

**MINUTES OF THE
MERRILLVILLE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2017**

President L.J. “Bud” Crist called the September 5, 2017, Merrillville Stormwater Management Board (SWMB) meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. 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. Others present were Town Manager Bruce Spires, Randy Strasser from VS Engineering, Jason Douthett from Robinson Engineering, Dolly Flaska and Karen Caffarini from the *Post-Tribune*.

MINUTES

Included in the agenda packet was a copy of the minutes from the August 1, 2017 SWMB meeting. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve the minutes from the SWMB meeting held August 1, 2017, and it was seconded by Ralph Simek. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTERS APPROVAL

Also included in the agenda packet were copies of the accounts payable registers from August 8 and August 22, 2017. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to accept the accounts payable registers from August 8 and August 22, 2017, and it was seconded by Ralph Simek. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Regarding the Southmoor Park project, Matt Lake said the project started today, and all the driveways have been cut. The project should take two and a half weeks, and Robinson Engineering will be doing construction observation.

Matt said the Sunset Road project general conditions are being finalized, and it will be sent to Attorney Jim Meyer for final approval. The project will be out for bid, with the bid opening will take place at the October 3, 2017 SWMB meeting. Jason Douthett from Robinson Engineering asked about the legal ad dates, and Liz said Stormwater will take care of legal advertising.

Regarding the 58th & Jackson Street project north of SS. Peter & Paul Church, Matt said they are waiting for Delta III to start the project, and one-half (1/2) of the project costs will be reimbursed through a NIRPC Deep River Watershed 319 grant.

Jason from Robinson Engineering said plans for the Independence Street project are 70% complete, and they will meet with Matt. They hope to let the project this fall or early spring.

Matt said Christopher Burke Engineering advised him that they are drafting the easement agreements for the Hickory Ridge Apts. area portion of the Meadowdale storage basin project. He said the Hickory Ridge Apts. Board is agreeable to the easements, and once they are completed, they will be presented to the SWMB for approval.

Matt said there are three (3) projects to take place at the Stormwater Resource Center: (1) a slope stabilization project near the pond at the back of the property near the Public Works’ fence, where products were donated to Stormwater by D2 Land & Water, (2) a pave drain project near the west garage door, where pave drain products were also donated by D2 Land & Water, and (3) a no mow project north of the building. Members had been provided with copies of three (3) quotes for the pond slope stabilization project, with Hubinger Landscaping being the lowest,

most responsive bidder with a bid of \$1,742.00. Members were also given copies of three (3) request for quotes for the pave drain project, and only South County Landscaping provided a bid for \$3,707.26. Members were also provided with copies of three (3) quotes for the no mow project, with T&J Landscape Services being the lowest, most responsive bidder with a bid of \$3,330.00. Matt said the total of the three (3) lowest bids is \$8,779.26. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the three lowest bids (Hubinger Landscaping of \$1,742.00 for the pond slope project, South County Landscaping of \$3,707.26 for the pave drain project and T&J Landscape Services of \$3,330.00 for the no mow project) totaling \$8,779.26, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Included in the members' packets was a copy of an invoice from Delta III for the emergency culvert repair at 61st & 62nd and Harrison Street in the amount of \$14,265.00. Matt said this was discussed at the last SWMB meeting; what started out as a sinkhole ended up being a culvert repair. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve payment of the Delta III invoice in the amount of \$14,265.00, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Included in the members' packets was a copy of an on-call engineering services agreement with Haas & Associates, LLC, the engineering firm that designed the original 1993 plans for the 3rd Addition project. Matt met with Skip Bosak, and Bosak Motors will grant an easement on their property at no cost to Stormwater. He said this agreement is for on-call engineering services not to exceed \$10,000.00, which will include preparation of the Bosak easement agreement; he will obtain a separate contract with Haas for the 3rd Addition project. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve the Haas & Associates, LLC. proposal for on-call engineering services in an amount not to exceed \$10,000, and it was seconded by Ralph Simek. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Matt said Merrillville Stormwater Utility hosted the August 17, 2017 Northwest Indiana Stormwater Advisory Group (NISWAG) meeting, and they discussed a South Shore Stormwater poster. Members had at their seats a copy of the South Shore Convention and Visitors Authority Memorandum of Sponsorship Agreement to contract with them and artist Mitchell Markovitz for the poster. Matt said Merrillville is taking the lead on the poster and would have rights to the original artwork. He said a Deep River Watershed 319 grant of \$5,000.00 would be made by NIRPC, and other communities in NISWAG will be asked to contribute; communities would then sell the poster. The intent is to promote stormwater management through the posters and the importance of it through art; they will be sold at the MS4 annual meeting and INAFSM conference. Matt said there will be a design meeting with the artist, and he will do a preliminary sketch; Ralph Simek asked that a SWMB member also be present. To commission the artist, an \$11,000 fee is needed, and a \$5,500.00 deposit is needed to get started. The artist will get a 10% commission of all posters sold. Matt said the timeline is December 1 of this year. Merrillville Stormwater Utility will have the original artwork, and posters will be sold. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve the South Shore Convention and Visitors Authority Memorandum of Sponsorship Agreement and commitment not to exceed \$11,000.00, and it was seconded by Ralph Simek. There was no further discussion. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Matt said the Stormwater Public Works crew my do a small project at the Eric Lackawana bike trail and a demonstration project by the mural at the tunnel area. Barbara Ghoston asked for more information, and Matt said there is some water ponding near the tunnel. Town Manager Bruce Spires said a rain garden would help slope the area.

Karl Cender said he will prepare an ordinance to be submitted to the town for an additional appropriation of \$486,912.00 to the Stormwater Construction Fund 627 for the Meadowdale Watershed line item. These funds were received in June from the stormwater assessment on tax bills. He will forward the ordinance to the town for it to be heard at the September 12 meeting on first reading, and Stormwater will advertise it prior to a second reading by the Town Council on September 26th. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the request to the Town Council for an additional appropriation of \$486,912.00 in Fund 627 for the Meadowdale Watershed line item, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. There were no questions. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Crist said the next SWMB meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 3rd, 2017, at 4:30 pm at the Stormwater Resource Center.

Ralph Simek made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote. The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Bushemi
Staff Secretary