

**Utility Committee Meeting**  
**May 11, 2021 9:00 a.m. Newburgh Town Hall**

Present: Steve Shoemaker, Christy Powell, Susan Helms, Russell Powell, David Hynes, Chris Wischer and Kristi Koressel. Leanna Hughes attended via phone link. Also in attendance: Scott Buedel, Chris Combs, Glen Merritt, Jason Ragle and Jeff Hoffman.

Utility Chair Steve Shoemaker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with a quorum present and welcomed Russell Powell, the new superintendent of the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF).

**Consent Agenda**

Monthly Tracking Report, Inspection Status Report, Sewer Repairs Report, Tap Report, Financial Report, Monthly Sewer Adjustment and approval of April 7, 2021 minutes.

Motion: Christy Powell moved to approve the consent agenda.

Motion seconded: Susan Helms

Discussion: None

Motion passed unanimously.

**Petitions and Comments from Citizens Present**

**9:15: Scott Buedel, Cash Waggner, & Chris Combs - Reduction in width of easement on Oak Grove Road to satisfy CenterPoint/Vectren.**

Mr. Combs stated he is building a 110-townhome subdivision along Oak Grove Road.

Mr. Buedel stated the south side of the property does not have sewer access and is 850' north of the closest manhole. The sewer access will cross several utilities.

CenterPoint (Vectren) has granted a 24' easement along the property west of the guywires; however, in the area around the guywires, a 15' easement was granted. Mr. Buedel requested permission to locate the sanitary sewer down the center of the 24' easement and then off center in the 15' easement for the 20' stretch. In the area around the guywires, the line will be placed in a casing pipe for added protection.

Motion: Christy Powell moved to recommend to Council to approve the Cash Waggner easement request on Oak Grove Road representing an easement reduction to 15' along a 20' property span where the line will be placed in a casing pipe per exhibit "A".

Motion seconded: Susan Helms

Discussion: None

Motion passed unanimously.

**9:30 am: Glen Merritt, Cash Waggner – Peachwood at Warrick Place, Lot 6**

Mr. Merritt stated the subdivision of Peachwood at Warrick Place VII is served by a 21" trunk line with nearly all lots connected by a lateral. Mr. Merritt requested permission to connect Lot 6 to the 21" sewer main.

Motion: Russell Powell moved to recommend to Council to approve the Cash Waggner request to connect Lot 6 to the 21" sanitary sewer main in the Peachwood at Warrick Place VII subdivision.

Motion seconded: Christy Powell

Discussion: None

Motion passed unanimously.

**9:45 am: Jason Ragle, Ragle Construction – Triple Crown Lift Station Project**

At the January 6, 2021 Utility Committee meeting, Mr. Hynes detailed the problems the subcontractor, Cornerstone, was experiencing on the Triple Crown Lift Station Elimination Project. Ragle submitted a very large change order which was rejected by Commonwealth Engineering Inc (CEI) and the Utility Committee. A previous change order of approximately \$125,000.00 was approved by the council. Subsequent meetings were held with Utility Committee members, advisory council members, Ragle and Cornerstone; Ragle was notified the committee did not feel Cornerstone was capable of project completion.

Jason Ragle attended this meeting and presented detailed invoices for the Triple Crown Lift Station Project. These invoices are included with the minutes. Mr. Ragle stated upon review, many invoices were lowered. Mr. Ragle also detailed all the issues encountered which led to the overages on the project. The topic of liquidated damages was mentioned. Mr. Shoemaker stated it is not the committee's or council's intent to take advantage of Ragle as they are owed something and Ragle Inc. is one of the finest contractors in southwest Indiana and performs quality work. Mr. Wischer stated the Town received a personal notice and Cornerstone has requested the Town hold \$108,000.00. Mr. Ragle believes the amount is "faulty accounting". After a lengthy discussion, the committee agreed to take the issues under advisement. The invoices will be reviewed by CEI, legal and committee representatives with the determination discussed at the June 2, 2021 Utility Committee meeting.

**Committee Discussion Items**

**Engineer Report, David Hynes**

**3. Triple Crown Lift Station Elimination Project – Additional Engineering Costs and Contractor Liquidated Damages**

Mr. Hynes stated he expects Commonwealth Engineering Inc. (CEI) will incur additional expenses in the amount of \$50,000.00 for the Triple Crown Lift Station Elimination Project due to the delay of the project and issues with the jack and bore drilling. Anticipated damages/overages for Construction Engineering and Resident Project Representative (RPR) are estimated to be \$130,000.00. Mr. Hynes presented a contract amendment for \$50,000.00 and requested it be added to the Owner-Engineer Agreement #4 for the project bringing the new adjusted agreement to \$742,300.00. Mrs. Helms stated the payment can be made from the Improvement Fund.

**Motion: Christy Powell moved to recommend to Council to approve the Commonwealth Engineering Amendment in the amount of \$50,000.00 be added to Owner-Engineer Agreement #4 for the Triple Crown Lift Station Elimination Project bringing the new adjusted agreement to \$742,300.00.**

**Motion seconded: Susan Helms**

**Discussion: None**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Petitions and Comments from Citizens Present (cont.)**

**10:00 am: Jeff Hoffman, Altstadt Hoffman Plumbing – Variance Request Lift Station at 8711 Hwy 66 West for ERA Realty**

Mr. Hoffman stated ERA is constructing a new building containing a half bath. The sewer line runs along Ruffian Lane and is at a depth of 13'. Leroy Goldsberry approved two (2) HYMAX fittings with saddle wye to avoid cutting the sewer line section out due

to the heavy flow in the area. During excavation, at a depth of 8', the walls caved in. Mr. Goldsberry suggested the installation of a lift station but a variance is necessary.

