start until the last runner or walker finishes. The event starts at 9:00 A.M., and she said it should end by 10:15 to 10:30, when everything could be reopened. Mr. Finkel moved to approve the request, and Mr. Williams seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote. Mayor DeBaun asked Rhonda if she would get with Jennifer Jones to look into getting a few barricades, and with Police Chief Mark Weidner to make sure all goes well.

Mayor DeBaun said Jennifer had a request to close the interior of the Circle for the Strawberry Festival beginning at midnight Thursday night. Mr. Williams moved to approve the request, and Mr. Finkel seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote.

Mayor DeBaun said there will be two dog bite cases coming up for a hearing tonight, so he told everyone what was to be expected during the hearings. Bonnie Jean Southworth, 764 Third St., described what happened at their residence on May 29. She said the dog is their daughter's dog, and a two year old boy was playing in the same room she was in when she heard a loud scream. The boy was bitten in the face, and Bonnie thought the reason could have been because the dog's toys, and the boy's toys, got mixed up. She said she and her husband have custody of the boy, who has been in foster care homes twice. She said he was abused, was a shaken baby victim, and remained at Riley Hospital for eight weeks. She also said the boy was her husband's grandson's baby. Bonnie said they keep the ten year old dog because it's too expensive to keep it at a kennel, and their daughter can't keep the dog where they live. The boy had to have plastic surgery, but she said he's healing very well, and it was felt he will have minimal scarring on his face. If the dog is released back to the Southworth's, she said her daughter would put it back in a kennel, until they can find a place of their own. Bonnie said the dog's never been aggressive in the past, and he's put on a leash when he's taken outside. The dog is up to date on all of its shots, according to Bonnie. Animal Control Director Keith Barrett said they've had no issues with the dog at the Shelter, but he didn't think the dog should go back to the home where the boy is. Mayor DeBaun said it appears to him that this was a tragic accident, and it didn't seem that this was a vicious animal. He also felt the dog shouldn't be released where the boy lives. Mr. Williams moved to approve releasing the dog to their daughter so it can be placed in a kennel, and Mr. Finkel seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote. When the dog is released, Mayor DeBaun wanted to make sure all of its fees are taken care of and paid.

In the second dog bite case, Mayor DeBaun asked Angela Pogue, 734 Third St., to come forward and say what happened on May 31. She said she was home late at night when she heard the

sound of a cat screaming, as if in pain, and a dog growling and snarling at the same time. When she went outside around the corner of her house, she witnessed the neighbor's pit bull dog had her cat by its mouth, thrashing it back and forth, and actively killing it. She ran back into the home to get some pepper spray and her phone, then went back outside. Having the pepper spray ready, she noticed her neighbor grabbing the dog by its collar, releasing the cat, and went back to his home. Another of the neighbor's dogs, a small Chihuahua, was still nipping at the cat, so she kicked it, and it went home when the neighbor called it. After the dog left, she called 911 to have the police come out. She ran with a towel and a flashlight to find her cat, which made it under her porch, but it passed away as she carried it to the front, waiting for the police to arrive. Angela said she's had to call the police in the past about the dog acting aggressively toward her, and she's had to have the Animal Control Officers tell the neighbor to keep the dog on a chain or a leash. She did so because she didn't want the dog coming after her, or her son. She said she's had no contact with the neighbor since the incident. Kenneth Ray Meal was asked to come forward to have his say about the incident. He said when he was getting ready to let the dogs out and put them on a leash, when he opened the door, they bolted out. Before he knew it, the dogs were on the cat before he could do anything about it. He said the dogs are his girlfriend's dogs, and he's never been ticketed before about the dogs. He said he's not sure if the dogs have had their shots. Tammy Coffey came forward to say the dogs were hers, her nephew comes over occasionally to play with them, and there have never been any incidents. Mr. Finkel said he'd like to have a chance to visit the dog at the Shelter, and Mayor DeBaun said more research needs to be done about looking into the Animal Control Officer being involved in the past. Mayor DeBaun said he'd like to take this under advisement so he can go to the homes, see the chains, and the yards between now and next week. Mr. Finkel moved to take this under advisement until next Tuesday at 8:30 A.M., and Mr. Williams seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote.

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

Thomas D. DeBaun
Mayor

ATTEST:

Frank M. Zerr
Clerk-Treasurer