



Marion Utilities

1540 N Washington St.
Marion, IN 46952
www.marionutilities.com

Service Board

BOARD MINUTES OF THE JULY 14, 2022 MEETING

The Marion Utility Service Board held their meeting on Thursday, July 14, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the L.E.A.D. Center, Building 101, at Marion Utilities, 1540 N. Washington Street, Marion, Indiana.

Roll was called and those board members present were: Doug Carl, Vice-Chairman; Al Green; Von Jackson; and Herschel Lewis. Mia Erickson participated via teleconference. Bob Logan was absent.

Also present at the meeting were: Chuck Binkerd, Director; Robin Shrader, Assistant Director for Operations and Maintenance; Mike Conner, Attorney; Tiffany Snyder, Accounting/Billing Coordinator; and Misty Humphries, Secretary.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to add Bill Adjustment Request for 330 Sherman Street as Item F under New Business. All board members physically present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Green, to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2022 regular meeting. All board members physically present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIALS

Mrs. Snyder presented the May 2022 financials. Mrs. Snyder stated that sales for Water and Wastewater were slightly lower but were average for Storm Water and Solid Waste. Mrs. Snyder called the Board's attention to the large negative accrual and explained that it was the payment to Insurance Management for prepaid insurance in the month of May. Operating expenses were average for all the Utilities as were the net operating receipts. Mrs. Snyder concluded by summarizing that May was an average month for all Utilities as compared to last year. Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to approve the May financials. All board members physically present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON PROJECTS

Mr. Binkerd reported that the Valley Avenue project was complete. Otherwise, everything was static right now.

RATE INCREASE UPDATE

Mr. Binkerd stated that the consultants were working on the rate increase. They were looking at more data as of now. The Cost of Service Study was underway as well. Affordability will definitely be considered. Mr. Binkerd said the first review presented a three phase incremental approach. He then asked that the consultants look at a five phase incremental approach so the consultants were working on that now. Mr. Binkerd reviewed the projected time table. Mr. Binkerd said that as things look now,



he hopes to review the revenue requirements. At the second board meeting in August, Mr. Binkerd would like to present the board with a report on the revenue requirements and cost of service study. Mr. Binkerd then hopes to present the Council with an ordinance at their first meeting in September. A filing would hopefully be presented to the IURC in mid-October with the effective rate in July. Mr. Carl asked if the IURC would take six months to review the case. Mr. Binkerd said unfortunately, yes.

TRANSFERS & PAY REQUESTS

Mrs. Shrader presented pay request number 12 payable to James S. Jackson in the amount of \$347,502.40 for work on the Long Term Control Plan. Mrs. Shrader stated that the payment represented 77.2% of the contract completion. Mr. Binkerd presented the second and final pay request of \$15,770.95 along with release of retainage in the amount of \$3,846 and Certificate of Completion to Keith Sullivan. Mr. Jackson moved, seconded by Mr. Lewis, to approve the pay request. All board members physically present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

LONG TERM CONTROL PLAN CHANGE ORDER

Mrs. Shrader said that alarms for emergency shut offs were not included in the chemical building price. The equipment and controls with electrical work total \$10,880. This was change order number 16. Mr. Jackson moved, seconded by Mr. Lewis, to approve the change order. All board members physically present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

CIPP AWARD

Mr. Binkerd said the cured-in-place projects have been a challenge to put together. This encompasses several projects around the city and highlighted several older areas that were open to vulnerabilities. There was about 7,300 lineal feet to line which included 440 feet storm sewer and 6,865 feet of sanitary main. Mr. Binkerd said one of the challenges was prices were going through the roof. There was a huge difference between price projects and the bids. The project had been scaled back a little due to price increases. There were two bids. Insight Pipe was the overall low bidder at \$548,272 which was \$12599.10 lower than Insituform. The total project budget was \$650,000. Again, there was 500 feet that had to be scaled back. Insight's bid was within the budgeted amount, but they will be doing less work. Mr. Binkerd recommended acceptance of Insight's bid. Mr. Carl asked when the project would be started and be completed. Mr. Binkerd answered that the project would be started within six weeks and completed by the end of the year but maybe earlier. Mr. Carl asked which part of the project would not be completed at this time. Mr. Binkerd said that a metal culvert pipe in the storm sewer at the mall around Kem Road would not be completed at this time as the price was \$1,200 per lineal foot. Mr. Binkerd clarified that the while the project was taken off the list for now, it would be picked back up later. He added that some alternatives, such as using a concrete base liner, were being researched. Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Green, to approve the bid submitted by Insight. All board members physically present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

