

Utility Committee Minutes
January 10, 2024
9:30 a.m. Newburgh Town Council Chambers

Steve Shoemaker, Connor Voegel, Russell Powell, Susan Helms, Rebeka Kaufman, Drew Flamion, Christy Powell, and Julie Lee.

Petitions and Comments from Citizens Present

None

Consent Agenda

1. Monthly Tracking Report
2. Inspection Status Report
3. Sewer Repairs Report
4. Tap Report
5. Financial Report
6. Monthly Sewer Adjustment
7. Approval of December 13, 2023 Minutes

Motion: Leanna Hughes moved to approve the consent agenda.

Motion seconded: Christy Powell

Discussion: No additional discussion.

Motion passed unanimously

Motion: Leanna Hughes moved to reappoint Steve Shoemaker as the Utility Commissioner for the 2024 Utility Commission.

Motion seconded: Christy Powell

Discussion: No additional discussion.

Motion passed unanimously

Committee Discussion Items

Wastewater Treatment Facility Superintendent, Russell Powell

1. **Request for recommendation to council for approval of FOG permit #010324 for Polo Asado Don Juan, 4011 State Road 261, Newburgh, IN 47630**

Motion: Leanna Hughes moved to recommend to Council to approve FOG Permit #010324 for Polo Asado Don Juan, 4011 State Road 261, Newburgh, IN 47630

Motion seconded: Susan Helms

Discussion: This permit is for the former Family Video building. The existing grease trap is 50 gallons from the previous business.

Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Request for recommendation to Council to approve the Commonwealth Engineers agreement for the preparation of the annual CMOM (Capacity Management Operation and Maintenance) report. This report is due to IDEM and EPA by March 31 each year. The lump sum of \$9,250 is the same as it was last year.**

Motion: Leanna Hughes moved to recommend to Council to approve the Commonwealth Engineers agreement for the preparation of the annual CMOM (Capacity Management Operation and Maintenance) report. The agreement is for a lump sum of \$9,250.

Motion Seconded: Susan Helms

Discussion: This is a standard annual contract between Town and CEI for the CMOM (Capacity Management Operation and Maintenance) report. This report is due to IDEM and EPA by March 31 each year. The cost is the same as last year.

Motion Passed unanimously.

3. Mr. Powell discussed the Lakevale sewer project. He stated that SLB Pipe had to remove 3 manholes and 500 feet of sewer pipe due to not meeting the slope. Mr. Shoemaker asked if the Sewer department had inspectors watching the project and Mr. Powell stated that he had. Mr. Flamion stated that it was on the contractor to provide grades, not the inspectors. Mr. Powell stated that he could look into liquidation damages over the time limit, but he did not recommend this since they were still working on the project. Mr. Shoemaker asked when the project was to be completed. Mr. Powell stated it was supposed to be completed by December 31, 2023, but SLB Pipe Solutions stated that it should be completed in two more weeks due to the corrections that had to be made. Mr. Shoemaker stated that he thought close-out meetings with contractors would be beneficial especially in situations like this to find out what went well and what didn't. The consensus was to do these on a case-by-case basis.

4. Recognition of Collection System Operator certifications:

Noah Schmittler

Collection System Operator Class 1

David Ammons

Collection System Operator Class 1

Motion: Leanna Hughes moved to recommend to Council to recognize the following sewer employees for their IWEA certifications.

Noah Schmittler Collection System Operator Class I

David Ammons Collection System Operator Class I

Motion seconded: Russell Powell

Discussion: No additional discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Engineer Report, Drew Flamion

1. 8268-8288 GSV Sanitary Sewer Extension – Bid Recommendation and Notice of Award

Mr. Flamion stated that CEI recommended Hydromax for the project and that he would be presenting it to Town Council this evening due to the timing of awarding the bid.

2. Mr. Flamion stated that work on the utility improvements at a high level was being discussed. He stated that by the next Utility meeting, he should be able to present a more refined and high-level review of what improvements are necessary and what concepts have been worked on.

Utility Chairman, Steve Shoemaker

Mr. Shoemaker requested a discussion on adding a citizen to the Utility Commission to allow for a different point of view. This was discussed by all members and it was decided to add to the February agenda as a point of discussion.

Mr. Shoemaker gave condolences to Russell Powell and the entire WWTF on the loss of Rodney "Rusty" Larkins from the Utility Commission.

Town Attorney, Chris Wischer – Absent – Connor Voegel - Present

Mr. Voegel stated that Mr. Wischer continues to work on the consent decree. He also stated that there were Ordinances that were requested from 2013/2014 that he was working on for Susan Helms.

Town Manager, Christy Powell

None

Utility Manager, Susan Helms

Susan Helms stated that the Sewer Operating Account balance is \$6,188,965.87. Ms. Helms stated Lakevale will be paid out of the operating account until those funds get low.

She also stated that a CD had come up for renewal. It was a 1.4 M CD Bond and LNB was awarded the CD with an interest rate of 5.02%.

She also stated that the Return on Invest from the Newburgh Sewer Department to the Town of Newburgh was increased by \$25,000.00

Motion: Christy Powell moved to recommend to Council to approve an increase in the Return on Invest (ROI) from the Newburgh Sewer Department to the Town of Newburgh in the amount of \$25,000 for the year 2025.

Motion seconded: Susan Helms

Discussion: This brings the total ROI for 2025 to \$850,000.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Shoemaker adjourned the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

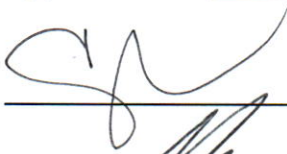
Motion: Christy Powell moved to adjourn the meeting.

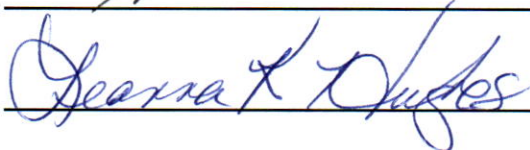
Motion seconded: Susan Helms

Discussion: No additional discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Approved this 7th day of February, 2024.





“Persons with disabilities or non-English speaking persons who wish to attend a public meeting or hearing and need assistance should contact Christy Powell, at Town Hall, 23 W Jennings St., Newburgh, IN 47629 or 812-853-1720 not later than one (1) week prior to any meeting or hearing. Every effort will be made to make reasonable accommodations for any such person or persons.”