



MINUTES
Winfield Storm Water Board
Meeting date: Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Call to order: A meeting of the Winfield Storm Water Board was held at the Winfield Government Center, Winfield, Indiana on Tuesday, January 10, 2023. The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge Of Allegiance

Board Members in attendance: Jon Derwinski and Zack Beaver

Also in attendance: Nick Bellar, Town Administrator/Planning and Zoning Administrator; Attorney David Austgen from Austgen Kuiper Jasaitis P.C, Rick Anderson, Clerk-Treasurer. Shaun Finney, Town Engineer with DLZ and Tony Clark, Director of Public Works.

Not in attendance:

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS:

1. *Appointment of President*

Zack Beaver nominated Jon Derwinski for President of the Winfield Storm Water Board. Jon Derwinski seconded the nomination and accepted the position of Winfield Storm Water Board President.

2. *Appointment of Vice-President*

Jon Derwinski nominated Zack Beaver for Vice-President of the Winfield Storm Water Board. Zack Beaver seconded the nomination and accepted the position of Winfield Storm Water Board Vice-President.

MINUTES TO APPROVE:

Zack Beaver made a motion to adopt the Storm Water Board Meeting Minutes of December 13, 2022, as presented. Jon Derwinski seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried 2-0.

CITIZENS REQUESTING PLACEMENT ON THE AGENDA: None

OLD BUSINESS:

1. *Update on Hidden Creek Drainage Improvement Project.*

Shaun Finney stated that they are currently reviewing the bids, as there was some inconsistencies in the bids received. Shaun Finney that they will be completed with the engineering and legal reviews by next week. With the anticipation of the bid being able to be awarded at the next Winfield Storm Water Board Meeting.



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1. *Update on Storm Water Rate Review, Presentation by Jennifer Wilson, Crowe, LLP and Recommendation to the Town Council.*

Rick Anderson gave an brief background on the Storm Water Rate Review. The initial rate review and Storm Water Master Plan was completed 2009. DLZ did an update to the Storm Water Master Plan in 2021 and assigned updated cost estimates for each of those. Rick Anderson has been working with Jennifer Wilson, Crowe, LLP to provide the financial information for the Storm Water Board along with the maintenance needs and the number of housing units we have and the funding that will be needed to move forward on other needed projects. Jennifer Wilson presented a brief overview of the Storm Water Rate Review Report Analysis. Current revenues are approximately \$280,000, current operation and maintenance expenses are approximately \$274,000. There is just a small amount available for capital projects. They did an overview of the DLZ plan and summarized it by its priorities. The total cost of the DLZ Improvement Plan is approximately 2.1 million dollars with the addition of the Hidden Creek Project. They anticipated that there would be some grant funding received for the projects. With that included there would need to be approximately \$1,546,000.00 need for the 6 priority project groups. The rate increase is driven by the 6 priority project groups and having them paid for in 6 years. Over six years will cost approximately \$257,000 per year to pay for the projects. Total revenue requirements with the 6-year funding with the capital improvement plan is approximately \$554,000. Currently the Town is bringing in \$280,000. If the planned projects are going to be funded over 6 years there will need to be 100% rate increase. The current rate is \$6.00 per ERU the rate would need to be increased to \$12.00 per ERU per residential household; that would be \$12.00 per month. The last rate was set in 2009. Jon Derwinski stated that costs for staff and equipment have increased, and the rate has been stagnant since 2009. Rick Anderson also reported that we are in the process of purchasing a new street sweeper that will be split between the Public Works and Storm Water. The anticipated lease payment is included in the expected costs. Jon Derwinski asked what other communities were charging in the area. Jennifer Wilson presented a rate survey with approximately 40 communities across the state. Stating that not every community has a storm water rate. Ms. Wilson presented that approximately 31 communities have a rate of \$6.00 or \$6.30 the other communities, West Lafayette \$8.00, Muncie \$9.00, Valparaiso, \$12.50. Hobart is just under \$13.00, and Logansport is just under \$19.00. Most are \$6.00 or lower the general rate. A lot of the communities use this to fund their combined sewer and overflow or sewer problems. It was asked where the disparities between communities. Logansport is trying to fund their combined sewer overflow problems thru the storm water rate rather than the sewer rate. There is a large disparity in the percentage of tax levy that we receive from the State compared to other communities. It is this impact that affects the ability to fund these projects. Rick Anderson explained the process. There is a Master Storm Water Plan created, then there is a rate review of the Master Storm Water Plan. From that rate review creation, it is then presented to the Storm Water Board and from the presentation they will make a recommendation to the Town Council. The Town Council will then vote on the Storm Water Rate. The storm water rate came about in communities that



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could not fund storm water drainage projects. The Town of Winfield does not have the property tax levy to keep up with and fund these projects. They need to fund these projects. This fund is designed to fix the older projects and issues that were inherited by the Town. The Town is wanting to fix these issues. Zack Beaver made a motion to provide a favorable recommendation for the Crowe, LLP Presentation to the Town Council. Jon Derwinski seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried 2-0.

2. *Update on Street Sweeper Acquisition, Authorization to Solicit Bids.*

Attorney David Austgen stated that the notice to bidders that will go to the newspapers tomorrow. It will be an agenda item for the February 14, 2023, meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Rick Anderson presented the Treasurer's report through the end of December and a short list of claims. The claims are \$27,156.88. Zack Beaver made a motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$27,156.88. Jon Derwinski seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried 2-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Meeting – Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 6:30 pm.

It was asked if the bids always go to the lowest bidder. Jon Derwinski and Attorney Austgen explained that it always goes to the bid that is the lowest, most responsive, and most responsible. That is the importance of the due diligence, because there can be discrepancies in the documents of the bid.

ADJOURNMENT:

Zack Beaver made a motion to adjourn; Jon Derwinski seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried 2-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.



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Jon Derwinski
Stormwater Board President

Richard C. Anderson Jr.
Clerk-Treasurer

Date of Approval

Pamela Spengler
Recording Secretary