

MORGANTOWN COUNCIL MEETING

HELD OCTOBER 28, 2021

A special meeting was held after the Executive Session of October 28, 2021. Those Council members present were; Penny Anderson, Walter Abbott, Courtney Allen, Terry Poindexter, and Vern Snyder. Present also were; Town Attorney, Lee Robbins and Clerk Treasurer, Sharon McIntosh. Special guest was Lori Young with Curry & Associates.

Lori Young provided an update to the Council on the current Waste Water Improvement Project for the Town. Lori reported that 25% of the Contract with Lykins is completed in terms of pipe in the ground. She explained Change Order #1 and the several reasons that drove the increase of \$65,465.18 of the project. Lori explained all the PVC pipe increases were accounted for in Change Order #1. Council member; Terry Poindexter made a motion to approve payment of Change Order #1 for \$65,465.18. Council member, Walter Abbot seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Lori Young explained the sludge at cell #1 would need to be removed or there are chemical treatments that can be used to reduce sludge. If a farmer is interested in the sludge a Land Application Permit must be completed. The best time to remove the sludge is a short window between spring and fall. Having a farmer who is interested in the sludge would be a long term benefit to the Town.

Lori Young gave an update on the schedule of the project. Lykins has agreed to complete a base paving on all the streets that have been affected by the construction. Lori said she felt it was time to begin doing some property owner contacts as possible in January Lykins may begin work to tie in the laterals. There are contacts with some residents that must be made because of certain conditions that will require them to disconnect their sump pump when Lykins is ready to tie into the laterals. There was discussion about sending a general letter out to all residents explaining what they can and cannot do and how to correct this.

An invoice for \$3,045.00 from Curry & Associates was presented to the Council for the work Jessica Lindley did for the Town as a Certified Waste Water Operator. Council member, Vern Snyder made a motion to approve payment of the invoice from Curry. Council member Terry Poindexter seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

The Council is concerned about the number of water main breaks that are occurring. Lori explained that the mapping is limited and she suggested hiring a company to do Locates so the

project can move forward. Blood Hound was mentioned and they have the equipment to do accurate locates. The Council asked Lori to get a quote from Blood Hound to do Locates for part of the project. Lori explained there will be a great amount of contingency funds set aside that could be used for other things. The Town could be reimbursed for some expenses like the locating. Lori indicated there are funds left from the engineering budget of about \$27,000.00.

There was discussion about the private water line break of Tim and Heather Akins on Marion Street. Even though Jasper indicated the water meter was not marked the Town should be responsible for the water break and pay for the repair. The Akins will be asked to submit the invoice from their contractor to the Town for payment.

President Penny Anderson asked about the pump issues at the Lift Stations. Lori said the Lift Station pumps on 135 needs to stay in service so the pumps should be repaired or replaced since there will be no change there. But the Lift Station on 252 by the Park needs to last until the laterals are attached. There is one new pump needed at the 252 Lift Station. Council member Vern Snyder made a motion to purchase a new pump from Covalen and have the other pumps rebuilt or repaired. Council member Walter Abbott seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

The Council reviewed The Indiana Low Income Household Water Assistance Program agreement where Town residents can apply for water and sewer assistance. Council member Vern Snyder made a motion for President Penny Anderson to sign the agreement making Town residents eligible to apply for assistance. Council member, Walter Abbott seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

The Council members reviewed Becky Rose's time sheet which showed she worked 21 hours from home right after she had surgery. There was continued discussion about Becky's time sheets. Becky knew the Town had hired Janet and Suzy to do the posting and Penny instructed Becky to take off the first two weeks but Becky went ahead and worked anyway and turned in time worked. Becky worked on a Saturday for 2 hours calling in Locates. Becky is doing things that are part of Steve's job. Vern Snyder said Becky told his wife she had to fix all the mistakes other people were making. Penny and Sharon knew of no mistakes that were made by Janet and Susie who were doing the utility posting. These are professional that have worked as Clerk Treasurers in other Towns and have years of experience who train others to do this job. Lee felt if Penny told Becky not to work Becky should have followed Penny's instruction because arrangements were made with HR Unlimited to do the work while Becky was off. Lee felt the Town would have to go ahead and pay Becky for the hours turned in but he said there should be a conversation with Becky explaining she should not do Steve's work by doing the Locates or out riding with Steve putting out door knockers when she is being paid to answer the phones and take care of customers payments. Penny said Becky told her they needed the money. Lee

said the Council's need to pay Becky should not be driven by Becky needs. Walter felt Becky should not work until she gets a doctor's release since the Town had no documentation from the doctor about her time off to begin with. Lee asked the Council to decide what to do moving forward with Becky's work hours. The Council wants a doctor's note releasing Becky to work before she can return to work.

The meeting was adjourned by the President, Penny Anderson.

Council Meeting Minutes of October 28, 2021 signed, December 13, 2021

ATTEST:

Sharon McIntosh

12/13/21

CLERK TREASURER, SHARON MCINTOSH

Dated

Penny Anderson

Town Council President, Penny Anderson

Walter Abbott

Council Member, Walter Abbott

Council Member, Courtney Allen

Vern Snyder

Council Member, Vern Snyder

Terry Poindexter

Council Member, Terry Poindexter