

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
OCTOBER 29, 2014

The Board of Public Works and Safety met in regular session at 9:30 AM CST at the Knox City Hall with the following members present: Mayor, Rick Chambers; Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Houston; Boardmembers, Ed Blue, Jim Collins, and City Attorney, Dave Matsey.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous month's meeting were mailed to the Boardmembers prior to the meeting for their review. Ed Blue made a motion, seconded by Jim Collins to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: MICHAEL MILO – DISPUTE OF SEWER BILL

Mr. Milo submitted the following letter to the board:

October 23, 2014

Mayor Rick Chambers
City of Knox
101 West Washington Street
Knox, IN 46534

Mayor Rick Chambers etl.

We purchased property at 1306 Pine Street Knox, In. through a reputable Real Estate Company, September 1995. Shortly thereafter we received a wastewater treatment bill from the city of Knox each month for nineteen (19) years which we have paid.

Today there is a big discrepancy between the city of Knox Treasury and our pocketbook. Had the sewer ordinance been followed this would not have happened.

Mr. Jones who owned 1306 Pine Street at the time and according to city sewer records we could not find where Mr. Jones has ever paid a monthly wastewater treatment bill.

August 24, 2014, we were shocked to find a septic tank in our back yard with all our wastewater going into the septic tank and then to a seep field.

The head of the Knox sewer department advised us that we must destroy the septic tank and they would inspect it.

September 16, 2014 at 6:30 PM work was completed and we are now hooked up to Knox city sewer.

We are asking for reimbursement in the amount of Six Thousand Six Hundred Forty Dollars (\$6,640.00).

Thank You!

Michael and Juanita Milo

Mr. Milo came before the Board and re-stated his claim. The Mayor said he had contacted other Cities and said that he received many different answers as to how they handle these situations. Some City's do not pay anything back. Some pay one or two years.

Dave Matsey, City Attorney, read state statute IC36-9-23-28.5 that states that over payment left unclaimed for more than seven (7) years become property of the City, so the City should only be responsible for that period of time. He also noted that if we paid more than is legally required there could be a bond issue. The City could be liable to the people who bought sewer bonds because they rely on our representation as an operator of the utility business.

Mayor Chambers made a motion to pay back seven years of sewer payments to Mr. Milo in the amount of \$3,117.51, and waive a new tap fee of \$525.00. Ed Blue seconded the motion. Motion passed with Three (3) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

MVH Superintendent, Jeff Borg reported that he has begun the leaf pick up program and it will continue until it is impossible to do after the first snow.

He noted that there is a supply of salt ready for use, but that prices on new orders have jumped 50% over last year.

Superintendent Borg explained that the circuit breaker credits cut about \$47,800.00 from his budget that he took out of a cab and chassis. He is wanting to replace an older one that is getting too costly to repair. He will move some money around that is left unspent from his 2014 appropriations and will add that to his 2015 appropriations.

This will bring him up to about \$11,200.00 short of what will be needed. He many go to the Council and request this amount. Street Department employee Jerry Redlin is improving and will return to work next Monday.

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Wastewater Treatment Superintendent, Kelly Clemons, reported that the department recently repaired a leak at 304 W Jackson. Part of a tree had to be removed. City Attorney Matsey stated that the rest of the tree should be removed by the City.

The electrical panel is complete on Pacific Avenue. The cost was \$11,793.86 out of sewer operating. She also needs to replace a pump at a cost of \$434.62. There is a scrap dumpster for metal at the plant now. Fourteen manholes have been repaired this year.

Water Superintendent, Todd Gardner, thanked the sewer and street departments for help with on Lake Street. He and Kelly attended the fall conference in Fort Wayne and he attended the national rural water convention in Seattle Washington. He got an update on the new surface water regulations that will be coming from the Federal Government.

There was a broken hydrant on Council and Henry Drive. He would like to remove the hydrant that sits on the property where Windy City Golf Carts used to be. That area will need to be shut off for the better part of a day when he works on the hydrant at Henry and Council and that would be a good time to remove it.

Todd has been working in the industrial park. There was a water line moved. It could cost up to \$4,000.00. He received a quote for storm water and a new water line to be run on Lake Street.

The approximate cost for the water line project would be \$4,500.00 for material and \$7,200.00 in labor. The storm water line would be \$3,200.00 for labor and \$1,016.00 for material.

Superintendent Gardner would like to see a time line on installing the water line property on the Henry Drive project properly. The water department has been trying to locate the line shut off for the nursing home on Edgewood Drive. The City needs to install a shut off for that line in case of problems.

Superintendent Garner will be running new electric service into the building at a cost of \$700.00 to \$800.00. A pole will also be removed at that time.

Superintendent Gardner said that Brown Circle was put up in 1941. Everything is put in very shallow and is galvanized pipe. As many as nine lines need replaced and about five ~~feet~~ ^{feet} under homes. The City needs a long term plan to deal with the problems in that area.

Fire Chief Kenny Pfof said there was a woods fire recently that resulted in damage to two trucks. One has been repaired and he is waiting to see what the other one will cost.

Clerk-Treasurer Houston said the month of November is open enrollment time with our health insurance carrier. He will pass out additional information with the next paychecks.

There being no further business to come before the board at this time the meeting upon motion was duly adjourned.

Rick Chambers, Mayor

Attest: _____
Jeffery J. Houston, Clerk-Treasurer