

**Regular Board of Public Works & Safety Meeting  
February 3, 2021**

**THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY  
OF THE CITY OF CROWN POINT MET IN A REGULAR MEETING  
ON WEDNESDAY February 3, 2021 AT 11:00 A.M.  
PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES OF  
THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY**

**\*\*Via Zoom\*\***

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88114674506>**

(Link is subject to change – in the event of a change, the link will be posted via the City website at [www.crownpoint.in.gov](http://www.crownpoint.in.gov) prior to the start of the meeting.)

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Uran called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor David Uran, Member Bill Gomez, Member James Crook, Member Bob Clemons and Member Andrew Kyres. Also present, City Attorney David Nicholls, Clerk-Treasurer Dave Benson, Chief Deputy Bette Babjak and Deputy Clerk Sheri Herma.

Absent: None

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING** - The Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, January 20, 2021.

Motion to approve was made by Member Bob Clemons, seconded by Member Andrew Kyres.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

**C. ADDITION OF NEW ITEMS –FSG Rate Case with Indiana American Water and our Legal Team**

Mayor Uran informed the Board of the upcoming Rate Case with Indiana American Water. Financial Solutions Group and our Legal Team usually address this routine situation to look out for the best interest of the City and our citizens.

Motion to add this to agenda was made by Member Bob Clemons, seconded by Member James Crook.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Mayor Uran advised that this will be identified as Item 7 on the agenda.

**D. PRESENTATIONS – None**

**E. OLD and DEFERRED BUSINESS**

**Water Utility Update – Al Stong/Commonwealth**

Al Stong gave a summary update on our water project.

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Phase 1 is complete. There is some seasonal work that will be performed in March or April at the 96<sup>th</sup> Place Redundant Tank.

Phase 2 Project is the Kaiser Park Redundant Tank. We are moving forward to completion on that tank. We have received our valves which were delayed in delivery due to the Pandemic related manufacturing issues. We are on track to be completed here within the next week or two. We will pursue the Pickleball Court topping when we have better weather.

We have a payment application on Phase 2 by Thieneman Construction.

Payment to the Contractor is	\$224,585.00
Payment to retainage is	\$ 11,821.00

Mr. Nicholls advised that the payment to the contractor and the retainage are all within the contract limits and agrees with AI's recommendation that this matter be approved by the Board today.

Member Bob Clemons made a motion to approve this payment application, seconded by Member Bill Gomez.

Mayor Uran called for a roll call vote.

Roll call vote as follows:

Ayes: Mayor Uran, Members Clemons, Crook, Kyles and Gomez.

Nays: None

Motion passed 5 to 0.

The final Phase of the Water Project is #3. It is the disinfecting stations and the bulk water purchase tank. The shop drawings are in process and we expect Hasse to mobilize to the site March when weather permits.

AI Stong then reported that we did receive bids on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final Phase of service line replacement work Division D.

We have an Engineer's recommendation letter which we will be reviewing with Legal. With their concurrence will be providing for the Board's consideration at the next meeting.

The 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue Sewer Replacement Project is completed and the contractor has de-mobilized. There will be some final cleanup work in the Spring.

We also have a Project with 1 of 2 Phases on the CSO005. It is sewer line remedy work to reduce wet weather flows. That project is underway.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase of the 005 Project that we solicited grant funding from was approved by the Army Corp of Engineers.

The City has received their 75% construction Grant on that Project which is in the area of Greenwood Avenue, S. Court Street, Williams Drive and S. Main Street areas.

Mayor Uran added that he did receive notification from Congressman Mrvan last week congratulating the City of Crown Point for receiving the

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\$1,000,000.00 "219 Grant". Mayor Uran also added that the torch from Congressman Visclosky to Congressman Mrvan was passed along and we are very excited that our Congressman is continuing to work hard here in our Crown Point region.

Al Stong then went on to speak about the Wastewater Utility Planning Report. The Preliminary Engineering Report was for the downtown interceptor. This report is complete and we have set a meeting with Engineering, Chief of Staff Greg Falkowski and the Legal Team for February 17<sup>th</sup>. After review, if acceptable we will then schedule for Board of Public Works consideration.

