

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
WORKS AND SAFETY FOR THE CITY OF ATTICA
June 2nd, 2020

The Board of Works and Safety for the City of Attica met, pursuant to Public Notice, on Tuesday, June 2nd, 2020, at 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Room.

Present was Board Member, Andy Smart. Also, present, Mayor Duane Roderick, Attorney Jud Barce and Clerk-Treasurer Joanne Broadwater.

Minutes from the previous meeting:

Smart made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 19th, 2020 meeting, Roderick seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Citizens petitions:

There were none.

Department Head Reports:

Director of Public Works, Eric Swank reported that we got the permit from DNR to begin paving with the millings that are at the river front.

Swank had nothing further to report.

Police Chief, Ed Durnil, Lucas Miller is back at the academy. He has 121 hours to complete, he will finish 2 weeks at the academy then finish the rest online back in Attica.

Austin Smyth's academy will be pushed back due to Covid, once he is complete Garrett Miller will start.

The city council approved the Police car take home program with stipulations set forth in the ordinance. The city council also approved the leasing of laptops for the police cars.

Smart asked about stipulations for off duty use of the cars, Durnil stated yes, the officers have county wide use, but are not allowed to patrol if not on duty.

Durnil will ask the Merit Board to open a list for new hires for officers even though we are full staffed, so we will have applications on file if we need to hire a new officer.

Durnil had nothing further to report.

Attica Fire Chief, Mike Little, reported the emergency sirens in town have had some issues they will have Ra-com come fix them as soon as possible

The fire department was offered a good deal on extraction equipment at a 50% discount because they were a demo set, the council approved the purchase of this equipment.

Little had no further comments.

Building Commissioner, Jeff Pycke, reported that he has been busy with building permits.

Pycke provided a list of top properties that need to be torn down per Smart's request.

The following Unsafe Building Orders were discussed:

Bieneman's were given notice on 2/3/2020 that they had 30 days to remove the building located at 201 S. Perry St. They received notice of the potential fine of \$5000.00, a follow up hearing will be set for them. Rod Bannon, Economic Development Director, asked to be advised about the progress of this property.

Barce reported that the Hotel Attica notice of hearing was unsigned. Barce will attempt to reach out to the owners via email or other methods. Smart asked if the notice could be served in person, Barce answered in the affirmative. A new hearing will be scheduled for June 16th and the notice will attempt to be served for this new hearing.

Bannon indicated he has someone interested in the Attica Hotel, Smart asked for more details on this interest due to the cost to the city of taking over this property. Bannon reported he anticipates the city, as well as, the potential investor would share the cost of the stabilization. Smart expressed concern over the cost to the City for this building.

Property Owner Todd Howard did not show for his unsafe building order hearing for 705 S. Union. Smart made a motion to fine him \$5000.00 for failure to comply, Roderick seconded, all were in favor, motion passed. Barce stated an order will be prepared stating the city of Attica will remove the building, then the owner will be sent a bill.

Property owned by Freeman Lanum on 113 W. Pike St. was served an unsafe building order, the hearing is set for July 7th.

Property located at 430 E. Main St. which is owned by Kasim Hendrix, who was represented at the meeting by Roger Barta and is authorized to speak on his behalf. The owner was given until June 2nd to repair the building to the satisfaction of the city building inspector. Mr. Barta reported the owner is disabled and on a fixed income and cannot repair the building. A citizen attending the BOW meeting expressed an interest in looking at the property for possible purchase. Smart made a motion to delay the deadline for fines by two weeks to give the interested party and the property owner a chance to work out a deal. Roderick seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

Tear down progress is being made on the house at 200 West St.. Smart made a motion to suspend the fine as long as progress is being made on the house, Roderick seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed.

The property 407 S. Canal St. next to the sewage plant was discussed. The owner died several years ago, and the property has been abandoned. Barce stated additional research needs to be done to determine what the city's options are with respect to the property.

Pycke stated that Zach Cooper, owner of 404 S. Perry is in the process of foreclosing on the property that was being purchased on contract. No repairs have been made. The unsafe building order hearing is scheduled for June 16th 2020.

Pycke asked about a building permit request to build a fence for a property that sits adjacent to the city limit. There was discussion between Swank, Attorney Barce and Pycke, however, no decision was made on this request. Further research is necessary.

Pycke received a complaint about a property on S. Union St. that needs the grass mowed and has junk in the yard. The Mayor asked Chief Durnil to check on the property.

The property located at 407 S. Canal St. was brought up for discussion. The owner Charles Beaver died a few years ago and the property has been abandoned. Per review of the property tax records, they have not been paid. Attorney Barce stated he would contact the Fountain County Auditors office to find out the disposition of this property.

Pycke had no further comment.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Utility credits were presented, BOW member Smart had a question regarding the request by Amber Sullivan for a sewer credit due to a leak. Smart stated that multiple credits have been approved for this property in the past and this would be the last credit approved. Smart motioned to approve the presented credits and Roderick 2nd, all were in favor motion passed.

Claims:

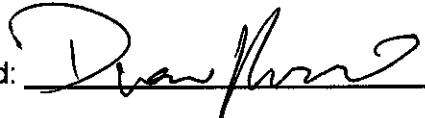
The claims were presented by Mayor Roderick. Smart made a motion to approve claims, Roderick seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

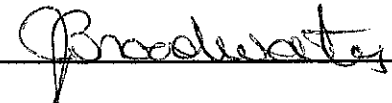
Miscellaneous Business:

None

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Works meeting will be held on Tuesday June 16th, 2020 at 5:30pm, in person, in the City Council meeting room.

Approved:  _____

Attest:  _____