

June 11, 2007

The Common Council met as the Water Utility Board at 7:00 p.m. on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Knowles presiding and members Askren, Tucker, Rueger, and Curtis attending. Board member Cooper was not present. Others attending were Attorney Higgins; Attorney Funkhouser; Chief Beloit; Chief Reese; Comm. Epison; Becky Higgins; Ed and Brenda Goff; Ed Adams; Richard Bendure – Data Design; Dick Honeybrink – Johnson Controls; Tiffani Eisenhut – Mount Vernon Democrat; and arriving during the meeting, Supt, Givens.

Mayor Knowles called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minutes of their previous meeting and by asking if there were any corrections or additions. She added if not, she entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented.

Board member Curtis moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented. Seconded by Board member Askren.

Mayor Knowles stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, she reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Knowles reminded the Audience that anyone wishing to address the Board should approach the podium and state their name and the nature of their business.

Mayor Knowles requested action on the claims presented.

Board member Askren moved the claims presented be allowed for payment. Seconded by Board member Curtis.

Mayor Knowles stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, she reported the motion carried unanimously.

\*\*\*\*\*CLAIMS\*\*\*\*\*

Water Works Revenue	\$ 179,109.40
Water Operating & Maintenance	61,379.26
Water Works Improvement	50,000.00
Water Consumer Meter Deposit	831.00

Mayor Knowles stated they will now hear the report of the Water Superintendent.

Supt. Gray stated he will turn his report over the Dick Honeybrink with Johnson Controls.

Mr. Honeybrink stated JCI had a schedule when they started the meter replacement project and that schedule is still good. He added they should be totally complete with the installations by July 11<sup>th</sup>, probably before then. He then stated billing software however, was slated for July 12<sup>th</sup>, that will actually not be installed until July 31<sup>st</sup>. He added this scheduling should work much better for the office, as some of the office personnel will be on vacation during that time. He stated the installation should take three days and will be complete by August 2<sup>nd</sup>, followed by several weeks of training.

Mr. Honeybrink continued his report by stating, in reference to the engineering work at the Keck and Seibert Booster Stations, Keck is 95% complete, and they should present their ideas for the Seibert Booster Station at the next meeting. He added Seibert is on hold pending some decisions that need to be made by the Utility Board. He added once those decisions are made, the work should go quickly, with only a minor location change. But, he stated, they will be presenting the Board with three options.

Supt. Givens arrived at the meeting.

Mr. Honeybrink then stated as of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2,360 meters had been installed or retro-fitted, making them 73% completed. As of June 8<sup>th</sup>, there were 2,670 installed for 83% complete. He then stated things are going very well with only about 400 or so more meters to install.

Mayor Knowles asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Supt. Gray stated in reference to the filter replacement project, they are waiting on some concrete work, and he will have an update for them at a later date.

Mayor Knowles asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Knowles stated they have the Financial Report and any questions could be directed to Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe.

Mayor Knowles asked if the Clerk-Treasurer had any Communications for the Board? Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe replied not at this time.

Mayor Knowles stated on the Legal portion of the Agenda is discussion on the filter project, but as per Supt. Gray's report, they will table until next meeting.

Mayor Knowles stated the next item is request for water tap for Mr. Ed Goff, who is present.

Mr. Goff approached the podium and stated he is currently receiving city water at his residence, though it is on the same meter as his mother's residence. He stated they are seeking to separate the two services and he will of course, pay his new tap fee. He added he has spoken with Supt. Gray on this.

Supt. Gray reported pressure problems are definitely in the area, and they have denied taps in the past, but Mr. Goff currently has water and is only asking to separate the services, he has no problem with the request.

Board member Curtis moved the request to separate the services and pay for a new tap be given. Seconded by Board member Askren.

Mayor Knowles asked if there were any questions ? She then stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, she reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. and Mrs. Goff left the meeting.

Mayor Knowles stated the next item is a recommendation to the Council for passage of a Resolution to transfer \$50,000 from Water Works Improvement Fund to Water Operating & Maintenance.