DIGESTER LID QUOTE

Mrs. Shrader reminded the board that there is a digester lid that was crooked. She said it would be costly to fix. The costs being presented were for taking the lid off. There were two quotes. Mrs. Shrader explained that the first quote was submitted by ALL and Fruchey who work together. Their quote was \$328,875. The other quote submitted by Wilhelm Construction was \$497,000. Mrs. Shrader also explained that the presented quotes were for the best case scenario because each quote also included an hourly labor charge. Mrs. Shrader recommended the quote submitted by ALL and Fruchey as it was the low quote. Mrs. Shrader also reminded the board the project also included a cost for demolition. If the lid does not have to be

demolished then that part of the price would be cancelled. The crane that they would use would be similar to those used to construct wind turbines in the surrounding counties. Mr. Lewis commented that this was a lot to just get started. Mr. Jackson asked if there was a total ballpark figure for the entire project. Mr. Binkerd said it could be as much as \$1.5 million. Mrs. Shrader said that this was a more difficult project because the lid was not moving. Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Green, to approve the quote submitted by ALL and Fruchey in the amount of \$328,875. All board members physically present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

GILEAD MINISTRIES REQUEST

Mr. Binkerd explained that a request to support Gilead Ministries' Golf Outing had been received. He said that the Sponsorship policy doesn't permit sponsorships of religious organizations. However, this particular outing would support cancer patients. Mr. Binkerd recommended supporting the event by sponsoring a hole for \$100. Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Green, to approve a \$100 hole sponsorship at Gilead Ministries' Golf Outing. All board members physically present voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

BILLING ADJUSTMENT REQUEST FOR 330 E. SHERMAN STREET

Mr. Binkerd presented a request for a billing adjustment at 330 E. Sherman Street. Mr. Binkerd said that this request may have some mitigating circumstances and asked that it be assigned to the Water Committee for further review. Mr. Carl assigned the billing adjustment to the Water Committee for review.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP REPORTS

R. Shrader, Assistant Director for Operations & Maintenance

Mrs. Shrader reported that there were several employees coming and going. Wastewater has one person moving to another opportunity and one person retiring. She said both positions were filled with people that have completed the internship program. The Wastewater Lab has a retirement, and there were five applicants. Mrs. Shrader said the Program Support Coordinator was retiring at the end of the year. A water operator was filling that position which would then leave a water operations position open which has just been posted internally. The HR Specialist planned to retire in September. The current Water Administrative Support Specialist will be filling the HR Specialist role, and the current Water Administrative Support Assistant will be filling the Administrative Support Specialist position. The final opening would be the Administrative Support Assistant position. Mrs. Shrader concluded by saying that while this was a lot of movement, it does show encouragement.

C. Binkerd, Utility Director

Mr. Binkerd said kudos to Mrs. Shrader, Mr. Pinkerton, and Mrs. Humphries for the training of staff which allowed people to move around with greater ease. Mr. Binkerd told the board that the Leadership and Development Institute participants attended their last session on Tuesday. He said they would be honored at the IWEA conference in August. Mr. Binkerd said that the LDI program went well and was definitely appreciated.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

There were no board member comments at this time.

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr. Carl said that it was nice to see that the Parks Department received enough funds for the Pond Project renovation.

The next meeting was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 21, 2022.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to adjourn the meeting. All board members voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Doug Carl, Vice Chairman
Marion Utilities Service Board

ATTEST

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Misty D. Humphries". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Misty Humphries
Its Secretary