

**Utility Committee Minutes**  
May 1, 2024  
9:30 a.m. Newburgh Council Chambers

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

Steve Shoemaker called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**Consent Agenda**

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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 April 3, 2024 Minutes
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Motion: Leanna Hughes moved to approve the consent agenda.

Motion seconded: Susan Helms

Discussion: No additional discussion.

Motion passed unanimously

**Petitions and Comments from Citizens Present**

**Greg and Patti Daughtery – 623 Monroe – Sewer Connection**

Mr. & Mrs. Daughtery was present at the Utility Committee meeting to discuss the sewer connection at 623 Monroe Street. They own the property and are working to build a house on the property. Mr. Daughtery came to the Utility Office for a sewer connection and found that the sewer lines are 15 feet deep. He received a quote to raise the sewer line for connection and it was \$31,815.30. He was asking for assistance with this estimate. Mr. Shoemaker and Mr. Wischer both agreed that it would set a precedence to start assisting with sewer connections. Mr. Powell stated that this was an old area and that due to the flow needed, the sewer line had to be buried at that depth. Ms. Hughes stated that she was on the Growth and Progress Committee and she would start the conversation of coming up with an incentive for residents/builders to build in the Town limits. At this time, the agreement was that Mr. Powell would get additional estimates on this work, and if less than what was quoted, the Daughterys would reimburse for work that was complete.

**Anthony Christian – 8300 Lancaster – Manhole lowered**

Mr. Christian was present at the Utility Committee meeting to discuss the manhole in his yard at 8322 Lancaster. The manhole is 15" above the curb and he requested that this be lowered. Mr. Powell stated that it is usually the homeowner's or the developer's responsibility to lower the manholes. Mr. Christian stated that it was a safety hazard for it to be so high. Mr. Shoemaker stated he felt that it was in the best interest of the sewer department to lower the manhole. Mr. Powell stated that he was concerned with the age of the manhole and not being able to get materials to fix this and when work starts, there is a possibility of the manhole failing. Mr. Shoemaker stated that since this was a concern, that it needed to be fixed regardless.

## **Committee Discussion Items**

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

1. Request for recommendation to Council for approval of repairs to Deaconess LS pump. Repair parts lead times are estimated at 16-18 weeks and the lead time on new pump is 32-34 weeks. Streffer Pump & Supply repair costs \$21,052.88, New pump costs is \$57,010.00.

Motion: Susan Helms moved to recommend to Council to approve repairs to the Deaconess Lift Station pump by Streffer Pump & Supply repair for a cost of \$21,052.88.

Motion seconded: Andrea Balboni

Discussion: Repair parts lead times are estimated at 16-18 weeks and the lead time on a new pump is 32-34 weeks. The new pump costs \$57,010.

Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Newburgh Mercantile FOG permit discussion**

Motion: Russell Powell moved to recommend to Council to approve Newburgh Mercantile voluntarily revoking FOG Permit #082723 and reinstating FOG Permit #062322 at 224 W Jennings Street.

Motion seconded: Steve Shoemaker

Discussion: The Newburgh Mercantile requested the FOG permit from 2023 to be revoked due to their decision to only serve pre-packaged food. Reinstated FOG Permit #062322 includes a waiver from any grease control equipment due to only serving drinks and packaged snacks.

Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Orchard Dr (Darby Hills) Road closure for sewer repair.**

Mr. Powell stated that Orchard Drive would need to be closed for approximately a day for sewer repairs.

4. **Victoria Lift Station Fence**

Mr. Powell stated that the fence around Victoria Lift Station at the corner of Oak Grove Road and Wethers Road has been damaged multiple times by storms and they are continually trying to fix this. He would prefer to take this fence down and put up a black chain link fence similar to what is at the Blue Lake Lift Station. This fence will be more durable and be able to withstand wind and storms. Mr. Shoemaker stated the fence could be replaced.

### **Engineer Report, Drew Flamion**

1. Sewer Utility Improvements Project
  - a. PER Acceptance Resolution

Motion: Russell Powell moved to recommend to Council to approve the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) Acceptance Resolution.

Motion seconded: Susan Helms

Discussion: This is the final piece of documentation for the SRF (State Revolving Fund) requirements

Motion passed unanimously.

## Utility Chairman, Steve Shoemaker

None

## Town Attorney, Chris Wischer

Mr. Wischer spoke about Jimmy John's restaurant in Newburgh. There have been FOG violations for over a year. Letters have been sent to the owner and there was no response. These violations have been corrected however there needs to be a fine for it ongoing for a year.

**Motion:** Russell Powell moved to recommend to Council to authorize the Newburgh Sewer Department to accept payment in the amount of \$5,570 from Jimmy John's in resolution of Jimmy John's violations of the FOG Policy and the waiver of all assessed fines and penalties over and above said amount with such waiver to only be effective upon receipt of said amount by the Newburgh Sewer Department.

**Motion seconded:** Susan Helms

**Discussion:** The violation has been corrected, but it has been ongoing for an extended time. The fine includes legal and inspection charges

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Wischer spoke briefly about the legislation rule from the IRC regarding the sewer main extension rules. Currently, we are not following the requirements regarding the refunds for developers. He stated that he would follow up and get more information regarding this legislation.

## Utility Manager, Susan Helms

### 1. Financial Report

Mrs. Helms stated that the Sewer Operating Account has a balance of \$6,482,832.50, this still includes the \$300,000 for the Prow property since it hasn't cleared the bank yet.

### 2. Meijer Property Plat Vacation – Warrick Trail and Libbert Road – Vacation of easement

**Motion:** Russell Powell moved to recommend to Council to approve vacating sewer easements on the Meijer property at the corner of Libbert Road and Warrick Trail.

**Motion seconded:** Susan Helms

**Discussion:** The sewer lines were never installed and Meijer will submit new plans when they decide to move forward with the project.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

### 3. Surplus of laser printer in Utility Office

**Motion:** Steve Shoemaker moved to recommend to Council to approve the surplus of an HP laser printer previously used in the Utility Office.

**Motion seconded:** Russell Powell


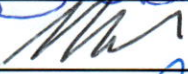
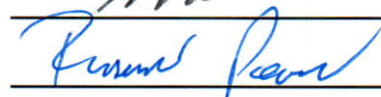
**Discussion:** This printer was replaced a few years ago.

**Motion passed unanimously.**



Motion: Andrea Balboni moved to adjourn the meeting.  
Motion seconded: Susan Helms  
Discussion: No additional discussion.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Approved this 5<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2024.

  
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“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.”