HIAWATHA WATER BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Chairperson Robert Hembera in Council Chambers. Members present were Troy Andersen, Gary Casady, Beverly Daws and Patrick White. Also present was Water Superintendent Marty Recker, Engineer Loren Leach, Council Liaison Bob Rampulla and Water Clerk II Sara Ries. Roll was called.

Troy Andersen moved the approval of the agenda. Beverly Daws seconded. Motion Carried.

Patrick White moved the approval of the consent agenda: August 2016 regular meeting minutes, financial report, and bills. Gary Casady seconded. Motion Carried.

BUSINESS:
Consider Resolution Approving Payment to Veenstra & Kimm, LLC. for the planning and design work needed for CDBG for Water Main Replacement on 1st Ave., 7th Ave., Pirie Dr., Tucker St. and Robins Rd.

Loren Leach with V&K was present to speak with the Water Board about the engineering and CDBG. He confirmed the amount of the planning and design work would not exceed $7,500.00. What this payment is for is the preliminary engineering report. This report is required and must be approved before the Water Department can even apply for the grant. The $7,500 payment will go towards the engineering end balance. The reason it needs to be paid up front is so V&K can begin the planning and design work as stated above. The board asked how much engineering would cost and Leach responded with typically any engineering costs are 10% of the project. Therefore if this project is $600,000 then engineering cost would be $60,000.

Another topic of discussion was the door to door survey. The board was unaware of this survey as we had already been told that the area in question was classified as a low to medium income area. This information was acquired by a GIS report and is based off of income tax reports. CDBG requires a door to door survey to get a more accurate picture of the area that needs to be replaced. The survey would not need to be done over the whole city, but rather taken in said water replacement area. We would need to have a 90% survey return. Marty spoke to Gary Hughes with East Central Iowa Council of Governments. He will help us get information to start and complete the survey. The board would like to have a letter sent out prior to the survey informing our customers of what we are doing and why. Gary Hughes would also help with the grant process.

Another question asked by the board was about the funds to pay for this water main replacement project. The board had a discussion about the rate study from 2014. The discussion confirmed that the 2014 rate increase of a 7% commodity increase for the next 7 years was to ensure we had the funds for future projects, such as this.

After a lengthy discussion, the board decided not to pass said resolution. Instead they opted to make a motion to go forward with the door to door survey. The board felt they did not want to make any payments to V&K until we know the survey passes and we can move forward with the grant process.

Gary Casady made a motion to go forward with the door to door survey to confirm the area being considered for CDBG is low to medium income. Patrick White seconded motion. Motion carried.

Consider Resolution Authorizing the Replacement of Pump and Materials for Well #9
Troy Andersen reviewed the bill from Northway Well & Pump Co. and expressed his concern to the Water Board that he feels we need a second opinion. With the pump being so young at only about 7 years, he feels it may have been mis-diagnosed. He would like the pump to be taken to Janda Motors for the second opinion and possibly rebuilt.

The board asked if we are okay on water supply with well #9 being down. Marty said we are fine for a short time but we need to have a decision made soon as we do have a maintenance agreement to clean water tower #1 on Robins Rd. The maintenance agreement needs to be fulfilled this fall and we will not take the tower out of service until well #9 is back up and running.

Superintendent's Report
We are now accepting credit card payment for water bills in the same way you would accept ACH payments from your checking or savings account. A customer can sign up with the Water Department the same way you would sign up for automatic withdrawal. The credit card company we currently use has added this option.

Water main has been placed on the west side of Robins Rd. Emmons St. work began on August 29th and was closed for a short time, the road has now been reopened. And, storm water pipe is being placed on N. Center Point Rd.

While well #9 is down for maintenance, we have taken advantage of the circumstances and replaced two valves on N 10th Ave. The valves that were replaced are double disc style and have caused some problems in the past. We replaced them with a resilient style valve.

A fire hydrant on 18th Ave and Progress Dr. was hit by a motor vehicle. Police do not know who hit the hydrant at this time.

Our new truck arrived on Sept. 9th. It is currently at Truck Equipment to get the utility box and valve turner mounted. Marty is looking into have running boards installed and a bed liner. There is money budgeted for these items.

As requested by a board member, Marty gave a rundown of our current loan obligations. We have 3 loans out and one loan in development.
NW Project, Edgewood Rd and Loggerhead Rd. - $152,000 expires 2022
Public Works Bldg - $128,000 expires 2020
E. Clark St. - $115,000 expires 2020
Upcoming loan: Emmons St. $187,000 expires 2023

Patrick White moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:50pm. Troy Andersen seconded. Motion carried.

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Chairperson, Robert Hembera

ATTEST:

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Sara Ries, Water Clerk II