

TOWN OF GEORGETOWN, INDIANA
TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 5, 2015
9111 STATE ROAD 64, GEORGETOWN TOWN HALL

- I. Pledge of Allegiance led by Gary Smith.
- II. Roll call by Gary Smith. Patti Denison, Kathy Haller, Chris Loop, Jim Tripure, Gary Smith, Richard Stiles, Bob Woosley, Kristi Fox, Julia Keibler, and Brenton Fender all in attendance.
- III. Old Business
 - A. Sending out a letter to Hoosier Pickup. Kristi said that the letter has been recommended to send out to Hoosier pickup by the Planning and Zoning Commission. Some changes were made to the original letter. The letter will be sent certified mail and also served by the sheriff. *Motion to allow the attorney to send the letter to Mr. Woosley was brought by Kathy Haller. Jim Tripure seconded the motion. All voted in favor.*
 - B. Final Pay for Jim Reynolds. Kristi made one change in the letter for Jim Reynolds, it now shows that he was terminated rather than resigned. He will now be able to draw unemployment. *Motion to give Gary Smith permission to sign the document. Patty Denison brought forth the motion. Jim Tripure seconded the motion. All voted in favor.*
- IV. New Business
 - A. Discussion of utility rates but talking specifically on sanitary sewer. Bob Woosley put together a packet for everyone present. We currently have around 1700 sewer customers. Maps were provided to show our current town service area. We currently are able to extend 4 miles over the town service boundary.
 - B. We currently have about 25 miles of gravity systems and over 6 miles of forced. We have two main pump stations and 14 lift stations and there are plans for another lift station. Treatment plant has been in service for 5 years now. We are currently at 77% capacity. We do not operate our own plant and we have a contract that will need to be renegotiated soon. We have a hauler (Rodney) because we do not have a sludge processing plant. We have tanks cleaned and hauled every three years.
 - C. The 14 pump stations are old and the pumps are about at the end of their life. We need to factor in the process of replacing them. Alarms are available to notify us if there is a problem with a station. We have a hybrid system. We have leaks and problems with gravity lines. Our treatment plant is getting close to capacity.
 - D. Lakeland Lagoon is a problem and will be revisited at a later time.
 - E. They went over the capacity of the system. Town crews have gone through a list of problems and they have done well in fixing known problems. There was about 270,000 gallons of flow and it seems to be maintaining. The flow test results will be compared to Lakeland Lagoons results. Rain caps have been helping now that some of them cover the

manholes. We have received a sanitary overflow notification. We have been flow and smoke testing.

F. In looking at rates is ours the highest? A comparison was done of other systems in the area. Our water rates are a little higher but overall our rates are rather competitive. There was discussion of adding more information to current bills for consumers. Also, there was discussion about electronic meters and how they can benefit our current system.

G. Waste water improvements with an expansion would cost \$2.6 million. That would double the size of the plant and the flow. There are extra things that it would provide. The expansion would help with surges and make it possible to hold water longer as well as a mechanically clean bar screen. It would also update the UV system.

H. Sludge processing is not done at our plant. We haul it off and it costs \$112,000 yearly. A savings of \$47,000 yearly could be obtained if we processed it ourselves.

I. Other system improvements that we should consider doing are listed in the packet. We need to consider that the lift stations will need upgrades. There are also odor control chemicals that will have a long term impact. Manhole repairs need to continue. There is only one way in or out of the facility. There could be an emergency and someone might not be able to get to an emergency. Sewer main improvements and upgrades need to be done but planned out well in advance.

J. If we hit 80% the state will come in and see what the plan is we have in place and how we will handle the flow. Areas close would like for there to be additional development and will probably take place in the next five years. If that happens then we will be at full capacity. There are things that we can do over the next 5 years to improve the system. We could possibly pay this development by building a sludge processing plant and approach the state for rural development funds without raising current rates. There is a need to look for grants and fund can come from additional user fees. Also, if we are charging correct usage would bring an increase in revenue.

K. We have a grease issue and traps probably need to be put in. Probably need to look into a new ordinance or stricter enforcements. An enforcement officer might bring in additional revenue as well as help to offset costs.

V. Questions:

A. Kathy Haller asked about turning onto SR 64 at Canal Lane. There is going to be a third lane put in but it will be done last.

VI. Comments:

A. Patti Dennison is glad to hear about the issues that are up coming and hope to be able to move forward.

- B. Kathy Haller appreciated all of the information and the maps. She believes that there might be grants available.
 - C. Chris Loop would like for them to also look at revamping the building commissioner, zoning commissioner and enforcement officer. This has been a recurring theme and something needs to be discussed as this is an asset to the town.
 - D. Jim Tripure thanked everyone for bringing these things to light. He appreciates the input with a 5 year plan.
 - E. Gary Smith thanked them for having the meeting tonight to discuss ways to improve the town. He appreciates Bob's hard work.
 - F. Richard Stiles would like to know if there is an ordinance about security lighting but nothing else may be discussed at this meeting.
- VII. There was a motion brought by Chris Loop to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Patti Dennison.