



MINUTES Water Board

4:00 PM - Tuesday, March 12, 2024
Water Department, 3050 5th Avenue

The Water Board of the City of Marion, Linn County, Iowa met on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 4:00 PM, at Water Department, 3050 5th Avenue, with the following members present:

PRESENT: John Bender, John McIntosh, Amy Olson, William Kling, and Terry Chew

ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Todd Steigerwaldt, Andy Smith, and Curt Huhndorf

REGULAR AGENDA

Motion to approve the February minutes and February payable invoices for \$1,732,789.24.

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Olson, to approved the above referenced items. Board member McIntosh asked about a payment to Linn Coop for site 2 for lawn treatment. Steigerwaldt stated Linn Coop labeled one of our sites as site 2. We are not treating the lawn at this location we know as Site 2. Bender asked when the Marion Boulevard water main project will start. Steigerwaldt stated he just spoke to Rathje and they said later this month. Chew asked about the city payment for Osage Estate 1st Addition. Steigerwaldt stated there was additional water main installed north of the developer's property on city owned ground to loop the new water main into the 12" water main along Tower Terrace Road.

Approved unanimously

Motion to receive and file email correspondence from Ron Major regarding water service line repair at 290 South 11th Street, Marion, Iowa.

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Chew, to receive and file above referenced correspondence. Mr. Major built a new house at 290 S. 11th Street. In 2013, S. 11th Street was reconstructed from 1st Avenue to Grand Avenue. The water main was replaced and existing services were re-tapped. The new water main was installed under the new pavement as it was an easier install here versus fighting all of the existing utilities between the back of curb and property line. 11 years later the water service for 290 S. 11th Street was installed to the new house only to find that there was no water available. The street needed to be removed to access the water service line connection on the water main to determine if the corp was installed in the off position and never turned on. The corp was turned on, however, as we have seen in the past, on older/unused service lines they can corrode shut preventing water from flowing. This was the case here. Water staff accessed the corp and were able to unplug the calcium

buildup.

Water staff wanted to minimize the street removal and replacement as the Engineering Department is now requiring full patch removal and replacement from joint to joint. The first street removal was smaller but upon digging down to the water main, the backfill was all clean rock which created an unstable condition to have workers access the water main. At this point the existing slab was undermined and it was decided to remove more of the pavement as directed by the Engineering Department which added more time and cost to the repair.

Mr. Major was requesting some financial participation from the water department for this unfortunate situation that occurred during the construction of this new home for his in-laws. The board heard from staff and Mr. Major on this repair. Staff agreed that the expense was excessive but this was due to the Engineering policy on pavement patch removals. The board did not make any decisions at the meeting but would discuss the matter more at the next board meeting and decide on what action to take then. Steigerwaldt asked Mr. Major to also check with his insurance carrier and see if this situation could be an insurance claim. Mr. Major stated he would do that.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Bender, McIntosh, Olson, and Chew

Mr. Kling joined via ZOOM at 4:20 PM.

Motion to receive and file the February 2024 revenue, expense and financial reports.

Moved by Bender, seconded by Chew, to approve above referenced items. Steigerwaldt stated that two \$1 million CDs had matured this month and he compared rates with other banks and reinvested the money at Community Savings Bank for a 12 month term.

Approved unanimously

Motion to approve Resolution 24-02 accepting improvements and extensions of water main for Jacobs Landing 1st Addition to the city of Marion.

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Olson, to approve above referenced item. Steigerwaldt stated that this subdivision is located north of East Robins Road and is the western most boundary for Marion. There are 16 single-family lots on this cul-de-sac which abuts up to the future Tower Terrace Road right-of-way. The developer is Todd Frazier of Marion. All inspections and water tests have been approved. He recommended approval of the new water main in this subdivision. Bender asked if the additional water main loop along East Robins Road had started. Steigerwaldt stated Rathje had not begun this work yet.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Bender, McIntosh, Olson, Kling, and Chew

Motion to approve Resolution 24-03 accepting improvements and extensions of water main for Osage Estates 1st Addition to the city of Marion.

Moved by Bender, seconded by Olson, to approve above referenced item. Steigerwaldt stated this subdivision is located off of Wallace Road (formerly known as Winslow Road) just north of the Winslow House care facility. There are 20 single-family lots on this cul-de-sac. Two homes are currently under construction. The developer is Todd Wood of

Marion. All inspections and water tests have been approved. He recommended approval of the new water main in this subdivision.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Bender, McIntosh, Olson, Kling, and Chew

Motion accepting bids and approving contract with Kammiller Tree Service LLC for the demolition and cleanup at 6301 Lucore Road for \$45,000.00.

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Bender, to approve above referenced items. Steigerwaldt stated we received 10 bids last Thursday from contractors wanting to cleanup this site. The engineer's estimate was \$75,000. Four bids came in under the engineer's estimate. Some bids were well over the estimate. Kammiller Tree Service was the low bidder from Manchester. They are currently doing work for the Marion Parks Department. They will likely start Wednesday morning.