Attorney Higgins stated when he saw this listed on the Agenda, she contacted Supt. Gray and he indicated this was necessary due to decreased revenues and the fact that usage is way down.

Supt. Gray agreed and added it takes between \$114,000 and \$124,000 a month to run the plant and right now the revenues are way down. He added in the first quarter of 2007, he pumped 30MG less than in the past. He stated people are just not using much water. Hopefully, with the new meters in place, revenues will start to increase.

Board member Askren moved the Board recommend passage of this Resolution to the Council. Seconded by Board member Rueger.

Mayor Knowles stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, she reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Knowles asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Water Utility Board ?

Mr. Richard Bendure approached and stated he is with Data Design, the firm that currently handles the hardware and software programs at the Water Department. He added he is present to either provide more information to the Board, or obtain some clarifications for himself. He added the system they are currently using was installed in 1989 and it has been built to adjust to the ongoing changes and demands of the billing office. He added they have tried to keep the system in compliance with State Board of Accounts (SBA), and he believes they are doing so. He added when EMC was managing the water utility, a contract was approved for a new package of software, the system was installed at that time. He added in March 2006 the software was prepared as promised and implemented; data was converted over for parallel operation of the two systems. He added the results have been accurate to the penny. He then stated in September 2006, he was contacted again by Supt. Gray and the office staff saying the system was not quite adequate, so Data Design presented the city with three options: 1). Increase the staffing at the billing office; 2). Perform adjusting entries; 3). Take information from the old system and create software to put it into the new software. He added they chose option #3 and work began in October 2006. He continued by stating in March 2007 the system balanced to the penny on every account. He stated they then continued to import April data as well as May, and he has been asked about June. He stated the Board at this point, needs to fish or cut bait. He indicated he received an email from Supt. Gray stating he should cease any further work on the system as it was full of bugs and issues. Mr. Bendure then contacted the billing office and was told there were no bugs in the system. He then stated Mr. Honeybrink emailed him and stated the office had purchase new software that was more compatible with the automated meter readers. He then stated Data Design has interfaced with automated readers since 1993, he doesn't know what is going on. He added this system has been bought and paid for and the reports are accurate to the penny. He then stated the system was purchased with state grant money, built to order for the city, he can not understand why they would want to start over with another vendor. He added Data Design has provided the city with 18 years of service and the money has always balanced to the penny. He added he has even

had calls from Mrs. Morrow at his home at 10:00 p.m.; he then wondered how many times the city wanted to pay for this system ?

Supt. Gray approached the podium and stated that is all well and good, but he was not informed of any of this until last Thursday. He stated most times, when a job is finished, someone informs the boss that it is completed, not seven months down the road. He added this is the first he has heard that it is even functional, let alone that it ever balanced to the penny for one month. He then stated he has heard nothing but negative, he never knew the work was finished and he got tired of waiting on Mr. Bendure.

Mr. Bendure stated it appears he has not done a good job keeping Supt. Gray up to date, though he thought he had been via email. He added he was told to work with Mrs. Morrow on this and he thought she was keeping Supt. Gray informed. He added he personally has excellent communication with the billing office, and if Supt. Gray was not kept up to date, that is ultimately his responsibility. He then stated that before the Board dumps a system that was made to order, he feels they should do some more research before just throwing it out. He added the job was done, and he was not aware Supt. Gray did not know this; maybe he should have done something different. He then stated Mrs. Morrow will not close out unless she balances to the penny. He added he also has reports showing that the system does just that, it all works and has for seven months of import. Board member Curtis questioned seven months ? He stated it balanced for seven months and Mr. Bendure told Supt. Gray to fish or cut bait, he can see that. But, he stated, his question is why Mr. Bendure let it go on for seven months and didn't ask if things were progressing. He then stated he would like to do some more research on this before he makes a decision.

Mr. Bendure stated in September 2006, he was told he needed to come up with more options re: double input, and April and May importing.

Board member Curtis asked if it is possible that Mrs. Morrow was communicating things were running smoothly for seven or eight months, but it wasn't until March or April that some "bugs" were detected ?

