

**THE SEWER BOARD OF THE CIVIL CITY OF NEW ALBANY, INDIANA, WILL BE HELD IN THE THIRD FLOOR ASSEMBLY ROOM OF THE CITY-COUNTY BUILDING ON THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2010 AT 9:00 A.M.**

**PRESENT: Roger Harbison, Ed Wilkinson, Gary Brinkworth, Mr. Fifer, April Dickey, Kay Garry, Rob Sartell, Tim Crawford, Tim Marinaro, and Mindy Milburn**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**Mr. Harbison called the meeting to order at 9: a.m.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:**

**Mr. Brinkworth moved to approve the June 24<sup>th</sup> regular meeting minutes with changes, Mr. Wilkinson second, all voted in favor.**

**BIDS:**

**CPA Services**

Rodefer Moss and Co  
McCauley & Nicholas

**Mr. Harbison** suggested that they take these under advisement for the next meeting.

**COMMUNICATIONS - PUBLIC:**

**Steve Romeo** approached the board with some questions about a landlord notification that he received in the mail.

**Mrs. Dickey** stated that this is the only form from Keystone that they have to use and unfortunately it has that disconnect wording and they can only asked that it be changed.

**Mr. Romeo** stated that the letter is very misleading and he doesn't understand why it is on the form. He explained that he signs up every year for the landlord letter and one bill went up over \$800 before he ever received a letter and he doesn't understand how that slipped through the system. He asked if they have any suggestions on how to change the ability of the board to shut off water for non-payment.

**Mr. Fifer** stated that they would like to get all his information and find out if there was more than one letter sent out for the address in question. He explained that the do not have the authority by stated law to have a this utility turned off and in order for them to get that authority they would need the city council to move them to a sewer district or to get the state legislature to give the sewer board the same authority as a sewer district.

**COMMUNICATIONS - CITY OFFICIALS**

**Mrs. Garry** stated that she has paid EMC's April bill and all the bills that were in her office have been paid except for the ones from June which is approximately \$1M. She stated that she is seeing a little bit of progress and that has allowed her to get caught up to June. She stated that the income seems like it is coming in more steadily and they have collected a small amount on the liens so this is all helping the situation.

**Mr. Wilkinson** stated that there was \$65,000 paid in liens and another \$12,000.00 paid a few weeks ago.

**Mrs. Garry** stated that the amount coming through on her so it must not be getting separated out but will double check the numbers. She stated that the auditor suggested that they wait till 60 days after the lien has been filed to send out a pre-lien letter so that way the last 30 days doesn't extend to another 30 days.

**Mr. Marinaro** presented a lease purchase option from Doheny for the easement machine to the board

**Mr. Harbison** went over the specifics of the purchase option agreement with the board; said agreement is on file with the clerk's office.

**There was a lengthy discussion regarding the benefits of leasing v. rental.**

**Mr. Fifer** stated that if they should ask that they send a formal agreement for them to vote on at the next meeting and subject to the satisfactory inspection they will be ready to finalize.

**The board decided to take this under advisement and asked Mr. Sartell to get the machine brought in for inspection and ask what the numbers would be on a monthly basis.**

**Mr. Wilkinson** stated that he received a call from a council member regarding the annexation and asked if they intended to do a rate study because of the reduction in income. He stated that he answered no and told the councilman to contact Mr. Fifer.

**Mr. Brinkworth** stated that they are currently paying 50% of Brad Kessans and since Storm Water will be getting a little more money they should take him off sewer and just pay him from Storm Water and that will balance the numbers out.

**Mr. Wilkinson** stated that he doesn't know why this subject keeps coming up of these rate studies but he stepped out of it and told him to contact their attorney.

**Mr. Brinkworth** stated that he thinks it is only one person that keep bringing it up time after time and he doesn't believe this is any type of issue with other members.

**Mr. Fifer** explained that there was a five day period after they adopted the last rate increase in which that could legally be challenged and as far as he is concerned that rate is part of Indiana law now and they have a lot more important things to be spending their time and efforts on.

**Mr. Harbison** stated that they did enough due diligence to find out what this would do to the rate and it would have made it increase more.

**Mr. Wilkinson** stated that the second thing that came up in the conversation was the elimination of the summer watering program and the council member asked why they didn't do this now and he didn't have an answer for that question.

