

WATER/ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

October 13, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT

Aldermen Dorchinecz

Alderman Walters

Alderman Vota

Alderman Budd

ALSO PRESENT

Mayor Brotherton

Alderman Olive

Reggie Benton

Don Hayes

Jeff Nolen

Superintendent Speagle

Treasurer Nation

Jamie Headen

Owen Lasswell

Bev Morrison

Chairman Dorchinecz called the meeting to order at 6:28 P.M.

BENTON & ASSOCIATES ENGINEERING SERVICE-AMENDMENT & PLANT UPDATE

Reggie Benton and Jamie Headen spoke of changes being made in the design of the new treatment plant to reduce cost to match the City's income stream. They stated there is much to do before putting this out for bid. There is a 30 day review period for the IHPA for results of the Phase II, we should hear from them this month. IEPA has to issue the construction permit after we acquire final loan documents which involves the City Attorney, Bond Counsel, as well as authorization from City Council.

Reggie Benton spoke well of Superintendent Speagle. He stated he is very good at what he does, he is competent and responsive.

Motion by Alderman Dorchinecz and seconded by Alderman Walters to recommend to the City Council to approve Amendment No: 10 to Agreement for Engineering Services for the New Water Treatment Plant providing Engineering Design Services related to Task 1-C - Final Design at the new water treatment plant for modification from a 6.0 MGD treatment facility to a 4.0 MGD (5.2 MGD max) treatment facility as approved by the City Council on September 13, 2016 for a lump sum fee of \$354,000.00 after review of the document by the City Attorney. Motion carried 4-0.

ANNEXATION OF #2 DELMAR COURT

Don Hayes, owner of property at #2 Delmar Court, was present to speak on issues regarding annexation of his property. Water was turned on at this property without his receiving and signing the annexation agreement. He was told there will be no sewer service at this time, maybe as far as 10 years or more. It was confirmed to the Committee that the Police and Fire Departments are given copies of all annexed properties and property owners are also mailed a copy of the annexation. Mr. Hayes asked if he would receive his \$200 annexation fee back. He will not as this is the fee for processing.

Motion by Alderman Walters and seconded by Alderman Budd to recommend to the City Council to direct the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance annexing the property at #2 Delmar Court, owned by Donald E. and Cinda L. Hayes. Motion carried 4-0.

401 W. MARKET STREET WATER SERVICE FEE

Pam Moses is rehabilitating the large building at 401 W. Market into several business units and would like the City to consider assisting with the upgrades. Superintendent Speagle presented figures for City fees, service installation costs and labor and equipment costs. He suggested the City waive the Inspection Fees, Excavation Permit and Customer Service Fees totaling \$335.00 and the City's labor and equipment fee of approximately \$998.00 for a total of \$1,333.00. Ms. Moses will be paying approximately \$1,017.00 for the materials for the installation.

Motion by Alderman Vota and seconded by Alderman Walters to recommend to the City Council to waive the City's Inspection Fee of \$55.00, Excavation Permit of \$250.00 and Customer Service Fee of \$30.00 and the City's estimated Labor and Equipment costs of \$998.00 for a total of \$1,333.00 for the building at 401 West Market Street owned and renovated by Pam Moses. Motion carried 4-0.

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT

Superintendent Speagle presented the Monthly Status Report for September reporting that 13% of Lake Taylorville Water was used compared to 87% of Well Water. Chairman Dorchinecz noted there were 418 shutoff notices mailed resulting in 34 shutoffs, and 11 final bills from shutoffs.

VILLAGE OF OWANECO INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

Superintendent Speagle feels that the Village of Owaneco will be purchasing water from E. J. Water although we have nothing in writing. He stated the City cannot compete with their rates. Superintendent Speagle will contact Owaneco to inform them what we could do to increase the water flow for fire protection. He will ask them if their mind is made up to go with E J Water or not. A letter could also be sent from the Fire Chief concerning hydrants and the fire protection if they no longer purchase water from the City.