#### **Bid Approval for Cal Ripken Project**

Chief of Staff Greg Falkowski reported that the bids with Engineering and the Legal Department were reviewed for completeness. Selecting the base bid plus alternates 1 and 2, Austgen Equipment came in as the most reasonable and responsible low bidder for the Project. We recommend going with Austgen Equipment for base bid plus Alternate 1 and Alternate 2.

Mr. Nicholls advised that he has reviewed this and also discussed it several times with the Chief of Staff. We are all in agreement that Austgen meets the requirements and has provided all the proper paperwork in the bid documents. Legal recommends them as lowest and most responsible bidder.

Member Bob Clemons made a motion to authorize a notice to proceed to Austgen Equipment, seconded by Member James Crook.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

#### **F. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Request Approval to Extend the Nsure Contract beyond the Trial Period – Fire Chief Dave Crane**

Chief Dave Crane reminded the Board that the Nsure Contract went before them for a trial period which they approved. He is asking that the software be continued past this trial period. It has been very beneficial for both the Ambulance Billing and Legal Departments. This contract was previously reviewed and approved by Legal.

Mr. Nicholls agrees that it should be continued.

Member Bob Clemons made a motion to approve this extension, seconded by Member Andrew Kyles.

Mayor Uran asked Chief Crane if he can report back to the Board the savings as well as dollars brought back to the City after a year of using this software.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

##### **Request Approval to Purchase Pick-up Truck – Fire Chief Dave Crane**

Chief Crane asked the Board for permission to purchase a new pickup truck for the "Battalion Chief on Duty". The total would be \$55,000.00.

There would be \$27,500.00 from the Bond issuance and \$27,500.00 matching from the Fire Department donations.

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This is replacing a 13-year-old Tahoe that is quickly approaching 100,000 miles. The new truck is a 2021 Ford F-250.

Mr. Nicholls has reviewed and also had several discussions with the Chief about the purchase. He added that legally it is correct and recommends approval by the Board.

Member Bob Clemons made a motion to approve, seconded by Member Bill Gomez.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Request Approval to Release City Phone and Number – Adam Graper/IT Director**

Director of Media Relations and Information Technologies Adam Graper approached the Board for approval to release the City phone and number to Rich Hulen. Rich is leaving the City after serving as Building Inspector. This service will be transferred to his new employer and Rich has already purchased this phone for \$1.

Mr. Nicholls says we have done this in the past, so he recommends approval.

Member Bob Clemons made a motion to approve, seconded by Member Andrew Kyres.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Approve Bond Extension for The Regency – Terry Ciciora/Public Works Director**

Public Works Director Terry Ciciora approached the Board for the approval of Bond K09516943 to be extended for Regency in the amount of \$200,000.00. Terry also said that the only thing changing is the expiration date. This comes with the approval of himself and Engineering.

Mr. Nicholls approves and has faith in Terry.

Member James Crook made a motion to approve, seconded by Member Bob Clemons.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Approval to Purchase Truck for Street and Motor Vehicle Department – Terry Ciciora/Public Works Director**

Terry Ciciora also came in front of the Board for approval to purchase a new truck. It is a 2021 4x4 Crew Cab for the Street Dept/Motor Vehicle. The funds for this purchase have already been allocated from 2020 monies. He had submitted three quotes and is going with Smith Ford in the amount of \$36,420.00.

Mr. Nicholls spoke with Terry and wishes the Board to go with the recommendation.

Member Bob Clemons made a motion to approve, seconded by Member Andrew Kyres.

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Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

**Approve Request from Crossroads YMCA for Hub Run Route Change –  
Diana Bosse/Special Events Director**

Special Events Director Diana Bosse and Chris Mallers approached the Board for approval to change the route of the April 24<sup>th</sup> Crossroads YMCA Hub Run due to Covid-19 concerns. The new route will begin at Main and Burrell and go north on Main to South Street. Then it will return the same way.

