



Marion Water Department MINUTES 2 11 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Marion Water Department's Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:15 PM, on February 11, 2020, in the executive conference room of City Hall, Marion, Iowa. Trustees Mary Ann McComas, William Kling, and Greg Hapgood were present. John Bender and John McIntosh participated via phone call. Chairman Hapgood called the meeting to order. Other people attending the meeting included Todd Steigerwaldt, Board Secretary, and Curt Huhndorf, Distribution Foreman.

Motion by McComas, seconded by Kling to approve the minutes of the January 14th, 2020 regular monthly board meeting and January disbursement and fund balance reports. Bender asked about the status of the payments for the two elevated water towers that were painted in 2017. Steigerwaldt stated the 31st Street elevated water tower was accepted, and final payment was made for this project at the end of 2019. The company is to come back this spring and perform inspections on both towers. The department has not paid the contractor for the Lindale elevated water tower paint job yet because there are some noticeable deficiencies in the workmanship. Steigerwaldt anticipates the contractor contacting him eventually regarding payment for the Lindale Tower job. If he does, then they will need to inspect and repair all issues prior to any payment. Vote: all Ayes (5-0)

Motion by McIntosh, seconded by McComas to receive and file the 2019 Field Activities Report for the Marion Water Department. Steigerwaldt shared some of the highlights and accomplishments the department completed in 2019. Bender asked for next year's report to list a percent of increase in service work and other work-related tasks from the prior year. Vote: all Ayes (5-0)

Motion by McComas, seconded by Kling approving Resolution 20-03, accepting improvements and extensions of water main in the Ridge at Indian Creek 1st Addition. Hapgood asked about the location of this new subdivision. Steigerwaldt stated it was northeast of the big roundabout at 35th Street and Lucre Road. He stated several foundations are installed and the contractor, Abode Construction, is currently installing pipe for the next addition. Roll Call Vote: all Ayes (5-0)

Motion by Bender, seconded by McIntosh approving partial payment #3 to Rathje Construction Company for work completed on the 2019 10th Avenue and 22nd Street Water Main Relay Project for \$139,751.65. Bender asked if the project was completed. Steigerwaldt stated that it was complete but there will be some minor touch up work next spring. All the new main is installed, water services are live, and the street patches and driveways are poured back. The project will be accepted at the next meeting. Vote: all Ayes (5-0)

Motion by McIntosh, seconded by Kling approving the certificate of completion for the Well 8 Pump Installation Project completed by Northway Well and Pump Company and approval to release final retainage of \$2,099.49 31 days after acceptance. Hapgood asked the location of this Well 8. Steigerwaldt stated it was off 31st Street. Hapgood asked Huhndorf if everything was good to go. Huhndorf stated it was. Vote: all Ayes (5-0)

Motion by McComas, seconded by Hapgood approving payment to Veenstra and Kim Inc. for engineering services for \$11,479.00 for Well 8 Water Treatment Facility design work. Bender asked about how much of the contract has been used. Steigerwaldt stated V&K was less than 30% through their original contract. He also told the board that he had put the design work on hold as staff is resolving another water quality issue from excessive iron from another existing well. Vote: all Ayes (5-0)

Motion by McComas, seconded by Kling to receive and file the Ames Water and Sewer annual rate survey report. Steigerwaldt highlighted some of the trends and future projected rates for other water utilities in the report. Vote: all Ayes (5-0)

Steigerwaldt updated the board on the field activities. Service Department: remote read meters installed on 23 accounts; 11,117-meter reads; 2 straight meters to radio; 150 tag orders; 101 service calls; and 270 utility locations were located.

Steigerwaldt praised the staff that spent a lot of time working on the remodel of Site #3 for the future administration office including 2 new sanitary sewer lines, underground plumbing inside the building and a lot of general demo work. He stated there was only one water main break in January. Staff cleaned #4 and #6 ground storage tanks and put Well #6 back online.

Steigerwaldt told the board about the need for adding ammonia at Well #10 and injecting polymers to Wells #10 and #4 to deal with the additional manganese and iron at these wells respectively. The estimated annual increase to add these additional products is roughly \$28,000. There would also be some material and installation costs to add the injectors and batch tanks, but he stated these installations are needed to enhance the water quality. He stated the first project is to add the ammonia for Well #10.

He also recommended to the board that they proceed with the design of the iron removal plant for Well 8 and Well 5 which is a change in scope for the new iron removal plant. Originally, the new plant was only to remove iron from Well 8. Staff now believe it would be best to spend the extra money and build a larger iron removal plant as the community continues to grow and will need the additional clean water.

January gallons pumped: 76,642,000

Secretary Report –

Steigerwaldt informed the board there were 11 building permits issued in January over a \$50,000 valuation. Five single-family homes, five commercial remodels, and one townhouse permit were issued.

Steigerwaldt updated the board on some future decisions regarding construction at the future administration office. One decision is the installation of radiant floor heat. He stated it would be convenient to have and would be relatively easy to install now but it is an additional expense as we need a traditional furnace anyway in the building for the AC unit. He also stated he was actively getting quotes from subcontractors for the various trades needed to remodel the building.

Steigerwaldt told the board two CD are about to mature. He plans on keeping the money in cash as CD rates are low right now. They are comparable to traditional money market accounts. He stated he would watch CD rates in future and inform the board of any future changes.

Steigerwaldt briefed the board on an article from the Des Moines Register newspaper where a quarry in northeast Iowa was considering exporting 2 billion gallons of water from the Jordan Aquifer to possibly Texas. At this time the DNR is denying the applicants request but Steigerwaldt stated they could appeal the DNR's decision. Steigerwaldt has contacted several legislators regarding this potential development and they are not in support of this practice.

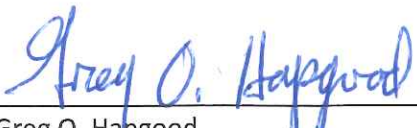
Steigerwaldt shared a letter he sent off to the EPA regarding the proposed lead and copper rule revisions. He stated many utilities wrote similar letters expressing their concerns regarding the proposed revisions. When the final rules eventually are adopted Steigerwaldt stated there will be additional cost and labor borne on the department to follow the new regulations.

The next regular monthly board meeting was set for 5:15 PM on Tuesday, March 10th, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 5:59 PM.



Todd Steigerwaldt
Secretary



Greg O. Haggood
Chairman