

**Committee of the Whole Meeting  
Public Works Committee  
October 24, 2023 – 7:00 a.m.  
Village Board Room**

**Attendance**

<b>Committee Members:</b>	
Timothy Nugent, Mayor	X
Tim Boyce, Trustee	
Todd Crockett, Trustee	X
Diane Dole, Trustee (7:07 am)	X
Joel Gesky, Trustee	
Samuel Martin, Trustee	
Wendell Phillips, Trustee	X
<b>Other Attendees:</b>	
Chris LaRocque, Village Admin	X
Jim Hanley, Super of PW	X
Ryan Marion, Code Official	X
Sheila Martin, Treasurer	X
Al Swinford, Chief of Police	X
Jakob Knox, Marketing Dir	X
Darla Hurley, Deputy Village Clerk	X
Bruce Hill, Novotny Engineering	X

In the absence of Trustee Boyce, Mayor Nugent opened the meeting at 7:00 a.m.

MOTION: A motion by Trustee Phillips, seconded by Trustee Dole, to approve the minutes from October 3, 2023, meeting as presented. Voice vote – All ayes, No nays. Motion approved.

David Kuiken and Annette LaMore addressed the committee in reference to Gotion Inc. and their displeasure with the proposed facility. They both encouraged the committee to view a report that was on CBS 60 minutes concerning China. Ms. LaMore also thanked the police department for the squad cars that helped during a parade that was held on Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

No action items.

**Discussion Items:**

- **Update on Theft at the new Public Works building** – Mr. Hanley stated that a glass break alarm and a motion activated alarm has been added to the building. An alarm did go off when the large bay door was opened, and the video cameras are operational. Chief Swinford stated that the offenders were apprehended. They are prolific car thefts known in the county. One offender had just gotten out of prison for car thefts on Friday before our incident. This was a random act as they had stolen a car in Peotone, and it ran out of gas on I-57 across from the Public Works facility. They stole one vehicle that was located outside our building, drove to Wilmington, got in a chase, but then drove back to our building and broke into the building and stole two more vehicles. Our police department received an alarm and followed them. The offenders went onto south bound I-57 and then ditched one of the trucks. The other truck has not been found. Video

evidence showed the offenders clearly and they were identified. The offenders were a son and his mother. Both have been charged and arrested. The missing vehicle is a 2019 Ford 250. An insurance claim has been made for the stolen vehicle. Ms. Hurley will continue the process with the insurance.

- **E-chargers Use Reports** – Mr. Hanley did not have a report for October use yet.
- **CH-9 Improvement Update** – A public meeting will be hosted at Risen Savior Lutheran Church on 10/24/23 from 5-7 pm. IDOT and Kankakee County representatives will be available to answer any questions. This is a project that has been in the works for several years. Construction of the project is scheduled for fall of 2024 and construction of the I-57 overpass is supposed to take place in 2025. There may be a small overlap of the projects.
- **Sale of the Existing PW Building** – Mr. Hanley stated that the process to vacate a roadway that was shown on the plat has been started. No closing date has been set. The school is only interested in one of the buildings. The other buildings could be either auctioned or sold by the bid process. Since we have an appraisal, we can sell it on our own as long as it is within 5% of the appraised value or we can use the bid process. We can have a minimum bid amount listed in the process. As the buildings are cleaned out the process can then move forward.
- **Walnut Street Light Project** – Mr. Hanley stated that the lights are up, concrete and asphalt patching are complete. Sod will be installed today and then stripping on the road later this week. One handicap spot will be painted. The project went well due to having the lights ordered well ahead of the start date.
- **New Public Works Facility Update** – The salt shed floor and walls still need to be sealed. Having some light control issues inside the building. The wash bay vent still needs to be installed. Fuel tanks are being filled today as we are still using up the fuel at the old facility. The new access system for fuel is being used. Mr. Hanley is working on consolidating other storage areas by cleaning them out and moving to the new facility.
- **Thies Park Update** – Mr. Hill stated that the contracts with R & R Construction for Phase I are being prepared. A shuffleboard court was added to the plan. Phase II will go out for bid in early winter. The material list was submitted by R & R to Mr. Hill. R & R thinks it will take three weeks for that and then they will get started. This will be the installation of the storm sewer with no grading. Silt fencing will be placed around the area. The plan is to be able to use the new facilities in the late summer or early fall.
- **Parks Update** – The village was busy this past weekend with a soccer tournament in Heritage Park; football playoffs in Legacy Park; Main Street trick or treating and then a haunted trail in Heritage Park on Saturday evening.

The tot lot equipment for Windfield Estates is scheduled to be delivered this week. Installation will probably happen in the spring.

The committee suggested that the skateboard equipment should be updated at Hendrickson Park. Mr. Hanley will investigate the equipment and area.

- **Equipment Update** – The Kobata is in, but still waiting on accessories as they are on order. The F550 was available earlier than expected. This will replace a 2005 F350. Mr. Hanley will be needing more racking for the new facility; he is looking at some used product located in south Kankakee.
- **Misc:**
  - There were 25 applicants for the open full-time position. Mr. Hanley is looking at the applications.
  - The new PD garage floor is being epoxied and sealed this week. They will wait until after the weekend to drive on it. Mayor Nugent would like to have all other taxing bodies to see if they would be interested in any of the unused furniture at the old police department. The village could also use an auction company to dispose of any unused items at the police department and public works department.

Motion by Trustee Dole, seconded by Trustee Phillips to adjourn meeting at 7:45 a.m. Voice vote: all ayes, no nays.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Darla Hurley, Deputy Village Clerk*