



## **MINUTES Water Board**

**4:00 PM - Tuesday, May 14, 2024**  
Water Department, 3050 5th Avenue

The Water Board of the City of Marion, Linn County, Iowa met on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at 4:00 PM, at Water Department, 3050 5th Avenue, with the following members present:

**PRESENT:** John Bender, John McIntosh, Amy Olson, William Kling, and Terry Chew

**ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:** Todd Steigerwaldt, Andy Smith, and Curt Huhndorf

### **CALL TO ORDER**

**Motion to approve the April minutes and April payable invoices for \$1,337,858.12.**

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Kling, to approve above referenced items. Bender asked about the additional overtime hours. Smith stated they were due to fire hydrant flushing and a water main break by Jiffy Lube.

Approved unanimously

**Motion to receive and file email from Ron Major dated April 15, 2024 regarding board reconsideration of financial reimbursement for pavement removal costs associated with water service restoration for 290 S. 11th Street.**

Moved by Bender, seconded by McIntosh, to receive and file the email correspondence from Ron Major. Steigerwaldt stated at the April 14 meeting, the board deliberated on the request from Ron Major for partial financial compensation of the street repair costs associated with the water service restoration for the new home at 290 S. 11th Street. The board had decided against any payment towards this repair cost. Mr. Major was in attendance at the meeting and requested the board reconsider their decision as there was considerable expense incurred to restore the water service to 290 S. 11th Street. Mr. Major shared his reasoning for the financial request and staff explained again the steps leading up to their decisions and the final concrete removal and restoration of the water service line. Mr. Major then left the meeting and the board reconsidered a financial contribution to Mr. Major based on some estimates he had presented to the board. The board did agree to assist Mr. Major but only if he would sign a release document eliminating any further requests or action towards the water department. Steigerwaldt stated he would prepare a release document for Mr. Major to consider and sign and the board could receive and file at the next meeting and then provide him partial compensation for this water service restoration issue.

Approved unanimously

**Motion to receive and file the March 2024 revenue, expense and financial reports.**

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Kling, to approve above referenced reports. Steigerwaldt stated he would do some more research on CD rates as he did not anticipate any large bill payments in the coming months.

Approved unanimously

**Public hearing for the 2024 Tama Street Water Main Relay Project.**

Chew opened the public hearing at 4:31 pm for the 2024 Tama Street Water Main Relay Project. Steigerwaldt stated he didn't receive any written or oral comments and nobody was in attendance for the public hearing. Chew closed the public hearing at 4:32 pm.

**Motion approving Resolution No. 24-11 accepting bids and awarding contract to Rathje Construction Company, Inc. for the 2024 Tama Street Water Main Relay Project.**

Moved by Kling, seconded by Bender, to approve above referenced item. Steigerwaldt stated bids were received May 2nd at 2:00 PM for the above project. Nine contractors submitted bids. Rathje Construction was the low bidder at \$214,830.00. The engineer's estimate was \$244,690.00. Six bids were below the engineer's estimate and three were above. They are planning on doing this project later this summer or fall.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Bender, McIntosh, Olson, Kling, and Chew

**Motion approving Resolution 24-09 approving and adopting final plans and specifications, notice of hearing and letting, notice to bidders, form of contract and cost estimate regarding the 2024 Marion Water Department Storage Building Project.**

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Olson, to approved above referenced item. Steigerwaldt stated the above resolution solidifies the plans and specs for the new storage building. Bids were opened May 9th at 2:00 pm. The engineer's estimate was \$400,000.00.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Bender, McIntosh, Olson, Kling, and Chew

**Public hearing for the 2024 Marion Water Department Storage Building Project.**

Chew opened the public hearing at 4:36 pm for the 2024 Marion Water Department Storage Building Project. Steigerwaldt stated he didn't receive any written or oral comments and nobody was in attendance for the public hearing. Chew closed the public hearing at 4:37 pm.

**Motion approving Resolution No. 24-12 accepting bids and awarding contract to Loecke Building Service, Inc. for the 2024 Marion Water Department Storage Building Project.**

Moved by Bender, seconded by Chew, to approve above referenced item. Steigerwaldt stated there were seven bidders for this project. The low and most responsive bidder was Loecke Building Service, Inc. from Manchester, Iowa with a bid of \$442,000.00. The second lowest bid was \$449,252.00. The engineer's estimate was \$400,000.00 which was derived from material cost estimates received last December. Material prices have

gone up substantially since then. Steigerwaldt requested references and past construction projects from Loecke that are similar to our new building project. He followed up with the references and they all spoke highly of the builder.