VILLAGE OF KINCAID INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

Kincaid Village Attorney Fines stated in a letter that his Board will not enter into a new agreement when there is two years left on the original agreement, but they might if several terms are changed. They are opposed to the no ceiling on percentage rate increase stating Taylorville could essentially raise water rates every year as high as they want. They are also concerned with the default issue.

If these two issues would be addressed by Taylorville and the terms mirrored the terms for the review and increase in water rates and the default paragraph as set forth in the old Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement, they might consider into entering a new one depending on established water rates.

LANGLEYVILLE PUBLIC WATER DISTRICT INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

Ron Verardi spoke with Attorney Romano and indicated the proposed agreement seems to be acceptable but they would like discussion on rates. He stated he received a letter in April 2016 stating that the 2014 10% water rate increase would be good for the next four years. It was confirmed that our agreement did indeed expire.

BULK WATER RATE

The City's Bulk Water Rate has not been raised for quite some time. It is now \$0.80 per 100 gallons. With Committee discussion, Superintendent Speagle is now recommending we change the rate to \$1.25 per 100 gallon.

Motion by Alderman Vota and seconded by Alderman Budd to recommend to the City Council to direct the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance setting the Bulk Water Rate to \$1.25 per 100 gallon. Motion carried 4-0.

CUSTOMER ACTIVATION FEE

The current Customer Activation Fee for inside residential customers is \$30.00 and the Customer Activation Fee for outside customers is \$60.00 except that a Customer Activation fee of \$50.00 for residents and \$240.00 for outside residents is charged for service activation **outside** posted business hours.

Based on the benefit cost for a two hour callout (AFSCME CONTRACT) of the Water Service Technicians that usually do these turn on/off's, Superintendent Speagle recommends that the after hours fee be changed to \$75.00 for inside residents and \$150 for outside residents.

Motion by Alderman Budd and seconded by Alderman Walters to recommend to the City Council to direct the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance setting the after hours water service Customer Activation Fee to \$75.00 for inside residents and \$150.00 for outside residents. Motion carried 4-0.

Superintendent Speagle stated there is no charge in emergencies.

MONTHLY WATER BILLING

Treasurer Nation spoke with the City of Pana who also considered going to monthly water billing. They were very negative, stating it would take double postage, more supplies, another employee for billing, and possibly another for collections, increase in costs for bills and shutoff notices and supplies. Also the Taylorville Sanitary District is against monthly billing at this time.

Jacque Nation would prefer postponing going to monthly billing until the issue of payment of water bills by credit/debit card or by online payment is decided.

ANNXATION OF 1351 S. SHUMWAY STREET

The owner of 1351 South Shumway has been invited to the last two Water Committee Meetings but has not responded.

Motion by Alderman Vota and seconded by Alderman Walters to recommend to the City Council to direct the City Attorney to prepare an Ordinance annexing the property at 1351 S. Shumway with the knowledge that if she has a problem with the annexation she should appear at the November 7, 2016 City Council Meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

WATER SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

New Plant

Benton and Associates is working on a scaled back proposal to present to the City Council that will decrease the plant capacity but keep full redundancy. We are removing as much administrative area as possible.

AMR

Currently we have over 4,281 AMR's in the system.

East Main Cross

We have installed the 10 inch line on E. Main Cross down to Paw Paw Street, and are waiting EPA sample test results and authorization to place it in service. Next year's portion is to run west on Main Cross crossing Cherokee Street.

Cherokee Street Project for Park to Main Cross

We have provided information to the City Engineer so he can design and submit for an EPA permit to replace a portion of the water main prior to the Street project which will hopefully occur this winter.

ANY OTHER MATTERS

Superintendent Speagle thanked the Street Department for assistance on the E. Main Cross project and the Street Dept. and Lake Department for helping haul/spread sludge.

After the next phase of E. Main Cross and the planned Cherokee St. install, when the road is repaired this will create a nice avenue for entrance into the square.

Motion by Alderman Vota and seconded by Alderman Walters to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Ernie Dorchinecz, Chairman