Mayor Uran confirmed with Diana that the plan will be sent to the Lake County Health Department for approval.

Chief Land also said that he and EMA were notified and any route the Board approves is good.

Member Bob Clemons made a motion to approve, seconded by Member James Crook.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

**FSG Rate Case with Indiana American Water and our Legal Team – Mayor  
Uran and City Attorney David Nicholls**

Mayor Uran informed the Board of the upcoming Rate Case with Indiana American Water, Financial Solutions Group and our Legal Team. They will address this routine situation to look out for the best interest of the City and our citizens.

Mr. Nicholls advised the Board of a condensed Rate Case with Indiana American Water and the OUCC called a "DSIC" Distribution System Improvement Charge case. The DSIC case is a proceeding that allows Indiana American Water to purchase old decrepit utilities.

They have filed one which they usually do after a major rate case. If you recall last year, a major rate case was decided and Indiana American was not happy with the outcome.

When they do this, they try to get Indiana residents to pay into it which is what this is all about.

Motion to approve FSG as involved to protect our City's interests was made by Member Bob Clemons seconded by Member Andrew Kyres.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

**G. MISCELLANEOUS/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mayor Uran spoke with everyone about the recent snowstorm and how he had to re-affirm a "thank you" to all of the employees from Parks, Public Works and our Public Safety Emergency Personnel for the way they handled this recent snow event.

Adam Graper said the only comment or questions online was a concern for a large snowbank blocking the traffic view near Family Express. Terry Ciciora was already addressing the problem.

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Director of Special Events Diana Bosse gave the weekly update.

The City of Crown Point Snow Ban Ordinance is currently in effect. We appreciate your continued cooperation in removing vehicles from the roadway to allow our Public Works staff to efficiently clear your city streets.

The forecast for this weekend is indicating below freezing temperatures. If you have a medical emergency, please call 911. For information on the Emergency Warming Shelter, please call 219-660-0000. Our EMA staff will be contacted and make the necessary arrangements.

Senior citizens age 65 and over are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Appointments must be scheduled through the State of Indiana website at [www.ourshot.in.gov](http://www.ourshot.in.gov) or by calling 211.

Crown Point Youth Soccer is accepting registration for their IN-HOUSE Leagues through February 19<sup>th</sup>. For more information or to register please visit [www.crownpointsoccer.org](http://www.crownpointsoccer.org).

Congratulations to the Crown Point High School Wrestling Team on winning their 19<sup>th</sup> Sectional Title in a row. Good Luck at Regionals!

The Crown Point Lady Bulldogs Varsity Basketball is opening their IHSAA state championship run tonight vs. Lowell at Chesterton High School. You can watch live game action on Regional Radio Sports Network (Facebook page) or [www.rrsn.com](http://www.rrsn.com) at 7 PM - Good Luck Lady Bulldogs.

H. Next Regular Meeting - *Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 11:00 A.M.*

I. ADJOURNMENT

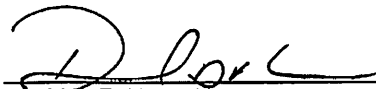
1. Member Bob Clemons motioned to adjourn, seconded by Member Andrew Kyres.

Motion carried by voice vote.

2. Meeting Adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

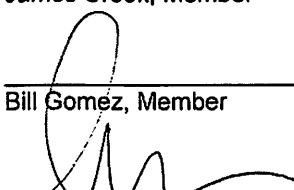
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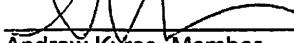
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY

  
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David D.F. Uran, Mayor

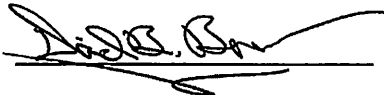
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Bob Clemons, Member

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James Crook, Member

  
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Bill Gomez, Member

  
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Andrew Kyres, Member

Attest:

  
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David B. Benson, Clerk-Treasurer

**\*\*Audio available upon request\*\***

**Due to the COVID-19 Shutdown of our Public Meetings,  
these minutes were approved by the Board of Works  
Members Via Zoom.**