It was noted that a bid was received that was not legible, the proposal form was altered, and several documents in the bid proposal package were not submitted. Thus it was deemed incomplete and rejected.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Bender, McIntosh, Olson, Kling, and Chew

**Public hearing on the proposed increase in water rates for both Public Water Supply permits ID #5751035 (Marion Customers) and ID #5751040 (Glenbrook Cove Subdivision Area).**

Chew opened the public hearing at 4:45 pm for the 2024 water rate increases to go into effect July 1, 2024. Steigerwaldt stated he didn't receive any written or oral comments and nobody was in attendance for the public hearing. Chew closed the public hearing at 4:46 pm.

**Motion approving Resolution 24-10 approving water rate increases for both Public Water Supply permits ID #5751035 (Marion Customers) and ID #5751040 (Glenbrook Cove Subdivision Area).**

Moved by Kling, seconded by Chew, to approved above referenced item. A summary of the proposed rate increases was shared with the board below:

3% water rate increase for Marion customers which will generate approximately \$150,000.

Unmetered Parks Water flat fee charge 3% increase.

Bulk water sales rate increase of 5%.

Billing fee to the city proposed increase from \$1.60 to \$1.75 per bill as set in new FY 25 budget.

Glenbrook Cove rate increase of 9% as Cedar Rapids is raising the rate we pay them by 6%.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Bender, McIntosh, Olson, Kling, and Chew

**Motion accepting certificate of completion for the Well 11 Improvements to the city of Marion.**

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Kling, to approve above referenced item. Steigerwaldt stated the Silurian Well 11 project is completed and ready to be accepted. This well can be utilized in the future for an additional potable water drinking source for Marion. It will require a future iron removal filter plant and ground storage tank.

Approved unanimously

**Motion approving payment for to Shawver Well Company, Inc. for construction of Silurian Well #11 for \$246,209.60.**

Moved by Olson, seconded by Chew, to approve above referenced item. Steigerwaldt stated this is the first payment to Shawver Well Company for \$246,209.60. He mention the remaining 5% retainage amount will be paid 30 days from the date of the project acceptance.

Approved unanimously

**Motion approving second and final payment to Martin Gardner Architecture for new storage building design for \$15,600.00.**

Moved by Olson, seconded by McIntosh, to approve above mentioned item. Steigerwaldt stated this is the final payment to the architect for the plans and specifications for the new storage building. Bender asked if we needed to use them during the project construction for inspection. Steigerwaldt stated their hourly rates were listed in the contract for additional design or questions that may occur during the construction but he doesn't anticipate using them. He also inquired into getting rates from another building contractor who has an inspector/foreman that could do special inspections. He also mentioned the Marion building department inspectors would also be of assistance.

Approved unanimously

**Motion approving partial payment #1 to Kammiller Tree Services LLC for demo and site cleanup at 6301 Lucore Road for \$22,500.00.**

Moved by McIntosh, seconded by Olson, to approve the above referenced item. Steigerwaldt stated the above contractor is nearly completed with the site cleanup. He was final grading and almost ready to seed. The park department staff is monitoring the final grading and have chosen the seed mixture to use as they will be maintaining the property. There is one more payment remaining.

Approved unanimously

**Discussion regarding Field Operations Reports.**

Smith updated the board on field activities. He stated the annual fire hydrant flushing was completed and Wells #8 and #6 were back online. Two water main breaks occurred last month and staff installed sewer, water and an electrical conduit to the new storage building site.

**Secretary Report**

April Building Permits

ICAP Safety Grant Award - \$1000

Thank Note from Uptown Marion Chamber

Marion Solar Study - Preliminary Results

Steigerwaldt stated there were 13 building permits issued in April 2024 over a \$50,000 valuation. The board asked about the large building permit. Steigerwaldt stated it was the expansion of the Ohnward Bank along Marion Boulevard. He shared a thank you note received from the Marion Uptown Chamber and an email that we were receiving a \$1,000 safety grant from ICAP. Steigerwaldt shared the solar study presentation where a company looked at certain city facilities and the viability to install solar on or around these areas. He opted into the free study being done for the city by a company to determine potential energy cost savings we could receive. It was a high level study. It did not appear that the city was moving forth with any project at this time. Steigerwaldt recommended waiting for now to see if the city pursues this matter further in the future.

Steigerwaldt also mentioned Linn County is still pursuing installing 12" water main from 35th Avenue within Highway 13 ROW to County Home Road. Plans were submitted and reviewed by staff and V&K Inc and comments were returned to the County Engineering staff for plan updates.

**ADJOURN**

The next Marion Water Board meeting will be held on June 11th at 4 PM at 3050 5th Avenue, Marion and on ZOOM.



Terry Chew, Chairman



Todd Steigerwaldt, Secretary