



# MINUTES Water Board

4:00 PM - Tuesday, April 9, 2024  
Water Department, 3050 5th Avenue

The Water Board of the City of Marion, Linn County, Iowa met on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 4:00 PM, at Water Department, 3050 5th Avenue, with the following members present:

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

ABSENT: Terry Chew

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

## CALL TO ORDER

**Motion to approve the March 12th minutes and March payable invoices for \$1,084,931.84.**

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Olson, to approved above referenced items. Steigerwaldt stated he updated the minutes signature line to show Kling as the pro tem chairperson as Chew was absent. No other comments or questions were received.

Approved unanimously

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

Moved by Bender, seconded by Kling, to approve above referenced reports. Steigerwaldt stated he did not anticipate any budget amendments for the current fiscal year.

Approved unanimously

**Motion to financially compensate Ron Major regarding water service line repair at 290 South 11th Street, Marion, Iowa.**

Moved by Kling, seconded by McIntosh, after additional board discussion Kling amended the above motion and McIntosh seconded the motion to not compensate Mr. Major for the water service line repair at 290 South 11th Street in Marion. Steigerwaldt shared the notes used at the March 12th meeting again as Kling was late to the meeting in March. Smith also provided additional information regarding the sequence of events that occurred. Steigerwaldt shared a letter from Mr. Major's insurance agent that denied coverage for the water service line repair. The board reviewed his cost break down again and further discussed possible compensation. McIntosh shared with the other members that he believed that the Engineering Department's requirement for full pavement panel section replacement was the major expense of this repair. If the Engineering Department would have allowed a smaller pavement removal then Mr. Major would not have occurred such an expense. The Water Department staff attempted to access the water service connection to the public main initially with a smaller pavement

panel section removal on the first attempt. Due to the undermining of the pavement, it was deemed that additional pavement removal was needed. The Engineering Department then allowed a lesser amount of pavement removal the second day which, if this option would have been allowed at the start of the project, the second day of additional pavement removal could have been avoided. The board asked Steigerwaldt to respond back to Mr. Major on their decision and assist him if Mr. Major chooses to take this issue up with city.

Approved unanimously

**Resolution 24-04 of necessity regarding the 2024 Tama Street Water Main Relay Project.**

Moved by Bender, seconded by Olson, to approve referenced item above. Steigerwaldt explained the scope of the project. Bender asked what size main we were replacing and tying into. Steigerwaldt stated we were replacing old 8" water main and will be connecting into newer 12" water main.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Bender, McIntosh, Olson, and Kling

**Resolution 24-05 ordering preparation of detailed plans, specifications, notice of hearing and letting, notice to bidders, form of contract and estimate of cost regarding the 2024 Tama Street Water Main Relay Project.**

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Kling, to approve above referenced resolution. Steigerwaldt stated bids are due May 2nd at 2 PM. So far he had 16 contractors requesting plans. His engineering estimate is \$244,690.00.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Bender, McIntosh, Olson, and Kling

**Resolution 24-06 approving and adopting final plans, specifications, notice of hearing and letting, notice to bidders, form of contract and cost estimate regarding the 2024 Tama Street Water Main Relay Project.**

Moved by Bender, seconded by Olson, to approve resolution listed above.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Bender, McIntosh, Olson, and Kling

**Motion setting a Public Hearing and directing publication thereof for 2024 Tama Street Water Main Relay Project.**

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Kling, approving setting a public hearing for above mentioned project for May 2nd at 2 PM at 3050 5th Avenue, Marion, Iowa.

Approved unanimously

**Resolution 24-07 approving necessity regarding the 2024 Marion Water Department Storage Building Project.**

Moved by Bender, seconded by Olson, approving the above referenced resolution for storage shed building project. Steigerwaldt shared the preliminary plans with the board. Bender asked about the site plan and 2nd Street. Steigerwaldt stated there are edits to

be made on the site plan as the future Alburnett Road installation will replace 2nd Street and they will take more right of way. The architect will revise the current site plan to reflect these changes. He stated the proposed building corners have been staked.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Bender, McIntosh, Olson, and Kling

**Resolution 24-08 ordering preparation of detailed plans, specifications, notice of hearing and letting, notice to bidders, form of contract and estimate of cost regarding the 2024 Marion Water Department Storage Building Project.**

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Kling, to approve the above resolution for the above building project. Steigerwaldt mentioned the bids will be due May 2nd at 3 PM at the Water Department office.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Bender, McIntosh, Olson, and Kling

**Motion setting a Public Hearing and directing publication thereof for 2024 Marion Water Department Storage Building Project.**

Moved by Olson, seconded by Kling, approving public hearing for new storage building project on May 14th at 4 PM.

