

The regular monthly meeting of the Marion Water Department's Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:15 PM, on November 12th, 2013, in the executive conference room of City Hall, Marion, Iowa. Trustees Mary Ann McComas, Greg Hapgood, John Bender and John McIntosh were present. Robert Anderson was absent. Chairman McComas called the meeting to order. Other people attending the meeting included Todd Steigerwaldt, Board Secretary, Jerry Blazek, Operations Supervisor and Curt Huhndorf, Distribution Foreman.

Jeanie Matthews brought a cake for the board to thank them for the special water main project that staff installed south of 8th Avenue along 11th Street. This project provided water and fire protection in this section of town that currently didn't have access to public water.

Minutes of the regular monthly board meeting held at 5:15 PM on October 8th 2013 were reviewed along with the October disbursements, and the October 2013 fund balance report. It was noted that a record high revenue for water sales occurred in October. Motion by Bender, seconded by McIntosh to approve same. Vote: all Ayes (4-0)

Motion to accept Jeremy Greene's letter to continue reading water meters for the Marion Water Department. Steigerwaldt mentioned that Mr. Greene previously wanted to resign from his contract early but has since changed his mind. Motion by McIntosh, seconded by Hapgood. Vote: all Ayes (4-0)

Motion by Bender, seconded by McIntosh approving payment #2 to Veenstra & Kimm, Inc for professional engineering services for Silurian Wells #8 & #9 in the amount of \$3,806.21. Steigerwaldt stated the consultant has submitted plans and permits to the DNR to obtain approval for two new municipal wells. One issue the DNR has concern with the new well locations by the diesel tanks on the emergency backup generators. The consultant is looking into possible solutions to this issue. Vote: all Ayes (4-0)

Motion by Hapgood, seconded by Bender to receive and file land purchase offer from Interstate Power & Light Company (Alliant) for a small parcel of ground adjacent to 101 8th Avenue. Vote: all Ayes (4-0)

Resolution 13-12 approving purchase of part of Outlot B, Davis & Brooks' 2nd Addition to the City of Marion, Iowa. Bender asked if there were any ground contamination issues left on this site from the old power station that has been removed. Huhndorf stated that several feet of soil and rock was removed after the substation equipment was removed. Steigerwaldt was told by Alliant that they have an environmental staff person review each site for environmental issues after a substation is decommissioned. He will request that a special statement be received prior to closing that states the site has no environmental issues. Steigerwaldt stated staff currently mows this parcel and that Alliant would be placing a blank easement over this parcel for future maintenance needs of the tower base and overhead power lines. Motion by Bender, seconded by McIntosh to purchase the ground. Roll Call Vote: all Ayes (4-0)

Resolution 13-13 accepting water main extensions to the Residences at the Park First Addition to the Municipal Waterworks Plant and System of the City of Marion, Iowa, in the amount of \$99,677.00. Steigerwaldt told the board that Cedar Rapids inspected this water main and will maintain these mains until they need to be replaced. They will also

provide us water meter readings for us to bill the sewer, stormwater, garbage and urban forest fee to the residences. Hapgood asked if we had water main nearby. Steigerwaldt stated we did but our system did not have enough pressure to serve the top 5-6 lots that were proposed for development. Cedar Rapids maintains a higher pressure and was more capable to serve this addition. Bender asked if we receive credit for the installation of this main. Steigerwaldt stated we do add the cost of this improvement to our overall system which is accounted for in our annual report. Motion by Hapgood, seconded by Bender. Roll Call Vote: all Ayes (4-0)

Resolution 13-14 accepting water main extensions to the Villas on 35th 4th Addition to the City of Marion, Iowa, in the amount of \$40,505.00. Steigerwaldt explained where this addition was located. Bender asked if there was water main along Tower Terrace Road. Steigerwaldt showed on a wall map where the proposed water main would be installed in this location. There would be limited water main within the right of way of Tower Terrace Road. The board made a comment how fast this area was developing. Motion by Bender, seconded by McIntosh. Roll Call Vote: all Ayes (4-0)

Resolution 13-15 accepting water main extensions to the Nottingham Hills 7th Addition to the Municipal Water Works Plant and System of the City of Marion, Iowa, in the amount of \$22,925.25. Hapgood asked if the streets would connect to Cedar Rapids. Steigerwaldt showed the board where this addition was located on a wall map and stated there would be street connectivity but this would occur in a different subdivision owned by Skogman Homes. Huhndorf asked if there would be a water main loop across the stream. Steigerwaldt stated this would not happen because this was not planned for when the original subdivision was platted a long time ago. There was a water main loop under the existing stream in the Highview Addition north of East Robins Road. Motion by McIntosh, seconded by Bender. Roll Call Vote: all Ayes (4-0)

Resolution 13-16 accepting water main extensions to the Authors 1st Addition to the Municipal Water Works Plant and System of the City of Marion, Iowa, in the amount of \$37,954.00. Steigerwaldt stated this addition is adjacent to the 1 million gallon elevated water tower along 35th Street and 35th Avenue. Steigerwaldt mentioned that all mains have been inspected and tests have passed. Motion by Bender, seconded by Hapgood. Roll Call Vote: all Ayes (4-0)

