



MINUTES Water Board

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

The Water Board of the City of Marion, Linn County, Iowa met on Tuesday, July 9, 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

CALL TO ORDER

Motion to approve the June 11th 2024 minutes and June 2024 payable invoices.

Moved by Kling, seconded by Bender, approving the above referenced items. Steigerwaldt shared with the board a paper copy of the June payable invoices which had a total amount of \$1,548,178.37.

Approved unanimously

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

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Bender, approving the items referenced above. Steigerwaldt handed out the reports. Bender mentioned our bank account is really healthy. Steigerwaldt stated we earned just over \$400,000 in interest last year. The department ended the fiscal year at 86% of expected expenditures and 121% of forecasted revenue. Smith had a suggestion of purchasing a UTV vehicle for the department to access subdivision under construction and assist in making water main taps. Steigerwaldt suggested this could be considered during the next fiscal budget request. This was not anticipated in the new fiscal budget.

Approved unanimously

Motion approving Resolution 24-18 accepting water main improvements and extensions for the Bowman Meadows 9th Addition to the city of Marion, Iowa.

Moved by Bender, seconded by Olson, to approve above referenced resolution. Steigerwaldt stated this subdivision is located south of Boyson Road and just west of the new Alburnett Road extension. There are 14 single-family lots in this addition. He stated all of the tests have passed and the water improvements are ready to be accepted.

Approved by the following votes:

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

Motion approving quote for Well #7 improvements from Northway Well and Pump Company.

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Olson, to approve above referenced quote. Steigerwaldt explained this project to the board. He stated we want to downsize pumping capacity of Well #7 from 2000 gpm to 1500 gpm and also reduce the motor size from a 350 HP to a 250 HP motor. This will save on electricity cost and we will be able to blend the Jordan and Silurian aquifer more effectively. Nelson Electric is also preparing a quote to install a VFD drive so that we can maximize our blending rates between the two aquifers. Ideally, we will not need to add ammonia to the Silurian water and we can decrease the manganese coming from the Silurian aquifer by combining water from the Jordan and Silurian aquifers at the same time. By running both wells together we also dilute the radium that is in the Jordan. This well site will be the primary drinking water source for the new high pressure zone and it will fill the new elevated water tower on Lucore Road. He stated this is a budgeted project for the new fiscal year. He anticipates Northway beginning work later this fall but we would like to get the 250 HP motor ordered now as prices continue to increase monthly. The board was agreeable with the quote and having Northway Well and Pump perform the work.

Approved unanimously

Motion approving water main hookup fee reimbursement to Linn Mar for \$2,983.50 for 2139 Echo Hill Road connection.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Chew, to approve the above referenced payment. Steigerwaldt stated the new owner of 2139 Echo Hill Road requested to be connected to city water. Per rebate agreement Resolution 09-03 they owe Linn Mar schools \$12.75 per linear foot of frontage which is \$2,983.50. The owner paid the Water Department and now we will reimburse the school.

Approved unanimously

Motion approving payment to Veenstra & Kimm, Inc. for a total of \$460.00.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Bender, to approve the above referenced item. Steigerwaldt shared renderings of the future elevated tower that is under design at the Lucore Road tower site.

Approved unanimously

Discussion regarding Field Operations Reports.

Smith shared last months activities with the board. Steigerwaldt showed photos of the progress of the new storage facility which included the excavation of the site by staff and the installation of the footings and concrete walls.

Steigerwaldt mentioned the County had a letting date of August 13th for the water main project from 35th Avenue to County Home Road. Huhndorf asked if the foreign pipe was excluded from the bid as he had heard some contractors are starting to try to install this less quality ductile iron pipe. The board agreed with Huhndorf. Steigerwaldt will contact the County Engineer and make sure the plan omits the use of foreign made pipe.

Secretary Report

Steigerwaldt stated there were 13 building permits issued in June 2024 over \$50,000 valuation.

He included the estimated population report for Marion and the Ames water/sewer rates for various Iowa communities. He also briefly discussed a document the city is using regarding rules of procedures for public forums. He mentioned that he was looking into a

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new collection agency which may have lower collection fees than our current agency. He stated they suggested that we add their collection fee onto the outstanding balance owed to us. He will have more information on this at the next board meeting.

ADJOURN at 4:52 PM.

The next monthly Water Board meeting will be held on August 13th 2024 at 4:00 PM at 3050 5th Avenue, Marion and on ZOOM.



Terry Chew, Chairman



Todd Steigerwaldt, Secretary