

SANITARY/WATERWORKS DISTRICT MEETING
ST. JOHN MUNICIPAL BUILDING MAIN MEETING ROOM
10955 WEST 93RD AVENUE, ST. JOHN, INDIANA
November 16, 2009 - 6:00 P.M.

Comment [ss1]: Spell check and finish editing

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; Kenneth Gembala, Vice-President; Michael Hanlon, Member; Patricia Sims-Smierciak, Member; Pete Faberbock, Robinson Engineering; Steve, Kil, Town Manager; Randy Wyllie, Attorney; Michael Forbes, Town Council Liaison and Sherry Sury, Clerk-Treasurer.

Approval of the minutes – Regular Meetings of September 21 and October 19, 2009 – Ms. Sims-Smierciak motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Meetings of September 21 and October 19, 2009. Seconded by Mr. Hanlon. Motion unanimously passed.

SANITARY DISTRICT

Old Business

Interceptor to Schererville – update – Mr. Faberbock stated that the contractor poured the flume into place; the forms have been stripped, they will set the slab over the top, and they will be able to move the flow and calibrate the flume in the coming weeks. The contractor will start putting pipe back in the ground on the south side of Route 30 hopefully this week.

Biennial Rate Study Progress – Mr. Myers stated that the initial rate was \$1.70; Steve Carter with the help of St. John countered at \$1.67; Schererville countered back to Steve Carter and himself at \$1.68; after talking to Steve Kil and Steve Carter they are okay at that cost. In 2001 they were paying \$1.51 and in 2009 they will be paying \$1.68 which will be only be a 17 cent increase in 8 years. Mr. Wyllie mentioned that Schererville must pass their ordinance increasing their rate first, then St. John needs to have a public hearing, but Schererville must act first. Discussion ensued and it was decided to go ahead and schedule St. John's public hearing for the second meeting in December, which would be December 21st at 6:00 P.M.

Status of PILT – Mr. Myers stated that they came to an agreement with PILT for the Waterworks District. The District will pay \$71,000; this amount was used in the depreciation figure and it was decided that they would do a study every year to ensure that the Board can pay that amount every year.

State of WWTP – Interlocal Agreement – Mr. Myers stated that this has been ironed out too; they have gotten all the paperwork from Schererville. They will have to send Schererville \$1,800,944.00. **Ms. Sims-Smierciak motioned to transfer to Schererville \$1,800,944.00. Seconded by Mr. Gembala. Motion unanimously passed.**

8561 Patterson – sewer backups – Mr. Faberbock stated that he does not have an update and would like to do a video inspection of the sewer.

Ordinance SD#102 – Establishing Excess Welfare Levy Distribution - Mr. Gembala motioned to consider Ordinance #102 on first reading. **Seconded by Ms. Sims-Smierciak. Motion unanimously passed.**

Mr. Gembala motioned to adopt Ordinance #102. Seconded by Mr. Hanlon. Motion unanimously passed.

Joint Resolution – SD#09-11-16 & WD#09-11-16 - Mr. Hanlon motioned to adopt the Joint Resolution SD#09-11-16 & WD#09-11-16. Seconded by Ms. Sims-Smierciak. Motion unanimously passed. Ms. Sims-Smierciak presented Derwin Neitzel with a plaque and read the resolution that recognized him for 36 years of service to the Town of St. John.

New Business

Grant of Rights Request – Both Districts – Cline Avenue Partners – Mr. Mistina stated that he represents a group of investors, Cline Avenue Partners, that own property at 10623 Cline Avenue and they are requesting permission to tap in to both water and sewer at that parcel. He stated that Schererville told them the parcel was part of their utility planning district, the problem is that Schererville is unable to service them in the near future. Mr. Myers suggested that they go to Schererville; get something in writing allowing them to take water and sewer from St. John and at that point the District, would entertain offering them those utilities and would want them to annex into the Town of St. John.

PAYMENT OF BILLS – #2096 - #2098 for \$13,552.36 for Sanitary District & WW Utility #6333 - #6357 for \$170,898.88 - Mr. Gembala motioned to approve bill payment memo's #2096 - #2098 for \$13,552.36 for the Sanitary District and for Waste Water Utilities #6333 - #6357 for \$170,898.88. Seconded by Mr. Hanlon. Motion unanimously passed.

