

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
WORKS AND SAFETY FOR THE CITY OF ATTICA
JANUARY 5th, 2021**

The Board of Works and Safety for the City of Attica met, pursuant to Public Notice, on Tuesday, January 5th, 2021, at 5:00 P.M. in the City Council Room.

Present was Board Member, Andy Smart and Chris Gayler, also present, Mayor Duane Roderick, Attorney Mallory Redlin, and Clerk-Treasurer Joanne Broadwater.

Minutes from the previous meeting:

Smart made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 15th, 2020 meeting, Gayler seconded, all were in favor, the motion passed.

Citizens petitions:

There were none.

Department Head Reports:

Director of Public Works, Eric Swank had nothing to report.

Police Chief, Ed Durnil

- Durnil provided copies of a new city policy regarding use of force to ban choke holds except in certain situations. Smart made a motion to approve the amendment of the policy to ban choke holds except in certain situations, Gayler seconded, motion passed.
- Provided an update on the police academy classes.
- Chief Durnil reported that several officers applied for a deputy position in a neighboring county, and there is the possibility of another officer leaving.

Attica Fire Chief, Mike Little,

- The department will be starting a firefighter 1 & 2 class.

Building Commissioner, Jeff Pycke,

The meeting was suspended, and the following UBO review hearings were held:

- 907 E. Summit - Burim Bexheti, owner, stated he completed the work requested by the city and the house was sealed up. He is still looking to hire someone to tear the property down. Attorney Redlin confirmed this progress with Pycke. Redlin set this property for a review hearing April 6th, 2021.
- 902 E. Main St. – Gerald Hutts owner. Hutts reported the basement door, soffit and window are repaired, but there is still a quarter of the roof that needs repaired. Redlin confirmed the completed work with Commissioner Pycke. Redlin scheduled a review hearing for April 6th, 2021.

- 204 W. Pike St. – Owned by North Indiana Investments LLC., no one was present for this hearing. Redlin confirmed they received their certified mail notice of this hearing. Redlin asked what action the board wanted to take. Smart made a motion to impose a fine of \$5,000.00, Gayler seconded, motion passed. Redlin stated she will get the order recorded.

The following regular UBO hearings were held:

- 202 W. Yount St. – Owned by Mr. Farley, Redlin confirmed that the property owner was not served legal notice of the hearing, so the hearing was rescheduled until February 2nd, 2021.
- 206 W. Pike St. – Chief Durnil stated he and another officer had been at this property earlier in the day and stated there is a large pile of junk in the back yard that needs removed within 10 days or the city will clean it up and the property will be fined. The property representative stated it would be removed. Donna Paris was in attendance representing the property. She stated the property owner is deceased and left the property to her in his will and she has been taking care of it. Redlin confirmed that Ms. Paris had received the certified letter of the hearing and the property deficiencies noted in the letter. Redlin asked when the owner passed away, the response was January 13th, 2012. Redlin asked Paris to resolve the property ownership issues then scheduled this property for a review hearing April 6th, 2021.
- 908 S. Brady St. - Eliza Lefton, granddaughter of the property owner appeared for the hearing. Redlin confirmed the UBO was received and asked if she disputed the order. Eliza stated she did not dispute the order. Eliza also stated she will be beginning the necessary repairs within a couple of weeks and intends to make all the necessary repairs inside and out. Redlin scheduled a review hearing for March 2nd, 2021. Lefton asked if she would receive a fine for the cleanup the city did, this was confirmed by Chief Durnil.

The regular meeting was resumed.

Pycke had nothing further to report.

Economic Development Director, Rod Bannon, was not present.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Utility Credits:

Smart made a motion to approve the utility credits, Gayler seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.

Utility Disconnects:

Broadwater presented to the board the list of customers scheduled for utility service disconnect. No one was present to address the board regarding a disconnect notice.

Smart asked what happens when the bill is not paid, and the water is not turned back on. Durnil explained that the customer has 30 days to reconnect the water or the police will issue an order to vacate.

Broadwater brought up the customers in December that reconnected their water after it was disconnected for non-payment. There was board agreement that when customers reconnect their own water it is utility theft. Barce and Redlin sent letters to the four customers stating they committed utility theft and if they did it again action would be pursued.

Gayler made a motion to approve the presented disconnects, Smart seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.

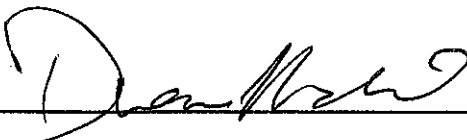
Miscellaneous Business:

Claims:

The claims were presented by Mayor Roderick, Smart made a motion to approve claims, Gayler seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Works meeting will be held on Tuesday January 19th, 2021 at 5:00pm, in person, in the City Council meeting room.

Gayler made a motion to adjourn and Smart 2nd, all were in favor, motion passed.

Approved: 

Attest: 