

**SANITARY/WATERWORKS DISTRICT MEETING**  
ST. JOHN MUNICIPAL BUILDING MAIN MEETING ROOM  
10955 WEST 93<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE, ST. JOHN, INDIANA  
July 20, 2009 - 6:00 P.M.

Mr. Myers called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Robert Myers, President; Alex Monanteras, Vice-President; Kenneth Gembala, Member; Michael Hanlon, Member; Patricia Sims-Smierciak, Member; Pete Faberbock, Robinson Engineering; Bob Pharazyn, Director of Operations; Randy Wyllie, Attorney; Michael Forbes, Town Council Liaison and Sherry Sury, Clerk-Treasurer.

**Approval of the minutes – Regular Meeting of June 15, 2009** – Mr. Hanlon motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 15, 2009. Mr. Gembala asked about the corrections to the previous meeting minutes – he wasn't sure he made a correction. Ms. Sury stated that there was not a tape recording of that meeting, the machine did not work during the meetings on Monday and Tuesday of that week. **Mr. Monanteras seconded the motion to approve the minutes. Motion passed with a vote of 4 ayes and 1 abstention by Mr. Monanteras.**

## **SANITARY DISTRICT**

### **Old Business**

**Interceptor to Schererville – update** – Mr. Pharazyn stated that they are almost down to where the pipeline intersects underneath U.S. 30; there are some issues being addressed regarding the ground condition under U.S. 30 and directional drilling. The contractor and the developer are in the process of preparing some revisions to the plans for Robinson and us to consider and when they submit those we'll take a look at them and go from there. He stated that he believes they are at a standstill right now coming up with a Plan B for dealing with this poor soil they have encountered as they get close to 30. Mr. Pharazyn stated that he anticipates they may move the pipe up a couple of feet. Mr. Faberbock stated that would not affect the project providing INDOT agrees with the changes that they are presenting, by raising the sewer it will not affect the capacity of the pipeline or the flow. If they raise it, they will increase the slope of the pipe, they are real high south of 30 and they will not drop down as deep as they anticipated.

**Biennial Rate Study Progress** – Mr. Wyllie referenced the e-mail he received from Steve Carter that was distributed to the members suggesting there be a group meeting with representatives of this Board as well as Schererville's board members, their attorney and financial advisor to talk about this last issue which is allocation of payroll. He stated that Schererville had several people shift from their payroll, is basically asking for documentation asking why have they shifted and what are they doing on the treatment side necessitating St. John paying 20% of their salary. Discussion ensued. Mr. Wyllie stated that he would let them know what dates he and Mr. Myers are available for the meeting.

Mr. Wyllie stated that they have not responded to Schererville's June 16<sup>th</sup> letter regarding their plan for work and whether they are going to reject or consent to their request for pro rata payment for St. John's share, of the WWTP. Discussion ensued. Mr. Pharazyn stated that they are making sure all their plans are up to date. Mr. Myers stated that they should respond affirmative, are ready to do that and are talking a total of \$6,168,600 for all the projects less stimulus money that comes off the top then is divided 80/20. **Mr. Monanteras motioned to**

respond affirmatively to Schererville that they are consenting to their projects going forward and they are consenting to their presentation made at the Study Session, that they will be on board for St. John's 20% share as long as it is treatment related and is what St. John is responsible for. Seconded by Mr. Hanlon. Motion unanimously passed.

**New Business – None**

**PAYMENT OF BILLS - #2058 - #2064 for \$103,485.58 for Sanitary District & WW Utility #6197 - #6240 for \$351,287.12 - Mr. Monanteras motioned to pay bill payment memos #2058 - #2064 for \$103,485.58 for the Sanitary District and for the Wastewater Utility #6197 - #6240 for \$351,287.12. Seconded by Mr. Hanlon.** Ms. Sims-Smierciak stated that APV #6231 for Schilling Lumber has a line item for old bills with no explanation and stated that Mr. Pharazyn needs more time to research this item. Mr. Pharazyn stated that he has copies of bills that add up to about \$100 more than this item. Discussion ensued. The bills do not have appropriation numbers on them, in the past when MVH was out of money and he could not justify the charge to the Utility District he would just leave it blank, he does not know what they were doing, he would just code them and today is the first day he was aware there were bills from this age. Chances are that he did not code these bills because they are not charges directly related to the water or sewer utility district and stated that he will review the bills. **Mr. Monanteras revised his motioned to approve the docket with the exception of Invoice #6231 to Schilling Brothers Lumber for \$700.00. Seconded by Ms.Sims-Smierciak. Motion passed with a vote of 4 ayes and 1 abstention by Mr. Gembala.**

**Any and all business that may come before the Board – None**

**Public Comment – None**

## **WATERWORKS DISTRICT**

**Old Business**

### **Lotton – Water Improvements Update – Gates of St. John**

**Caldwell Tank Discussion** – Mr. Wyllie stated that there have been no new e-mails or correspondence with them. Discussion ensued.

**Status of easement issue for well on Route 41** – Mr. Wyllie stated that this issue has been going on since December 2007. He sent a letter to Mr. Muenich today asking him to have his client sign the deed and return it to Mr. Wyllie's office so they can get it recorded and leave it at that.

**Status of meter change over program** – Mr. Pharazyn stated that as of July 20, 2009, they have installed or changed out 477 water meters, there are four appointments scheduled for next week and that is out of a total of 721 that he set as his goal for this year. To date they have spent \$101,000 out of \$144,000 they allocated for this year's project.

