

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
UTILITY SERVICE BOARD
FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of the Utility Service Board of the City of Jasper, Indiana, was held in the Council Chambers of City Hall in Jasper at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, February 21, 2023.

UPON CALL OF THE ROLL, THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT:

<u>ROLL CALL:</u>	<u>In Person</u>	<u>By Zoom</u>
Roger Seng – Chairman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tara Eckman – Vice Chairman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bibianna Green – Secretary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Steve Hale – Water Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brian Hostetter – Gas Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adam Auffart – Wastewater Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ALSO PRESENT:

Tim Doersam – Gas & Water Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ed Hollinden – Wastewater Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bud Hauersperger – General Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renee Kabrick – City Attorney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ashley Kiefer – Office Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ABSENT:

Phil Schmidt – Electric Commissioner
Jerry Schitter – Electric Manager

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (DVD-00:57)

Chairman Roger Seng led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 17, 2023 REGULAR MEETING (DVD-01:10)

Chairman Roger Seng presented the minutes from the January 17, 2023 Regular Meeting and there were no corrections or amendments. Seng asked for approval of the minutes as presented.

The Board agreed unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting as presented.

PETITION TO VACATE PLATTED EASEMENT- ED & KRISTI MEHRINGER- LOT 2-MEHRINGERS'S ADDITION (DVD-01:27)

Brad Eckerle, with Brosmer Land Surveying, addressed the Board regarding a petition to vacate a platted easement on behalf of Ed and Kristi Mehringer for Lot 2 in Mehringer's Addition. Eckerle stated the addition is located on the west side of Jasper. Eckerle stated at the time of platting a 2-lot minimum was required. A 10- foot subsurface drain easement within the plat is to drain the neighbor to the north. In 2021 the neighbor diverted the drain to the east of the property no longer needing the drainage through the Mehringer's property, therefore they are seeking vacation of the platted easement. Department managers have no concerns with the vacation of the easement.

Adam Auffart made a motion to approve the vacation of platted easement for Ed and Kristi Mehringer in Lot 2 of the Mehringer's Addition. Tara Eckman seconded the motion. Motion approved, 6-0.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT -APPROVAL TO PURCHASE MINI EXCAVATOR- SOURCEWELL / GSA PRICING (DVD-05:28)

Bud Hauersperger asked for the Board's approval to purchase a mini excavator for the Electric Department. Hauersperger requested using GSA pricing through Hutson, Inc. to purchase the mini excavator. Hauersperger stated that the price of the mini excavator is \$75,756.91 with a trade-in amount of \$10,500 for a trencher for a net amount of \$65,256.91. Hauersperger explained that the price came in under the 2023 Capital Expenditure with trade-in of \$68,000. Attorney Kabrick agreed that all the documents were acceptable.

Tara Eckman made a motion to approve the purchase of the mini excavator from Hutson, Inc. for a total price of \$65,256.91. Bibianna Green seconded the motion. Motion approved, 6-0.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT – STAN SEIFERT/NEW ELECTRIC MANAGER (DVD 08:13)

Bud Hauersperger announced that Stan Seifert was attending the meeting this evening. Seifert will be assuming Jerry Schitter's position as Electric Manager and will continue to perform his current role as Distribution Superintendent.

ELECTRIC COMMITTEE REPORT (DVD-08:56)

Roger Seng, Chairman of the Utility Service board, stated the Electric Committee did not meet during the past month.

WATER DEPARTMENT – WATER QUALITY REPORTS- USE OUTSIDE VENDOR FOR MAILING (DVD-09:03)

Tim Doersam asked for the Board's permission to have Gemini Group print the water quality reports and mail them to our customers for \$6,084.00. Doersam stated that 7,200 copies of the report are needed.

Adam Auffart made a motion to approve the purchase of the water quality reports from Gemini Group in the amount of \$6,084.00. Brian Hostetter seconded the motion. Motion approved, 6-0.

WATER DEPARTMENT – BEAVER LAKE DRAIN WILL BE CLOSED ON MARCH 13TH, 2023 (DVD-10:16)

Tim Doersam informed the Board that Beaver Lake drain will be closed March 13th, 2023. Doersam stated that the water level was high due to the amount of rain recently and that all 3 drains have been open.

GAS DEPARTMENT – PROPOSAL FROM USDI ON GAS NETWORK MODELING FOR NOT-TO-EXCEED \$6,500 (DVD-10:39)

Tim Doersam asked for the Board's approval on the proposal from USDI on gas network modeling for a not-to-exceed \$6,500. Doersam stated that the modeling of the existing gas distribution network will help prevent the low-pressure issues we had over the winter months.

