**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY**
**SEPTEMBER 15, 2025**
**MEETING MINUTES**

The Board of Public Works and Safety met on Tuesday, September 15, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers on the first floor of City Hall, located at 301 S. Branson St., Marion, IN 46952.

## 1. ROLL CALL

Members present: Alex Huskey, Fred Cohlhepp, Mario Speed, Vickie Nevels, and Virginia Drake

Also present: Building Commissioner Jerry Foustnight, Chief Code Enforcement Officer Shannon Fouce, Economic Development Director Joe Murphy, citizen Jeff Miller, and record keeper Whitney Gilbert

## 2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- Approval of September 02, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

Alex Huskey entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes from September 02, 2025.

Motion: Vickie Nevels Seconded: Fred Cohlhepp Motion Carried

## 3. BUILDING DEPARTMENT – EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

Building Commissioner Jerry Foustnight spoke about the necessity for a 2009 Ford F750 Chip Box Truck in his department. He explained the purchase would cost $39,500.00 and would be purchased from Specialized Hydraulics, Inc.

Alex Huskey entertained a motion to approve the purchase of a 2009 Ford F750 Chip Box Truck.

Motion: Fred Cohlhepp Seconded: Vickie Nevels Motion Carried

## 4. CITY OF MARION – PURCHASE AGREEMENTS – 1014 S. BRANSON ST. & 1620 W. 2ND ST.

As requested at a prior meeting, Economic Development Director Joe Murphy provided the Board with an update concerning the City-owned property located at 14th Street and Nebraska Street. Mr. Murphy reported that, during his review of potential mechanisms for transferring City-owned parcels to adjoining property owners who have informally maintained them for extended periods at no cost to the City, he determined that the statutory program previously authorizing such transfers has expired under Indiana law. He advised that he will continue to research alternative statutory or administrative options for the disposition of the property and present additional information to the Board once viable avenues have been identified.

Economic Development Director Joe Murphy explained that the City would like to enter into the following purchase agreements:

| | Property | Buyer | Purchase Price |
|---|---|---|---|
| • | 1014 S. Branson St. | Duane Campbell | $3,000.00 |
| • | 1620 W. 2nd St. | Williams Clemons | $1,500.00 |

Alex Huskey entertained a motion to approve the purchase agreements.

Motion: Mario Speed Seconded: Virginia Drake Motion Carried

## 5. PUBLIC COMMENT – CITIZEN PROPERTY CONCERNS

Jeff Miller, an adjacent property owner, addressed the Board regarding the status of the property located at 1435 W. Euclid Avenue. Mr. Miller expressed his belief that the property has remained in significant disrepair for an extended period of time and should therefore be considered for demolition.

President Alex Huskey explained to Mr. Miller that this property, along with several others, had previously been presented to the Board by the Building Department. However, action was tabled until the Building Department could implement a prioritization grading scale. President Huskey further noted that this grading system is intended to ensure that the limited funds allocated for demolition are directed toward the most hazardous structures that present the highest degree of risk. He advised that the Board would consider a demolition order for the property once the prioritization process is completed and the Building Department formally presents its recommendations.

Building Commissioner Jerry Foustnight confirmed that the Building Department is still in the process of finalizing the prioritization of unsafe structures and will present the results to the Board once the grading scale has been completed.

No action taken by the board.

## 6. ADJOURNMENT

Alex Huskey entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Vickie Nevels Seconded: Virginia Drake Motion Carried