Mr. Bendure replied no, not really. He then stated the new system is much more specific than the old system they had been operating on.

Board member Curtis stated he thinks he is understanding.

Supt. Gray stated he has asked the staff repeatedly if the system was ready and it was not until Thursday that it was ready to go. He added he heard for months and he frankly got tired of waiting.

Mr. Bendure stated every issue the billing office has had, they have addressed with Mrs. Morrow immediately. He added they have even assigned one technician to this account. He stated he can not explain the discrepancy with Supt. Gray.

Mayor Knowles asked the Board how they wish to proceed ?

Board member Curtis stated he would like to talk with Supt. Gray and Mrs. Morrow outside of a meeting about this.

Mr. Bendure stated he would be happy to come back, at his own expense, to reconcile this. He added he has spent a lot of time and money and his company will continue to be of service to the city.

Mayor Knowles asked if there were any questions ?

Supt. Givens stated Mr. Bendure contacted him about the change-over and since Sewer pays half of the bill, he would like to be involved in any discussion on this matter. He wants to be sure he has a clear understanding.

Board member Curtis stated he feels that is a reasonable request, as there needs to be communication across the board.

Mayor Knowles asked that she also be included in any discussions.

Attorney Higgins stated it seems that no one knew there was any issue until tonight, and she really feels that no action is required, just some leg work that needs to be done.

Mr. Bendure stated he has a hard time understanding how much the different administrations want to be involved in these types of dealings. He added he should be more proactive it seems. He then stated he has brought along copies of invoices that are past due, one dealing with the anti-virus software and the other is the billing for the maintenance agreement. He added their firm has been providing these services, even with lingering issues with the old system, and Supt. Gray did request that the utility be invoiced for these services. He added they will continue to provide service on the system until is replaced with their system, or someone else's.

Mayor Knowles asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Knowles asked if anyone else in the Audience wished to address the Board ?

There was no response.

Mayor Knowles asked if there was any Old Business ?

Board member Tucker questioned a chemical they had discussed a few meetings back, re-ox ?

Supt. Gray replied he is meeting with the folks about that tomorrow.

Mayor Knowles asked if there was any New Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Knowles stated if there were no further business, she entertains a motion to adjourn.

Board member Rueger moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Board member Curtis.

Mayor Knowles stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, she reported the motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

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Rosemary L. Knowles  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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June 11, 2007

The Common Council met immediately following the Water Utility Board on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Knowles presiding and members Askren, Tucker, Rueger, and Curtis attending. Councilman Cooper was not present. Others attending were Attorney Higgins; Attorney Funkhouser; Chief Beloat; Chief Reese; Comm. Epison; Becky Higgins; Ed Adams; Supt. Givens; and Tiffani Eisenhut – Mount Vernon Democrat.

Mayor Knowles called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minutes of their previous meeting and by asking if there were any corrections or additions. She added if not, she entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented.

Councilwoman Askren moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented. Seconded by Councilman Curtis.

Mayor Knowles stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, she reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Knowles reminded the Audience that anyone wishing to address the Board should approach the podium and state their name and the nature of their business.

Mayor Knowles stated they will now hear the reports of the Standing Committees.

Street & Light Chairman Rueger stated he has no report.

Comm. Epison stated he has no report.

Mayor Knowles asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Police Chairman Curtis stated he has no report.

Chief Beloat reported he and Officer Lemberg attended the Posey County Community Foundation award ceremony on June 6, and the city was awarded a grant for a drug K-9. He added the grant will cover the cost of the animal as well as five weeks of training. He added with increased drug activity in the city and the county, this will become a significant tool for the department.

Councilwoman Askren replied she is very pleased with the award.

Mayor Knowles agreed and added it is a great thing, especially with the two K-9's working together. She then asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Fire Chairwoman Askren stated she has no report.

Chief Reese stated she has no report.

Mayor Knowles asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Sewer Chairman Tucker stated he has no report.

Supt. Givens reported everything at the plant is up and running real well. He added they had a surprise inspection awhile back and received “all A’s”.