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 referenced a letter that was included in the packets of the Board members that stated that Caldwell's attorneys have moved the case to the Federal District Court. He stated that it means that instead of being in the State Court here in Crown Point, it will be in the U.S. District Court in Hammond. Mr. Wyllie stated that he also spoke with Attorney Kevin Steele who represents Caldwell on the telephone and that he has not met with Caldwell, he will be meeting with them in the next week or so. Mr. Wyllie told Mr. Steele that once he gets his feet on the ground with this case to call him.

Project update – Water Treatment Plant/Well – - Mr. Faberbock stated that they are progressing along and are on the spreadsheet schedule. Discussion ensued.

Partial Pay #2 in the amount of \$210,452.84 – Thieneman Construction - Ms. Sims-Smierciak motioned to approve Partial Payment #2 in the amount of \$210,452.84 for Thieneman Construction. Seconded by Mr. Hanlon. Motion unanimously passed.

Status of easement issue for well on Route 41 – Mr. Wyllie stated that he is still waiting for the appraisal and will send another e-mail out to the appraiser.

Status of meter change over program – Mr. Kil stated that he believes this was addressed in Karl Cender's e-mail; Mr. Myers asked in the last meeting if Mr. Cender could verify availability of funding for the continuance of this program. Discussion ensued as to the contents of this communication and Mr. Myers stated that no motion is needed, just keep the change-out program going.

Backflow Prevention Program - Sprinkle Meters – Mr. Wyllie stated that IDEM made only one change regarding the verbiage on the last page regarding notification in the event they do find a cross connection or a flow problem in the system when they shut them down IDEM wants a specific notice.

Policy Direction turn on/off fees – (Sprinkling Meters) Mr. Wyllie stated that he prepared a letter as directed during the study session that was distributed whereas town workers should not turn residents sprinkling meters on and off every season. Mr. Wyllie stated that a formal motion should be made that it will be the policy of the Board that the town workers do not turn the meters off and in order for the customers to not receive a minimum utility bill, they need to have their sprinkling company advise the town that they are turning it off and provide the reading. Discussion ensued and Mr. Gembala stated that there should be something in writing that this is the policy of the Board and requested that Mr. Wyllie prepare a formal resolution for direction. Mr. Wyllie stated that the resolution would be ready for consideration by the Board at the December meeting.

Ordinance WD#69 – Establishing Excess Welfare Levy Distribution - Mr. Hanlon motioned to consider Ordinance WD#69 Establishing Excess Welfare Levy Distribution on first reading. Seconded by Ms. Sims-Smierciak. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Hanlon motioned to adopt Ordinance WD#69 Establishing Excess Welfare Levy Distribution. Seconded by Mr. Gembala. Motion unanimously passed.

Issuance of Credit – Three customers – Both Districts – Double Metered Water – Ms. Sury referenced and explained the recap of the pay off amounts to be issued that was distributed to the Board members. The matter was addressed at the last meeting and she stated that there is backup documentation in the event of an audit. **Ms. Sims-Smierciak motioned to approve the three credits as outlined by the Clerk-Treasurers Office for the three customers that were double billed. Seconded by Mr. Hanlon. Motion unanimously passed.**

New Business

Mr. Kil suggested that the M.E. Simpson proposal that was received to test meters be put on next month's agenda.

PAYMENT OF BILLS - #3083 - #3087 for \$15,086.04 for Waterworks District and #4589 - #4650 for \$353,544.97 for Water Utility - Mr. Gembala motioned to pay bills #3083 - #3087 for \$15,086.04 for Waterworks District and #4589 - #4650 for \$353,544.97 for the Water Utility. **Seconded by Ms. Sims-Smierciak. Motion unanimously passed.**

Any and all business that may come before the Board

Mr. Gembala asked if they got anywhere with the funding for the Patterson project, the water line at the crossing of the railroad tracks. Mr. Myers stated that it has not been finalized yet and

according to Karl Cender that was projected for 2011. Discussion ensued as to the availability of funds. Discussion ensued regarding the old water line that ran from Patterson to Joliet (through the Church parking lot – previous street was diagonal) and Mr. Myers asked if it they could tie in to the dead end sewer – would only be about 60-70 feet (inaudible). Mr. Faberbock wants to do this right away; he's trying to stay ahead of the other project that involves the stimulus funding (storm sewer).

Public Comment – None

Adjournment – Ms. Sims-Smierciak motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Hanlon. Motion unanimously passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 P.M.

ATTEST:

/s/ Sherry P. Sury, Clerk-Treasurer