

BOARD OF WORKS & PUBLIC SAFETY
December 18, 2023 – 5:30 PM
Second Floor, City Building, 201 S. Union Street

Mayor Anita Werling opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Those present rose for the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was livestreamed on Facebook.

Leanne Aldrich called the roll. Present were Spencer Kingery, Breanna Maxwell, and Mayor Werling.

Minutes of the special BOW meeting and disciplinary hearing held on December 14, 2023 were presented for review. Spencer Kingery moved to approve. Second by Breanna Maxwell. The minutes were approved as read.

Claims totaling \$558,190.92 were presented. Spencer Kingery moved to approve. Second by Breanna Maxwell. There were no questions or discussion. Motion to approve the claims carried. (3-0)

Unfinished Business.

Mayor Werling stated that on December 14, the Board of Works held a disciplinary hearing regarding Officer Shane Bernhardt and charges brought against him by Chief Nate LaMar. The Board met in executive session at 5:00 p.m. preceding this meeting to review the evidence and discuss actions. The Board is now ready to render its decision. Attorney Robeson was asked to state the options that could be taken regarding the case. Robeson stated that the board could dismiss the charges, could uphold the recommendation of Chief LaMar to terminate Officer Bernhardt, or could recommend a period of suspension from duty without pay.


Spencer Kingery stated his own 14-year background as a law enforcement officer and that Officer Bernhardt's text was unethical and that once an officer's credibility was gone, his ability to serve is also gone. Kingery moved to uphold the recommendation to terminate Officer Shane Bernhardt. Breanna Maxwell seconded the motion stating that after reviewing the evidence in the files, she concurred with Kingery. Mayor Werling stated that she also would uphold termination of Officer Bernhardt based on the evidence of the text message, but also a pattern of behavior over the career of the officer demonstrating willingness to cut corners, not adhere to the rules, and not follow procedures.

Mayor Werling called for a roll call vote. Spencer Kingery: Aye. Breanna Maxwell: Aye. Anita Werling: Aye.

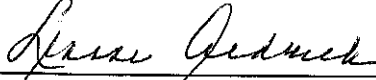
New Business.

A request to block parking spaces in front of the Dugan Apartment building at 219 S. Union Street for repairs to the building on December 20 and 21 was granted unanimously with Spencer Kingery making the motion and Breanna Maxwell seconding the motion.

Mayor Werling stated there would be no further comments and asked for a motion to adjourn. Spencer Kingery moved to adjourn. Second by Breanna Maxwell. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 5:41 p.m.



Mayor Anita Werling



Leanne Aldrich, Attest