Approved unanimously

Motion to table a Water Main Application for the new Linn County Secondary Road Department Headquarters at 1902 County Home Road, Marion.

Moved by Chew, seconded by Bender, to table the above reference item until the April 9th board meeting. Steigerwaldt told the board the Linn County Board of Supervisors are going to build a new County Engineering and Secondary Road Department Headquarter adjacent to their existing facilities at the southwest corner of the intersection of Highway 13 and County Home Road. This new facility will need fire protection and potable water. They are preparing plans for the installation of 13,375 LF of 12" water main to be installed later this summer/fall within the west ROW of Highway 13. City staff have been made aware of this request and the possible outcomes it will have on city services such as future development and sanitary sewer needs. The board had several questions regarding this project that could not be answered without the actual plans for the proposed water main so they tabled this item. The board suggested having V&K also review the plans when they are submitted to answer questions like water degradation, how often and how much water would be wasted, as well as Also, what sort of water rate should be set to cover the department's operating costs.

Approved unanimously

Motion approving payment for engineering services to Veenstra and Kimm Inc. relating to Well #11 installation for \$880.00.

Moved by Bender, seconded by Chew, to approve payment referenced above. Steigerwaldt stated V&K are only at 31% of contract amount budgeted. He stated the well is completed. It was drilled to a depth of 496' with a pumping rate of 615 - 630 gpm. There was some draw down noticed in two nearby residential wells. Final water quality test results and the test pumping report have not been submitted but, in general, it is decent future municipal well.

Approved unanimously

Motion to table the purchase of memorial bench from the Marion Parks Department to be installed at the future Draper Park location.

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Chew, to table the above mentioned item. Steigerwaldt shared a photo of the future park benches that will be placed at Draper Park. He stated it is not yet known how many words can be placed on the round cast

metal plaque which would be in the center of the bench. McIntosh stated he would speak with the Park Board and see if they would donate a second bench if we purchased one bench for \$2,000. He stated they have a meeting tomorrow afternoon. The board agreed to table this motion.

Approved unanimously

Motion approving Uptown Marion annual financial pledge for \$500.00.

Moved by Bender, seconded by Olson, to approve above referenced item. Steigerwaldt stated the board has pledged \$500 toward this organization annually. Attached are the summary of all the activities and functions that the Uptown organization has assisted in over the course of last year promoting businesses in the uptown area. They also have a chart of their top priorities for the coming calendar year. This pledge was anticipated in our fiscal budget.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Bender, Olson, Kling, and Chew

Nays: McIntosh

Motion approving a financial pledge to the 2024 Marion Arts Festival.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Kling, to approve a \$100 donation to the above reference organization. Steigerwaldt stated there is a new director for the Marion Arts Festival which draws thousands of people to Marion every year. Lexi Matthews is the new director and she has enclosed a letter and pledge form for the board to consider supporting. Bender suggested donating \$100 this year and the other members were in support of this amount.

Approved unanimously

Discussion on future water rate increases for July 1, 2024.

Steigerwaldt shared with the board some other rate increases for the board to consider for the start of the new fiscal year. Bulk water sales were suggested to be increased by 5%. The unmetered parks water flat fee charge at unmetered park pavilions should be increased by 3%. The board was in support of increasing the billing fee to the city from \$1.60 to \$1.75 per bill. No increase was the decision for fixed charges/misc billing items and meter markup fees. Steigerwaldt stated Cedar Rapids would increase water rates for the Glenbrook Cover area by 6%. He suggested adding another 3% on top of the 6% Cedar Rapids increase. Huhndorf stated there were two leaks there this past winter.

Discussion regarding Field Operations Reports.

Smith reviewed the monthly reports with the board. There were two water main breaks last month. Smith stated staff worked on the lead service line inventory which is a requirement by the EPA and they are almost completed with this inventory. Distribution crews measured in 65 new curb boxes and did two service taps. Contractors are starting projects early as the weather is cooperating.

Secretary Report

February Building Permits

30% new storage building plans

NEW - City Council Annual Department Update - April 2nd or 16th at 4 pm

City Showcase - April 20th 9-noon at YMCA

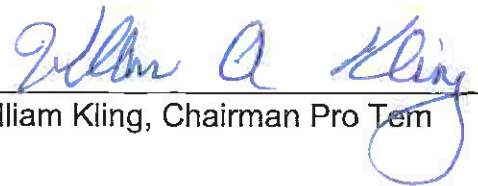
Steigerwaldt stated there were 12 building permits issued February 2024 over a \$50,000

Draft

valuation. A new request by the city council this year is for all boards/commissions and external partners to share their past year's accomplishments and future projects and activities. Terry Chew stated he would let Steigerwaldt know what date would work best for him to attend the council meeting. Steigerwaldt shared a drawing of the new storage building that is under design. Staff was working on getting power, water and sewer to the site. The plan is to start the construction later this summer.

ADJOURN at 5:37 PM.

The next Marion Water Board meeting will be held on April 9th 2024 at 4 PM at 3050 5th Avenue and on ZOOM.



William Kling, Chairman Pro Tem



Todd Steigerwaldt, Secretary