**Mrs. Dickey** stated that it ends next month and they wouldn't get a bill until September.

**Mr. Wilkinson** stated that there is always a debate about the cash flow and the council president is inclined to go along with them if they decided to end the watering program to alleviate some of the cash flow problems.

**Mrs. Garry** explained that since the rate increase she is paying less with the summer watering program so she is sure it is the same for others and that is a lot of revenue they are missing out on.

**Mr. Wilkinson** stated that if it were up to him they would end it immediately.

**There was a lengthy discussion on how the rates are averaged for the summer watering program and the board decided to discuss this issue further at their next work session.**

**Mr. Marinaro** stated that he has been working with EMC at 13<sup>th</sup> & Dewey and they found a cross connection of a sanitary pipe in a storm water catch basin, he stated that they have been paying a sewer bill but their sanitary sewer has been going down the storm water line and he would like to get some quotes to run a line to the property line.

**Mr. Brinkworth** stated that he doesn't think this is their problem to deal with and it should go to the property owner. He explained that he has been paying a sewer bill but has been illegally dumping into the storm water so it is a trade off and he thinks it would be his responsibility to take care of the problem.

**Mr. Harbison** asked what they would do if a new customer came to the board and wanted to hook up to the system.

**Mr. Marinaro** explained that they would have to hook up into the sewers themselves if it is within 300 feet.

#### **SEWER ADJUSTMENTS:**

**Mrs. Dickey** presented an adjustment in the amount of \$1314.12 for Tracy Smith.

**Mr. Fifer** asked that they table this for a few weeks because there is a pending conference with the owner of the property and her attorney to discuss other issues

**Mr. Harbison tabled this item until the next meeting.**

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

##### **Item #1 - Yvonne Richardson re: HMC**

**Ms. Richardson** addressed the board and explained that they are the mechanical contractor for the building and they used to work with EMC for sewer credits for the evaporation system. She stated that they would like to work with the sewer board to get a system similar to this set up for these cooling towers and asked what the procedures would be.

**Mr. Sartell** stated that it is news to him that EMC is not longer handling this but she would need to contact Randy Sikes who is the treatment plant coordinator.

**Mr. Fifer** stated that this board is discussing some uniform guidelines because of issues they have had with a few accounts but this is still within the scope of EMC's contract.

**Mr. Sartell** stated that she will need to set up a non-usage account with the billing department and then speak with Randy Sikes to move forward.

**Mr. Fifer** stated that she needs to put a package together on all accounts because that is something they are working to make uniform with the process and this is the information that Mr. Sikes will need for his review.

**Mr. Marinaro** stated that they did go out to Stemwood yesterday with Mr. Sikes and they asked them to get some information together for the board to make sure it isn't going to sanitary. He explained that they aren't willing to put in a new meter just because the city thinks it is bad.

**Mr. Crawford** explained that he spoke with Mr. Sikes and they are going to try to do the same thing they did with Bluegrass Chemicals and contact the water company because there has to be something wrong with the meter.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Item #1 - Clark Dietz Update**

**Mr. Christmas** stated that he sent the list for smoke testing to the board.

**CLAIMS**

**Mr. Marinaro presented claims in the amount of \$384,070.35**

VENDOR	INVOICE DATE	ITEM	INVOICE	COST (\$)
PNC Equipment Finance	6/29/2010	Annual 2007 Aquatech Pumper Truck Payment		36,824.10
NA Municipal Utilities	6/17/2010	Scott Rd, Basin 14	40050100	150.12
NA Municipal Utilities	6/17/2010	Old Ford Rd	40063700	12.51
NA Municipal Utilities	6/17/2010	38 w. 10th	40238300	875.70
EMC/Indiana American Water	7/1/2010	EMC Monthly Billing	20016959	307,524.11
Cornell Harbison	6/1/2010	Emergency Repair 1815	6141	16,400.05
Delta Services	6/21/2010	Reapir work on Intermediate Pump Station VFD	44337	16,933.76
Aqua Utility Services	6/30/2010	Emergency Repair at 331 E. 13th	757	5,350.00
<b>July 8, 2010 Sewer Board Meeting</b>		<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>384,070.35</b>

**Mr. Wilkinson moved to approve the claims, Mr. Brinkworth second, all voted in favor except Mr. Harbison who abstained.**

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 10: a.m.

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Roger Harbison, President

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Mindy Milburn, Deputy City Clerk