Mayor Knowles asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Knowles stated they have the Financial Report for May before them and any questions could be directed to Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe.

Mayor Knowles asked if the Clerk-Treasurer had any Communications for the Council ?

Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe replied not at this time.

Mayor Knowles stated the first item on the Legal portion of the Agenda is the first reading of the Ordinance to Create a Parks & Recreation Nonreverting Capital Fund.

Attorney Funkhouser stated as he was not present at the last meeting, he thought Supt. Tate was to be here to speak on the subject.

Councilman Curtis stated Supt. Tate talked with Park Board President Bennett and they will be discussing at their meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Ordinance was tabled until further notice.

Mayor Knowles stated the next item is a Resolution to Transfer \$50,000 from Water Works Improvement Fund to Water Operating & Maintenance Fund, as recommended by the Water Utility Board.

Councilman Rueger moved Resolution be passed. Seconded by Councilwoman Askren.

Mayor Knowles asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Knowles requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Askren – yes; Tucker – yes; Rueger – yes;

Curtis – yes; Cooper – absent.

Mayor Knowles stated the motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe replied it will be numbered 07-09.

Mayor Knowles asked if there were any other Legals for consideration ?

There were none.

Mayor Knowles asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Council ?

There was no response.

Mayor Knowles asked if there was any Old Business ?

Councilman Tucker stated at the last meeting Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe indicated they may need to be getting some bank loans, and/or transferring money within the city to help fund budgets until property tax money is received. He wondered if it would be possible to request an advance from the County on any monies they have received thus far ?

Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe replied she just spoke with the Fire Chief today about borrowing from the Fire Pension Fund for the Park & Recreation Department. She then stated sure, she could contact the County and request an advance.

Mayor Knowles stated she has given the Council copies of the job descriptions, that the Board of Works is asking them to review. She then stated any questions or comments the Council may have should be submitted to the Board of Works in writing before July 5, which is when the Board of Works will consider them for approval. She also stated Attorney Funkhouser has added a signature page for employees to sign and date that they have read and understand the job description.

Mayor Knowles asked if there was any New Business ?

Councilman Tucker stated during last week's festival, he walked the riverfront some and it looks very nice, the trees were cut back, etc., which makes it easier to walk. He did state, however, there seems to be some pretty major erosion going on down there. He asked if the city has a plan to deal with that ? He stated the Army Corp of Engineers had rip rapped the area down there years ago, but most of that has already washed away.

Mayor Knowles stated the city has not purchased any land abutting the water yet, though there is an L-shaped piece there along the street. She added the rectangular shaped piece is owned by Mount Vernon Barge.

Councilman Tucker stated he was just noticing the major erosion that is going on there.

Mayor Knowles stated some of that would have been taken care of if the silos would have come down. The debris from them would have been used to reinforce the area.

Councilman Tucker stated again, he had just observed the erosion that is going on and thought they needed to take a look at it.

Mayor Knowles stated the city does not own that property yet.

Councilman Tucker stated it is just food for thought.

Mayor Knowles stated they will now have the report of the Districts.

1<sup>st</sup> District Councilwoman Askren stated she has no report.

2<sup>nd</sup> District Councilman Tucker stated she has no report.

3<sup>rd</sup> District Councilman Rueger stated he has no report.

4<sup>th</sup> District Councilman Curtis stated he has no report.

Councilman-at-Large Cooper was not present.

Mayor Knowles stated she would like to invite the Council to the next Board of Works meeting, reschedules for Wednesday, June 13, 2007, at 4:00 p.m. She stated MD Wessler will be present to present the Long Term Control Plan for remediation of the combined sewers. She added she would also like to ask them to stay after the meeting tonight to discuss 2008 budget preparation.

Mayor Knowles stated if there were no further business, she entertains a motion to adjourn.

Councilman Rueger moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Councilman Curtis. Mayor Knowles stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, she reported the motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

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Rosemary L. Knowles  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Cristi L. Wolfe  
Clerk-Treasurer