

March 23, 2020

The Board of Public Works & Safety met for an emergency meeting on Monday, March 23, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. in the City Council Chambers. Present were, Cindy Cunningham, Brian Flynn, Linda Wilk, Dana Gault, Alex Huskey and secretary to the board.

Brian Flynn: We are going to flip flop the agenda and pay the bills first. With that I will call for a motion.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

Motion to pay the bills for March 23, 2020- Alex Huskey; seconded Dana Gault. **Motion carried**

RESOLUTION 1-2020

Brian Flynn: Now for Resolution 1-2020, Tom Hunt

Attorney Tom Hunt: Good morning folks.

Board members in unison: Good morning.

Tom Hunt: I don't need to tell you that we are facing a crisis unlike anything we have ever seen in our lifetimes and the structure of government is such that there are a variety of layers of controls that are in place that require different boards and agencies and commissions to approve things. And when we are faced with situations like we have now where we are on the verge of a lock down telling everybody to go home government still has to go on. One of the things we have been working on for the last week to ten (10) days is how do we handle all of this and fortunately there has been a tremendous amount of guidance we have gotten from what use to be called the Cities and Towns Commission in Indianapolis, now called AIM that has given us a lot of good ideas and you know the president and governor both have declared emergencies, county council has declared an emergency for the county, last week Mayor Alumbaugh signed two executive orders and the first of which was to the council. Well city council approved an ordinance in concert with the mayor's executive order that allows folks here at city hall who are non-essential employees to work from home. We have some guidelines on the but it is an effort to be sure that the men and women who work in this building and serve the public continue to get paid even though they are not physically present in the building. Then Friday the mayor signed the second executive order detailing some further actions to be taken including the closure of this building at noon today to the public. There are some exceptions to that I am sure you have all read about in the media. Today what I have for you all to consider is Resolution 1-2020 which essentially waives as the statutes I have cited allow you to do; waives procedures and formalities that are otherwise required by law during this period of crisis. When this crisis has ended then this will sunset and we go back to normal where you have to approve everything and that is why we had you approve the bills first today; because once you vote on this then what you are doing is waiving the formality of having to meet every so often to approve the bulls and you are giving the controller the authority then to pay the bills. Similarly there are all kinds of other things that you all have to approve with regard to public contracts, entering bids, entering into contracts and those sorts of things that you are going to be waiving this morning until better days. Now that doesn't mean that city government runs amuck while this is going on. When we all come back to normal then at you next meeting whenever that will be I will come and ask you to ratify everything that had been done before so that there is no question about what went on and then from that point forward we start acting normal. Any questions?

Cindy Cunningham: Will we still be getting emails with the bills in it that we can see or does that just pass everything?

Attorney Hunt: I suppose we can do that, the controller would be the one that would have to do that.

Alex Huskey: She is nodding.

Linda Wilk: She is nodding.

Julie Flores: Yes.

Attorney Hunt: Can you do that Julie? Okay I didn't want to speak for her because I didn't know. I am a techno dunc so I don't know how we get that stuff done.

Cindy Cunningham: Okay.

Linda Wilk: I don't know if this will help and I am all for doing what is most helpful. I know zoom is a possibility or could be a possibility for us to meet that way, or would you prefer...

Attorney Hunt: The way the statute is written now it is in my opinion that you can participate in a meeting but you cannot vote.

Linda Wilk: Okay.

Attorney Hunt: So reality is I think we are looking at a scenario that we are not going to have public meetings for a while and then once better days arrive then we will start back up.

Linda Wilk: So will we communicate by email as to when...

Attorney Hunt: Yes. Yes, I know it is unsettling but...

Linda Wilk: It is understandable, I mean I get it.

Attorney Hunt: I mean we have been told, and told and told to stay at home and some people are listening and some aren't.

Dana Gault: So if anything comes up about the bills and our signatures aren't on it then who will be responsible? Who will sign off on that?

Attorney Hunt: The mayor in concert with the controller Julie Flores will pay those but at some point I suspect if you have a real serious concern about something during the interim shut down you should express that to somebody.

Alex Huskey: I know that this particular Resolution pertains to the bills but working a virtual society and very much so in these days will we still receive communication from those individuals who are responsible to reporting out the Board of Works. For example the Building Inspector, and those that if there is anything that is done will we still receive those communications,

Attorney Hunt: I think it will probably be best if they communicated to you what is going on so that when you come back and you have a meeting to ratify everything you'll at least know what happened. You need to know what you are ratifying.

Alex Huskey: Yes.

Attorney Hunt; And it would be helpful I think if you saw it as we went along rather than a big pile of stuff at the end because nobody knows how long this is going to last. That is the scary part.

Dana Gault: Will that be sent to Aisha and then she will send it out to us?

Attorney Hunt: I don't know how that works truthfully but if few can figure out the nest way to have that done, whether they send to Aisha or they send it to you individually. I will let her figure that out because she knows more about that chain than I do.

Aisha Richard: I would actually prefer it come to me so that when we do meet I am not bombarded with...

Linda Wilk: Yeah, if we could just like we normally do. Just pretend we are meeting and just not meet. If here is an agenda that could be prepared, supporting documents sent to us twice a month and then by then we hopefully would have read all of that. Then when we come to the meeting we are prepared to ratify.

Attorney Hunt: We can do that.

Linda Wilk: That would probably be best for me. Then it keeps me on a regular schedule. We can anticipate this come on such and such a date.

Attorney Hunt: Sure, it give you something to do when you are home.

Linda Wilk: Oh trust me Tom I've got plenty to do. My work is essential.

Brian Flynn: Further comments or questions. I will call for a motion.

Motion to approve Resolution 1-2020- Linda Wilk; seconded Cindy Cunningham.

Motion carried.

Attorney Hunt: Aisha has the original copy for you all to sign and then she will keep it on file with the minutes and everything else. Thank you for your consideration to this. See you all soon.

Dana Gault: Take care.

Cindy Cunningham: Thank you for keeping city hall running.

Attorney Hunt: In some fashion.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn Dana Gault; seconded Cindy Cunningham.

Meeting adjournment

Brian Flynn-President
Board of Public Works & Safety

ATTEST:

Aisha Richard- Secretary
Board of Public Works & Safety