**New Business**

**Cannon – request to receive town water** – Ms. Sury stated that Mrs. Cannon lives behind the pawnshop on Route 41 at 8167 Wicker Avenue. She has been receiving sewer service since 1996 and would like to receive water service. St. John Public Works told her she must get her water from Schererville who told her they will provide her water however she needs a letter from

the St. John Utility Board as to why St. John will not provide the water. This property was annexed in 2004. Ms. Sury stated that she gave all the information to Mr. Wyllie to verify. Mr. Pharazyn stated that he does not recall telling a resident they have to go to the Town of Schererville, he can say one of the reasons that she has been unable to connect to the Town of St. John is that it would be extremely cost prohibitive for her to connect. A long time ago he was approached by a gentleman about connecting the property; they would have had to push a service line under U.S. 41 because that was where, at that time, the water main laid. About four years ago they put an interconnect between St. John and Schererville and that does run in the parkway on the same side of the street as that homeowner. He stated that he did have a conversation in the last two years with someone and he was sure he explained to them that line was there but it is pressurized with Schererville water not St. John water, he is not sure it is pressurized as he does not know if Schererville keeps their line closed. So that is the problem there. He advised them years ago they are more than welcome to connect to a water main within any reasonable distance to their property and if they want to hire a firm to directional drill under U.S. 41 they can connect. But to tap the water main that is in place now, even if they turn their valve on and Schererville's off; she would be tied into a dead end. Discussion ensued regarding the fiscal plan and annexation of this property of 2004. Mr. Myers stated that he would tie her into a dead end. Mr. Wyllie recommended that they follow through with connection whichever is the most efficient, expedient way to do it. **Ms. Sims-Smierciak motioned that Public Works will look into this situation and will make the connection in the most efficient, expedient way possible. Seconded by Mr. Hanlon. Motion unanimously passed.**

**Car Wash Request – Boy Scout Troop #561** – Ms. Sury referenced the letter she distributed requesting a car wash by the Boy Scouts. Ms. Sury stated that she did tell the Scouts they have stopped doing that which is why the Troop sent the letter to the Board. Mr. Myers stated that they quit doing this because everyone and their brother wanted to do this using the water for free. It was expensive plus it was a big wear and tear on Public Works coming out to run the fire hydrants, bring meters out, things like this. What most people have been doing is going to the business themselves hooking up to their spigots and running their hoses off of that. Discussion ensued. Mr. Myers stated that just recently St. John's Animal Control for their fundraiser hooked up to Northwood's. Part of the problem is that organizations not in St. John also want to hook up. **Mr. Hanlon motioned to deny the request. Seconded by Mr. Monanteras. Motion unanimously passed.**

**PAYMENT OF BILLS - #3046 - #3052 for \$25,913.51 for Waterworks District and #4328 - #4404 for \$523,730.52 for Water Utility** – Ms. Sims-Smierciak motioned to approve bill payment memos #3046 - #3052 for \$25,913.51 for the Waterworks District and #4328 - #4404 for \$523,730.52 for the Water Utility with eliminating line item #4397 for \$700.00 for Schilling Brothers Lumber. **Seconded by Mr. Hanlon. Motion passed with a vote of 4 ayes and 1 abstention by Mr. Gembala.**

#### **Any and all business that may come before the Board**

Mr. Pharazyn stated that the District's portion is done on U.S. 41. Discussion ensued regarding the potential start up of this project to be in early August. Mr. Pharazyn stated that Chief Frego asked him to take part in the National Night Out at Prairie Park West and he would like to purchase more water bottles, rulers or trinkets to hand out. He added that an overlay of Joliet Street will be done with Stimulus money and there is going to be some significant storm sewer work done on Joliet Street. The Joliet Street water main has been one of the districts capital improvement projects that is penciled in for next year. The master plan calls for it to be

upgraded to a 12, over the winter he would like to get everything he needs to get done prior to the paving. This is the last asbestos pipe the Town needs to remove. After that it will be in the grass and the pavement will not be a problem. Discussion ensued. He will be talking to Board further about this.

Mr. Pharazyn stated that on this date in 2008 they pumped 298M gallons and YTD 2009 they have pumped 287M gallons of water, that's 11.5 million under last year. He showed the Board a copy of the Wellhead Protection Book that was mailed to IDEM this week. They are also looking at well sites on the west side of Town that he anticipates they will need in the next 3-4 years. He stated that Lift Station #1 has 94 slots available and spoke with an individual that acquired the property on the south west corner of 231 and 41 and is chomping at the bit to get something going there; he has a landowner that is kind of being hard to negotiate with. So far this year they had 6 of the 30 building permits issued this year, went to Lift Station #1.

Mr. Myers stated that Mr. Monanteras will be leaving the Board, they will miss all the financial help he has given them and Mr. Pharazyn will miss all the good questions, Mr. Monanteras is going to come back one more time to sit in the audience on August 17<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Monanteras thanked everyone for the time he spent with them and that it has been more fun than aggravating. He individually addressed each member, offered comments and stated what a pleasure it was working with them. Discussion ensued.

**Ms. Sims-Smierciak motioned to accept the resignation, with regret, of Mr. Monanteras. Seconded by Mr. Hanlon. Motion unanimously passed.**

**Mr. Myers opened the floor for nominations for Vice-President to fill Mr. Monanteras' spot until January. Ms. Sims-Smierciak nominated Mr. Gembala. Seconded by Mr. Myers. Motion unanimously passed.**

**Public Comment** – An unidentified individual stated that he was at the wrong meeting however, he thanked Mr. Monanteras for all the help he has given him through the years.

**Adjournment** – **Mr. Monanteras motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Hanlon. Motion unanimously passed.** Meeting adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

ATTEST:

/s/ SHERRY P. SURY, Clerk-Treasurer