

Lowell Stormwater Mgmt. Board Minutes
Regular Meeting
Monday, December 16th, 2024

Phil Kuiper called the meeting to order on Monday, December 16th, 2024, at 4pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Recording Secretary Dianna Cade called the roll. Members present were Rich Oman, Phil Kuiper and Courtney Anderson. Staff Present was Stormwater and GIS Director Greory White, Town Manager Craig Hendrix, Jill Murr, Clerk Treasurer, Town Attorney Nichole Bennet was present via Zoom connection.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Oman made a motion to approve the minutes from November 7th, 2024, seconded by Ms. Anderson and carried with a voice vote of all ayes.

Old Business:

Status of ongoing projects:

Mr. Hendrix stated the EQ basin at the treatment plant is in the early permitting stages. He continued his discussing talking about the Lincoln St project. He discussed the arch bridge and road improvements for this project. He stated that there will be CCG matching funds from INDOT available for this project. He discussed the smaller projects including inlets and drains that were fixed. He stated the rear yard project will resume in the spring.

MS4 update: Greg White discussed the stormwater quality mgmt. plan for the town. He stated the state of Indiana in the past 5 years has been transitioning from a permit by rule (rule 13) to an MS4 general permit. During the 3rd QTR of '24' staff revised the town's stormwater mgmt. plan to reflect this change from the state. This will be submitted with the annual report in March. He stated the only difference in this year was the amount of construction traffic. He discussed IDEM's recent field survey at different sites in town that was conducted. There were no offenses, only one site that Greg needed to follow up on by the end of the year which he will do this week. Mr. Hendrix stated part of the new state permit will require us to also revise/update portion of our stormwater ordinance. He stated there are some model ordinances that staff can follow. The revisions needed will affect both the stormwater rate and standards. Discussion on timeline for these documents.

NEW BUSINESS:

Vactor Truck repair estimate approval – Mr. Hendrix stated this is the stormwater Vactor that cleaning inlets and hydro excavation. He discussed the repairs that are needed and cost estimates. Discussion

Mr. Oman made a motion to approve the repairs for the stormwater Vactor truck, seconded by Ms. Anderson and carried with a voice vote of all ayes.

Stormwater Fee Discussion -

Mr. Hendrix stated stormwater projects were discussed at the previous meeting. He also has had a conversation with the council about these projects. The financial advisors have reviewed these projects and have performed a cost analysis, reviewed the current stormwater fee and offered suggestions on rate increase.

infrastructure. Including equipment and personnel. This amount will continue to be utilized by the council for these items. The advisors looked at what it would take to accomplish the projects that need to be executed. The advisors looked at an increase of \$8.00 for a total of \$15.00 per month (ERU – residential). Discussion on fees for other users. The council has been advised of this fee. The revenue that is generated by the \$8.00 will be allocated to this board by the council. Discussion on budget and allocations of revenues and bonds.

Mr. Hendrix discussed the process for a fee increase including public hearing, bond council and setting the fee. He asked the Board to give approval to engage the bond council. Staff are requesting to use law firm of Barnes and Thornburg . Barnes will put together a schedule for fee increase and securing bonding. Discussion on dates for the public hearing.

Mr. Oman made a motion to set the date of February 6th, 2025, for a public hearing on stormwater rate increase, seconded Ms. Anderson and carried with a roll call vote of all ayes.

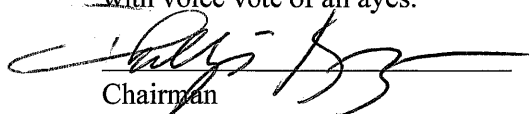
Mr. Oman made a motion to engage Barnes and Thornburg as bond council, seconded by Ms. Anderson and carried with a roll call vote of all ayes.

Discussion: None

Announcements: The next meeting was scheduled for February 6th, at 5pm.

Public Comment: None was heard online or in person.

Adjournment: Mr. Oman, made a motion to adjourn at 4:25pm, seconded by Ms. Anderson and carried with voice vote of all ayes.


Chairman


Secretary