**Motion:** Russell Powell moved to recommend to Council to approve a variance request for ERA Realty, 8711 Highway 66 West, to connect a lateral from the new building on the property to the original building contingent upon: a backflow preventer installation; a legal agreement signed by the property owner stating the property cannot be subdivided; and, the property is considered one parcel.

**Motion seconded:** Susan Helms

**Discussion:** None

**Motion passed unanimously.**

### **Committee Discussion Items** (cont.)

#### **Engineer Report, David Hynes**

##### **1. Wildwood Planned Unit Development (PUD) – Memo for Capacity Study**

Mr. Hynes stated Cash Waggner requested capacity for the Wildwood Planned Unit Development (PUD). The subdivision is located on the east side of Highway 66 and north of Wildwood Drive. The Wildwood PUD will include apartment buildings with 56 units constructed by Mattingly Homes. A proposed total average flow of 17,360 gallons per day (gpd) and a total peak flow of 72,923 gpd is expected. Mr. Hynes stated the model does not predict overflows in the system and recommended approval.

**Motion:** Christy Powell moved to recommend to Council to approve the Wildwood PUD Development, constructed by Mattingly Homes, based on the capacity study.

**Motion seconded:** Russell Powell

**Discussion:** None

**Motion passed unanimously.**

##### **2. Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR) Weir Gate project – Quotes or Negotiate Price**

Mr. Hynes stated the WWTF was constructed nearly 10 years ago. The manufacturer did not coat the Weir Gates causing them to fail earlier than expected and now need replacement. The committee would like to use Reynolds on the replacement since they were the original installer. Mr. Powell will research the cost for the equipment and installation.

#### **Wastewater Treatment Facility Superintendent, Russell Powell**

##### **1. Fire and Smoke BBQ Request to Waive External Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Interceptor.**

Mr. Powell stated Fire and Smoke BBQ, 5077 New York Street, requested a requirement waiver of an external Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) interceptor in favor of an internal grease trap. The trap must be a minimum of 42 Gallons Per Minute (GPM): FOG Permit No. 050221.

**Motion:** Christy Powell moved to recommend to Council to waive the requirement of an external FOG interceptor in favor of an internal grease trap for Fire and Smoke BBQ, 5077 New York Street, FOG Permit No. 050221.

**Motion seconded:** Russell Powell

**Discussion:** Mr. Powell stated Fire and Smoke BBQ will install a 50-gallon grease trap.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## **2. Andrews Fast Break Request FOG Approval**

Mr. Powell stated the Andrews Fast Break, 4055 Grimm Road, request is for a standard FOG discharge permit, No. 042321. A minimum interceptor of 1000-gallons is required; however, the owners have a requested a 1,500-gallon interceptor be installed.

Motion: Christy Powell moved to recommend to Council to approve the FOG discharge Permit No. 042321 for Andrews Fast Break, 4055 Grimm Road, with an installation of a 1,500-gallon interceptor.

Motion seconded: Russell Powell

Discussion: None

Motion passed unanimously.

## **3. Dana McRoberts Certification Bonus**

Mr. Powell requested a Certification Bonus of \$500.00 for Dana McRoberts for obtaining her IDEM Class "C" license.

Motion: Steve Shoemaker moved to recommend to Council to approve the Certification Bonus for Dana McRoberts in the amount of \$500.00 for obtaining her IDEM Class "C" license and requested a congratulatory letter be sent to her for this accomplishment.

Motion seconded: Christly Powell

Discussion: None

Motion passed unanimously.

## **4. Hillside Meadows to Lift Station #2 Discussion of Gravity Line Repairs and Impact**

Mr. Powell stated CEI's last modeling study at Hillside Meadows detected surcharging at manhole (MH) #14-197. A MH monitor was installed and verified the surcharging. A heavy rain event in March caused the water to reach a level of 42" inside the manhole. Three (3) major issues were found at the site: a broken lateral in a storm ditch that allowed water into the sewer line; a dislodged manhole casting that was draining the lake; and, an 8" cleanout broken underground taking on water. Following the repairs and during subsequent rain events, surcharging was no longer an issue. Because the current model is 5- to 6-years old, a new flow study is needed on the Lift Station #2 Basin. Meters will be rented and a new study will be conducted.

### **Utility Chair, Steve Shoemaker**

No report.

### **Town Attorney, Chris Wischer**

No report.

### **Town Manager, Christy Powell**

No report.

### **Utility Committee Member, Leanna Hughes**

No report.

**Utility Manager, Susan Helms**

**1. Financial Report**

Mrs. Helms stated the Sewer Operating Account balance is \$6,494,754.30. The Improvement Fund contains \$7,198,709.18. The 2016 Bond contains \$3.8 million and the 2020 Bond contains \$21 million. Mrs. Helms stated \$2 million will be moved from the Operation and Maintenance Fund into the Improvement Fund. Approved expenses in the amount of \$526,984.45 have not been disbursed. Summer Average will begin in May. The Summer Average program lowers the cost of residential sewer bills by taking into consideration outside watering that does not enter the sewer line.

Motion: Christy Powell moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion seconded: Susan Helms

Discussion: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Shoemaker adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marilyn Doyle and Kristi Koressel