

**MINUTES OF THE  
MERRILLVILLE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2018**

President L.J. “Bud” Crist called the February 6, 2018, Merrillville Stormwater Management Board (SWMB) meeting to order at 4:30 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 Adviser Karl Cender and secretary Liz Bushemi. Also present were Councilwoman Chrissy Barron, Ron Wiedeman from Robinson Engineering, Margie Hofmann from Grimmer Construction, Megan Rogers from Gariup Construction, Kathe Savage from LGS Plumbing, Steve Drabick from Gough, Inc., Myron Sutton from IIIFFC, A.J. Veloiria from Dyer Construction, Greg Borden and Mat Murphy from Gatlin Plumbing and resident Dolores Flaska.

**MINUTES**

Included in the agenda packet was a copy of the minutes from the January 2, 2018 SWMB meeting. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve the minutes from the SWMB meeting held January 2, 2018, 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 January 9, 2018 and January 23, 2018. Ralph Simek made a motion to accept the accounts payable registers from January 9, 2018 and January 23, 2018, 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.

**OLD BUSINESS**

President Bud Crist asked for a motion to close the acceptance of sealed bids on the Independence Street project. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to closing the acceptance of sealed bids for the Independence Street Project, 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. Attorney James Meyer opened the sealed bids in the order that they were received. There was a delay in determining a total on the Gough, Inc. bid, and Steve Drabick from Gough, Inc. worked on determining Gough, Inc.’s total bid.

- (1) Gatlin Plumbing & Heating, Inc., Griffith, IN - \$352,253.00;
- (2) Dyer Construction Company, Inc., Dyer, IN - \$307,631.71;
- (3) Gough, Inc., Merrillville, IN - \$310,798.91;
- (4) Rex Construction Company, Inc., Schererville, IN - \$414,843.42;
- (5) LGS Plumbing, Inc., Crown Point, IN - \$515,250.00;
- (6) Grimmer Construction, Inc., Highland, IN - \$381,746.00; and
- (7) Gariup Construction Co., Inc., Gary, IN - \$413,900.00.

Attorney Meyer recommended a motion to take the bids under advisement until the March SWMB meeting for Robinson Engineering and Matt Lake to examine all documents and determine the lowest, most responsive bidder. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to take the bids under advisement until awarding the project at the March SWMB meeting, 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.

Members had received a copy of the Certificate of Final Completion on the 53<sup>rd</sup> Court project signed by all parties, along with Robinson Engineering's recommendation that Gatlin Plumbing & Heating be paid its final Pay Request #2 in the amount of \$26,797.40. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the Gatlin Plumbing & Heating final Pay Request #2 in the amount of \$26,797.40, 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.

Regarding the 8720-8814 Old Lincoln Highway project, Matt Lake said Rex Construction Company has completed about two-thirds of the project since they were deterred due to the weather, and the project should be completed in the near future.

Matt said the tree clearing has been completed on the Sunset Road project, and Delta III, Inc. will begin their work on the project next week.

Regarding the Meadowdale storage project, Matt said the application for funding for engineering costs is on the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission (LCRBDC) March agenda. He and Darren Olson from Christopher Burke Engineering will make a presentation at that time.

Matt met with Darren Olson from Christopher Burke Engineering to review documentation for the Community Rating System (CRS) two-day audit in April.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Members also received a copy of the Aquatic Weed Control 2018 Contract for Services for algae control applications at Bon Aire Lake. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the 2018 Contract for Services with Aquatic Weed Control, 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.

Members also had in their packets a copy of Robinson Engineering's Proposal A-10 Supplement No. 1 for additional work required by them on the Independence Street project in the amount of \$4,758.50. Ron Wiedeman said the work required is at Matt's request. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the Robinson Engineering Proposal A-10 Supplement No. 1 in the amount of \$4,758.50, and it was seconded by Barbara Ghoston. Mrs. Ghoston asked about the cost of this supplemental proposal, and Ron Wiedeman said the total contract for engineering services for the Independence Street project is \$21,333.50, and that this supplemental contract is only for \$4,758.50. A voice vote was taken, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Matt said he will be attending an LTAP Stormwater Conference on Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, at Purdue University in Lafayette.

A Porter County Contractors' Workshop will be held on February 27, 2018, at the Porter County Expo Center, and Matt said he and the Northwest Indiana Stormwater Advisory Group (NISWAG) members have been meeting at the Stormwater Resource Center about agenda items. Matt said this is a free workshop for contractors where they will discuss IDEM's Rule 13 and Rule 5 and other contractor issues.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Bud Crist said he obtained a signature on an easement for property that Ron McColly owns at 7013 Taft Street to correct a stormwater problem in that area.

Matt said he was glad that the Independence Street project did not have to incorporate a lift station for the project plans, which will save thousands of dollars.

Mrs. Ghoston asked about the South Shore Stormwater poster sales, and Matt he has given some posters to organizations like the Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District, Crossroads Chamber of Commerce, Congressman Pete Visclosky and a few other places that will display them. He asked if anyone knows of someone who would like to promote the Stormwater poster to let him know. A few posters have been sold to individuals. He also said that Michigan City has agreed to cost-share on the cost of the posters.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None.

At 4:56 pm, Steve Drabick from Gough, Inc. announced the Gough, Inc. bid tabulation total for the Independence Street project in the amount of \$310,798.91.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Crist said the Stormwater Resource Center and all non-emergency town departments will be closed on Monday February 19, 2018, for the Presidents' Day holiday. Since Matt will be attending the LTAP Road School on March 6<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Crist said that the next SWMB meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at 4:30 pm at the Stormwater Resource Center.

Mr. Crist also announced that the Town of Merrillville is participating in the Northwest Indiana Food Bank "Spread the Love" drive to collect 25,000 jars of peanut butter by March 16<sup>th</sup> and said that the Stormwater Resource Center is a drop-off site for jars of peanut butter.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Liz Bushemi  
Staff Secretary