Resolution 13-17 accepting water main extensions to the Author's 2nd Addition to the Municipal Water Works Plant and System of the City of Marion, Iowa, in the amount of \$40,280.00. Bender commented on the narrow lot widths. Steigerwaldt explained those lots were zero lot line lots for duplexes. Steigerwaldt stated all mains have been installed and all tests have passed. Motion by McIntosh, seconded by Hapgood. Roll Call Vote: all Ayes (4-0)

Motion by McIntosh, seconded by Bender to approve proposal with Nelson Electric Company to replace and install new copper feeders and transfer switches for Well #1 and the cold storage building at the main shop in the amount of \$13,700.00. McIntosh asked which lines went bad and where they were located. Blazek shared with the board how the faulty wires were found what buildings were fed from them. Vote: all Ayes (4-0)

Steigerwaldt gave an update on the two new Silurian Wells #8 - #9. He stated permits and preliminary plans have been submitted to the DNR for review. On October 9th he

attended the Marion Parks Board meeting to ask for permission to install a new well at Gill Park. This was approved by the Park Board. He also obtained a temporary construction easement from Curt and Barb Gill to utilize their farm ground adjacent to Gill Park for ingress and egress of construction equipment to drill the well in the Park.

He also mentioned the possibility of using a consultant from Minnesota to perform a preliminary fracture trace analysis at four future well sites that may determine the optimal location to drill a well to obtain the highest amount of water. A local well driller suggested this study because they have seen some successful results. The cost to do this study on four well sites was \$2,000.00. The board thought this was a reasonable cost to determine where to locate a well with the most success.

Motion by McIntosh, seconded by Bender approving contract with Leggette, Brashears & Graham, Inc. to perform a fracture trace analysis in the amount of \$2,000.00 to identify the best location and development for Silurian wells at four future locations in Marion. Vote: all Ayes (4-0)

Motion by McIntosh, seconded by Bender to receive and file the employee's wage increase request for FY 14-15. Vote: all Ayes (4-0)

Blazek updated the board on the field activities: Service Department: remote read meters installed on 23 accounts; 161 meter read orders; 45 straight meters to radio; 186 tag orders; 60 service calls; and 683 locations worked. Huhndorf prepared a detailed monthly report of the items and jobs completed by the distribution crew for the month. Water main inspections occurred on both private and city projects. The distribution crew replaced broken water main valves at 1925 7th Avenue and 10th Avenue and 26th Street. Three water main breaks occurred last month.

Photos were shown of the new security cameras and chain link fence installed at Well #7. Well #7 repair status report was given. New heaters were installed on Veterans Day. The contracted city wide leak detection survey was almost completed with no leaks found so far.

October gallons pumped: 78,924,000

Secretary Report –

Steigerwaldt shared with the board the monthly building permit report. There were 14 residential permits issued last month.

Steigerwaldt told the board he had not heard any news regarding the selection process of the EO80 stakeholder group which will review possible changes to the diversion, storage and withdrawal amount of water from the Jordan Aquifer.

Invitations were sent out to six area legislators inviting them to a local workshop on November 18 called A Watershed Approach to Community Growth at Squaw Creek Park. Included in this invitation was a series of recent articles stating concern over the sustainability of the regional aquifers in the region. Steigerwaldt received one inquiry back from a legislator. Hapgood and Bender are planning on attending the workshop with Steigerwaldt.

UCMR3 water test results were shared with the board. Steigerwaldt explained why these new round of ongoing tests were being done. He stated the cost was approximately \$1,400.00. Only one element, Strontium, was able to be detected but it was still below any concern level that would need to be addressed.

Steigerwaldt shared the results of the state wide water tests performed by the DNR on the Jordan Aquifer. He stated they are also testing the age of the Jordan water. The age of the water will be shared later this winter.

The board was given a copy of a thank you letter from Barnes Manufacturing which thanked all city departments who worked on the Lowe Park Amphitheater project. Steigerwaldt shared photos of the erected structure.

Steigerwaldt mentioned to the board there was a candidate for the evening and weekend meter change out program. Jim Teahen of the Marion Police Department will be retiring soon and is considering this opportunity.


Mrs. Royer who owns a business at 1222 7th Avenue had a high water bill this summer due to a leaking toilet. She requested the high bill be waived but the board did not want to change from current policy which states businesses are not allowed a leak adjustment.

Steigerwaldt announced the department received an additional \$14,385.00 for the emergency backup generator project offered through the state.

The board set a special work session for 4:30 PM on Tuesday, December 10, 2013 to discuss employee wage for fiscal year 2014-2015.

The next regular monthly meeting for the water board was set for 5:15 PM on Tuesday, December 10, 2013.

Acting chairman McComas adjourned the meeting at 6:41 PM.



Mary Ann McComas
Chairman



Todd Steigerwaldt
Secretary