Approved unanimously

**Motion approving payment #1 to Martin Gardner Architecture for professional services for new storage building for \$3,900.00.**

Moved by Olson, seconded by Bender, to approved above referenced item. Steigerwaldt stated the plans are 95% complete. There are still a few more edits to make. Plans will be available to contractors mid April and bids will be due May 2nd 2024. Staff has been prepping the building site and getting electric/fiber conduits and sewer/water services to the new building site.

Approved unanimously

**Motion approving payment for engineering services to Veenstra and Kimm Inc. relating to Well #11 installation for \$220.00.**

Moved by Bender, seconded by Olson, approving the above referenced item. Steigerwaldt stated they are only at 32.3% of contract amount budgeted. The final water quality test results were shared with the board. It was noted that the new well has high total dissolved solids, ammonia, hardness and iron. McIntosh asked how we would lower the higher ammonia. Smith stated through a future iron removal filter. Steigerwaldt mentioned this well will not be needed for many years as we have plenty of water supply currently for the community's needs.

Approved unanimously

**Motion to purchase memorial bench from the Marion Parks Department to be installed at the future Draper Park location. (Tabled 3/12/2024)**

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Kling, approving the above refererenced item. Steigerwaldt shared the plaque that will be attached to the iron bench which will accommodate both past board members names. The Marion Parks Department will purchase this bench along with other benches and invoice the Water Department for this

memorial bench which will be installed at the new Draper Park.  
Approved unanimously

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

Steigerwaldt reviewed the proposed water rate increases once again with the board and there were no changes. A summary of proposed rate increases are below.

3% water rate increase for customers which will generate approximately \$150,000.

Unmetered Parks Water flat fee charge 3% increase.

Bulk water sales rate increase of 5%.

Billing fee to the city proposed increase from \$1.60 to \$1.75 per bill as set in new FY 25 budget.

Glenbrook Cove rate increase of 9% as Cedar Rapids is raising the rate we pay by 6%.

**Motion setting a Public Hearing for May 14th 2024 at 4:00 PM to discuss future water rate increase to go into effect July 1st 2024.**

Moved by Kling, seconded by Olson, approving the above referenced item. The public hearing for setting the new water rates will be May 14th at 4 PM at 3050 5th Avenue, Marion.

Approved unanimously

**Discussion regarding Field Operations Reports.**

Smith shared with the board the lightning strike water main repair at 450 Echo Hill Road and the water plant issues that resulted from the lightning strike. The SCADA system went dark. Staff worked through the night and most of Saturday trouble shooting and getting the SCADA system back online. Distribution crews also prepared the new storage shed site for electricity, fiber and sanitary sewer. Smith also noted that the CCR report was completed and the annual fire hydrant flushing program started this week.

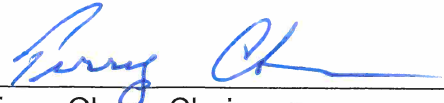
**Secretary Report**

Steigerwaldt stated there were 14 building permits issued in March 2024 over a \$50,000 valuation. The board asked about the two larger permits pulled. Steigerwaldt stated the one was for Linn Mar's new performing arts building addition and the other one was the redevelopment of the city square park. The city's IT department is assisting the Water Department in a Cyber Security Scanning project. Steigerwaldt stated we received a check from the city for our former rental house for \$106,600.00. Steigerwaldt told the board that the city is exploring using solar panels at certain city facilities. He opted into to the free study for a company to determine potential energy cost savings we could receive.

**ADJOURN at 5:14 PM**

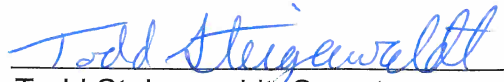
Next Marion Water Board meeting will be held at 3050 5th Avenue, Marion at 4:00 PM and on ZOOM on May 14, 2024.

**Draft**



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Terry Chew, Chairman



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Todd Steigerwaldt, Secretary