

**MINUTES OF THE
MERRILLVILLE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2017**

President L.J. “Bud” Crist called the January 17, 2017, Merrillville Stormwater Management Board (SWMB) meeting to order at 4:42 p.m. and wished everyone a happy new year. The pledge of allegiance was said. The other members in attendance were Barbara Ghoston and Ralph Simek. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was established. Staff members present were Executive Director Matt Lake, Attorney James Meyer, Financial Advisor Karl Cender and secretary Liz Bushemi. Other individuals present were Councilwoman Chrissy Barron, Town Manager Bruce Spires, Ron Wiedeman from Robinson Engineering, Darren Olson from Christopher Burke Engineering, Karen Caffarini from the *Post-Tribune* and Dolores Flaska.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mr. Crist congratulated Ralph Simek on his re-appointment to the Merrillville Stormwater Management Board.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF 2017 OFFICERS

Barbara Ghoston made a motion to retain the current officers – L.J. “Bud” Crist as president, Ralph Simek as vice president, and herself as secretary for the year 2017; the motion was seconded by Ralph Simek. There were no other motions or nominations. A voice vote was taken, and all members voted to approve the motion that L.J. “Bud” Crist serve as president, Ralph Simek serve as vice president, and Barbara Ghoston serve as secretary for the year 2017, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

MINUTES

Included in the agenda packet was a copy of the minutes from the December 6, 2016 SWMB meeting. Ralph Simek made a motion to accept the minutes from the SWMB meeting of December 6, 2016, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and all members voted to approve the minutes from the SWMB meeting of December 6, 2016, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTERS APPROVAL

Also included in the agenda packet was a copy of the accounts payable registers from December 13, 2016, December 27, 2016 and January 10, 2017. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to accept the accounts payable registers from December 13, 2016, December 27, 2016 and January 10, 2017, and it was seconded by Ralph Simek. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and all members voted to approve the accounts payable registers from December 13, 2016, December 27, 2016 and January 10, 2017, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Included in everyone’s packet was a copy of the December 23, 2016 memorandum from Cender & Company for budget transfers in Fund 626. Karl Cender said these transfers were needed to balance out line items for the 2016 budget. Ralph Simek made a motion to accept the Cender & Company December 23, 2016 budget transfers in Fund 626, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and all members voted to approve the December 23, 2016 Fund 626 budget transfers, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Mr. Crist said that a Drainage Easement with the Merrillville Community School Corporation that had been signed by school officials was included in members' packets. Matt said this document is for an easement at 57th Avenue and Tyler Street for a Meadowdale drainage project which is part of the Master Plan. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the Drainage Easement from the Merrillville Community School Corporation, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. Mrs. Ghoston asked if there are any physical restrictions, and Matt said they won't know until the engineers do their work. They were able to secure this easement without purchasing the property. A voice vote was taken, and all members voted to approve the Drainage Easement from the Merrillville Community School Corporation, and the motion to approve the Drainage Easement unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Also included in the members' packets was a copy of a second proposal from Robinson Engineering for engineering services for the Sunset Road project from Plymouth Road to the outfall ditch in an amount not to exceed \$15,775.00. This is the second part of the Sunset Road drainage work where Robinson will do the engineering and solicit quotes for the work. Ron Wiedeman from Robinson said they would work with the board to see if any easements are needed, and their timeline is 60 days after approval. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve the Robinson Engineering proposal as outlined in an amount not to exceed \$15,775.00, and it was seconded by Ralph Simek. There was no further discussion or questions. A voice vote was taken, and all members voted to approve the Robinson Engineering proposal in an amount not to exceed \$15,775.00, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Crist said the fall installment of stormwater fees was received from Lake County in the amount of \$509,054.27, which he said is about \$7,000.00 down from the annual second installment and about \$9,000.00 less than the total for the year. Matt said that he believes if there is delinquency on a property, that stormwater also receives a portion of the delinquency.

Members were given a copy of the Christopher Burke Engineering (CBBEL) base engineering contract, exhibits and Exhibit A-1 regarding the Meadowdale lateral stormwater storage basin, which is part of the Stormwater Master Plan. Matt said he would apply for Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission funding for this project with the Lake County Drainage Board since a portion of this project is the county-owned lateral six. He said since this will be a large project for stormwater improvements to the northwest part of town, funds from the stormwater fee increase will go towards this project. Darren Olson from Christopher Burke Engineering said this is the first step of the project, where geotechnical, hydraulic and other data will be viewed, and preliminary engineering will be done, with an expected timeline by June of this year; he said information will be passed on to the Merrillville Community School Corporation who provided the easement for this project. Matt said an amenity is the walking path near the Pruzin Center. If all necessary items as described in CBBEL's estimated fee schedule are performed, the total for the engineering is \$34,200.00. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the CBBEL base contract and Exhibit A-1 regarding the Meadowdale project in the amount of \$34,200.00, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. There were no further questions or discussion. A roll call vote was taken, and all members voted to approve the CBBEL base contract and Exhibit A-1 regarding the Meadowdale project in the amount of \$34,200.00, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Matt said that Robinson Engineering is still working on the Southmoor Park project. He also said the Indiana MS4 annual meeting is set for May 15 and May 16, 2017 at the Marriott East Hotel in Indianapolis, with sessions to be held on May 16th. He is vice president of the Indiana MS4 Partnership and also part of the annual meeting planning committee, and this is the 10th year for holding the annual meeting. He asked members to mark their calendars and will get everyone information when it is available. Matt also said that he will be in touch with Jody Richmond from the Lake County Emergency Management office for information needed on the Community Rating System (CRS) renewal.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Crist said everyone had at their place a copy of the Cender & Company updated contract for the year. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve the Cender & Company proposal for financial consulting services, and it was seconded by Ralph Simek. A voice vote was taken, and all members voted to approve the Cender & Company proposal for financial consulting services, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Darren Olson from CBBEL publicly thanked Matt for speaking on November 30th at the DuPage County, Illinois, Stormwater Management workshop about low impact development (LID). He said people appreciated Matt being there as a speaker and said Matt represents Merrillville well.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Crist said the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 7, 2017, at 4:30 pm at the Stormwater Resource Center.

Ralph Simek made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Bushemi
Staff Secretary