Adam Auffart made a motion to approve the proposal from USDI on gas network modeling for a not-to exceed \$6,500. Steve Hale seconded the motion. Motion approved, 6-0.

GAS PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT (DVD-11:53)

Brian Hostetter, Chairman of the Gas Planning Committee, stated the Gas Committee did not meet during the past month.

WATER PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT (DVD-12:01)

Steve Hale, Chairman of the Water Planning Committee, stated the Water Committee did not meet during the past month.

WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT – PROPOSAL FROM TORIC ENGINEERING FOR PHASE III OF SCADA LIFT STATION UPGRADES (DVD-12:08)

Ed Hollinden asked for the Board's permission to approve the proposal from Toric Engineering for Phase III of SCADA lift station upgrade. Hollinden stated the total cost to complete the SCADA lift station project is \$67,665. Hollinden also stated that the 2023 Capital Expenditure amount for the project was \$100,000 to complete the final lift stations.

Tara Eckman made a motion to approve the proposal from Toric Engineering for Phase III of SCADA lift station upgrades for \$67,665. Brian Hostetter seconded the motion. Motion approved, 6-0.

WASTEWATER PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT (DVD-13:41)

Adam Auffart, Chairman of the Wastewater Planning Committee, stated the Wastewater Committee did not meet during the past month.

BUSINESS OFFICE – HIRED MICHELLE ZEHR AS BILLING CONTROL CLERK & JAMI EICHMILLER AS BUSINESS OFFICE ASSISTANT (DVD-13:49)

Ashley Kiefer updated the Board that Jackie Bockelman will be retiring on March 24th after 28 years of service. Michelle Zehr will be filling her position as Billing Control Clerk and Jami Eichmiller will be filling the position of Business Office Assistant.

BUSINESS OFFICE – WASTEWATER COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 3RD- REGARDING NORTH SIDE SEWER PROJECT (DVD-14:35)

Ashley Kiefer stated that a Wastewater Committee meeting is scheduled for March 3rd at 9 AM in the Pfaffenweiler Room to discuss the preliminary engineering results for the potential North Side sewer project in preparation for submitting the SRF loan application.

Kiefer is also in the process of scheduling a Special Utility Service Board meeting. Kiefer will update Board members when the date is scheduled.

GENERAL MANAGER –BUD HAUERSPERGER--RECOMMENDS REPLACEMENT OF JERRY SCHITTER TO IMPA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS (DVD-15:21)

Bud Hauersperger stated that Mayor Vonderheide recommended that he replace Jerry Schitter on the IMPA Board of Commissioners due to Schitter's upcoming retirement. The Common Council has approved Hauersperger's appointment to the IMPA Board of Commissioners.

WATER DEPARTMENT - UPDATE ON THE BACKUP WATER SUPPLY PROJECT EASEMENTS & UPDATE ON EDA GRANT STATUS (DVD-16:36)

Bud Hauersperger stated that EDA has been in contact with the City regarding the status of easements for the backup water supply project. Hauersperger informed the Board of a meeting held last week with the property owners concerning the easements for the backup water supply project. Hauersperger stated that the meeting had positive feedback for the property owners near the project.

AMI UPDATE (DVD 17:32)

Bud Hauersperger informed the Board that last week was a good test on the generators and the AMI software when a power outage occurred due to a pole being hit. Hauersperger stated that we have a lot of AMI meters installed on the West side of town, therefore the map on the AMI software showed all the outages and when power was restored.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT & PRESENTATION OF CLAIM DOCKET (DVD-19:06)

Secretary Bibianna Green reported the Finance Committee had met tonight and reviewed the claims on the Claim Docket.

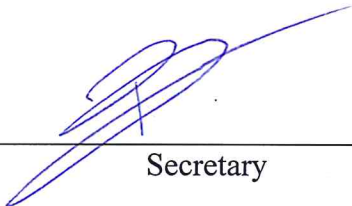
The Finance Committee recommended approval of the claims as presented.

Brian Hostetter made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Adam Auffart seconded the motion. Motion approved, 6-0.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20PM upon motion by Brian Hostetter and second by Steve Hale. Motion approved, 6-0.

The minutes were hereby approved _____ with without corrections this 20th day of March, 2023.

Attest:



Secretary



Chairman