

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY

Regular Meeting

August 14, 2012

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, August 14, 2012, at 8:37 A.M. All members were present and Mayor DeBaun presided.

Mr. Finkel moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, August 6, 2012, and Mr. Williams 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, Dann Bird, Building and Plan Commission Director, gave an update on the property at 750 Fourth St., owned by Jeff Conway. Mr. Bird said Mr. Conway donated the house to Habitat for Humanity, and the garage was supposed to be torn down by August 16. Warren Beglin, Board President for Habitat for Humanity locally, said Habitat has been deeded the property on Fourth St., and he is planning on applying today for a demolition permit for the garage. He said the plan is to start tearing down the garage this Thursday, and it should be torn down by the end of this week. Mr. Beglin said he has started soliciting bids to repair the structural damage to the foundation of the house. Once the bids are in, they'll proceed with a contractor to do the rest of the house. Mr. Beglin said they could secure the location by placing a temporary fence around the property. Mr. Finkel moved to extend the deadline an additional 30 days to make repairs to the house and remove the garage, and Mr. Williams seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote.

Under new business, Amy Haacker, Director of Mainstreet Shelbyville, appeared on behalf of Shelby County Arts Fest. She asked the Board's permission to close both sides of the Public Square on Saturday, September 29. Mr. Finkel moved to approve the request, and Mr. Williams seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote.

Mark Newman, Traffic Safety Officer for the Shelbyville Police Department, said he had 7 items to discuss:

The first was the addition of a street light in the alley on the east side of Morrison Park, where it's very dark in the evenings. In the prelim meeting, Mayor DeBaun said it was discussed that a security light on an existing pole would be adequate, so he asked that Parks Director Karen Martin get with Duke Energy to get it taken care of. Mr. Finkel moved to approve the request, and Mr. Williams seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote;

The second was the addition of a new crosswalk west of the current crosswalk to the east, in front of Major Hospital. Many people cross on the west side of the east parking lot because of another parking lot and a lab in that area. Mr. Williams moved to add a new crosswalk to the west on W. Washington St., and Mr. Finkel seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote;

The third concerned the removal of a handicap parking sign in front of Panzarotti's Restaurant on W. Washington St., and replacing it with a "Two Hour Parking Limit" sign. A Hospital employee was using the spot to park in front of the business all day long, taking away a chance for more business at the restaurant. If a sign is placed there, Officer Newman said the Police Department would do their best to see no one parks longer than two hours there. Mr. Finkel moved to approve the recommendation, and Mr. Williams seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote;

The fourth concerned congested and narrow areas around Mary St., near Trinity United Methodist Church in the Walkerville area. Cars are allowed to park on both sides of narrow Mary St., near the intersection of Fair Avenue, and there was concern for the safety of pedestrians and Church patrons in the area. Officer Newman recommended restricting the parking to a loading/unloading zone, or a no parking type zone on the west side of Mary St., just south of Fair Avenue., which would also be in front of Briley Center, a part of Trinity Church. Mr. Williams moved to approve Officer Newman's recommendation, and Mr. Finkel seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote;

The fifth concerned vehicles legally parked on W. Broadway St., but they obstructed the view for drivers on West St., where 3 accidents have occurred at that intersection over the last two years. Officer Newman recommended extending the yellow lines for "No Parking Zones" from around

30 to 50 feet on all four corners of W. Broadway St., thus increasing visibility for all drivers on West St. It would eliminate four parking spots on W. Broadway St. He also said new stop lines needed to be painted or repainted on West St., north and south of Broadway St. Mr. Finkel asked if that would leave any parking available on the northeast corner of W. Broadway before it runs into the alley. Officer Newman wasn't sure, but he thought there might be a space. Mr. Finkel shared a concern, especially on the southwest section, that there is no off-street parking at all for those houses. Mr. Williams said he received the complaint that he passed on to the Police Dept., and he thought it was a dangerous intersection, especially for drivers on scooters or motorcycles. Mr. Williams moved to approve the Officer's recommendation, and for taking a vote on the subject, Mr. Finkel seconded. The motion was carried on a 2-1 voice vote, with Mr. Finkel voting no;

The sixth situation at W. Washington and West St., was the same as the last discussion. Once again, it was felt parked vehicles were obstructing the view of vehicles on West St. trying to look beyond parked vehicles on W. Washington St. There were no stop lines in place on West St. and there is no parking in front of Major Hospital. In the 3 areas where parking is allowed on W. Washington St., Officer Newman requested that "No Parking Zones" be extended up to 58 to 60 feet from the corners. It would remove three parking spaces, but it would provide more visibility of Washington St. traffic when on West St. at the intersections. Mr. Finkel moved to approve the request, and Mr. Williams seconded. The motion was carried on a 3-0 voice vote;

The seventh concerned an excessive amount of traffic in the 300 block of E. Jackson St. because of vehicles entering and exiting Doc's BP gas station, causing congestion at S. Hamilton St. Officer Newman contacted residents and businesses in the area to see if they wanted to make E. Jackson St. "one way" from Noble St. to Vine St., and while the 8 residents were in favor of it, 3 out of 5 businesses were not in favor of it. Another option was to place "Four Way Stop" signs at the E. Jackson St. and S. Hamilton St. intersection. While Officer Newman felt it was not a good idea to direct all traffic down to a very busy Vine St. as a "one way", he felt traffic would flow better if parking was removed on the south side of the 300 and 400 blocks of E. Jackson St., and make it bi-directional. He also would recommend that additional stop signs be placed at the north and south intersection of S. Hamilton St. Mr. Williams said he's not a big proponent of adding stop signs because it causes more problems than it helps, particularly in a short block, such as this case. Ron Hamilton, 309 E. Jackson St., instigated the complaint, and said he didn't agree with Officer Newman's recommendation of removing parking on the south side of E. Jackson St. He felt traffic would increase in the block, and it would encourage faster travel, possibly causing the danger of more accidents of personal injuries and property damage. If parking was removed on the south side, Mr. Hamilton felt it would affect 6 parking spaces, of which 3 were in front of his home, and it would create a hardship for several living in the area. He also does not have any off-street parking available to him. Mr. Finkel moved to leave everything as it was and install stop signs at the north and south directions on S. Hamilton St. and E. Jackson St. Mayor DeBaun seconded. The motion was carried on a 2-1 voice vote, with Mr. Williams voting no.

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

Thomas D. DeBaun
Mayor

ATTEST:

Frank M. Zerr
Clerk-Treasurer