

UTILITY BOARD/COMMON COUNCIL
Tuesday, December 22, 2015
7:00 P.M.

The Common Council and Utility Board of the City of Huntingburg met in joint session at its regularly scheduled meeting time on Tuesday, December 22, 2015 at the hour of 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Huntingburg City Hall at 508 E. Fourth Street, Huntingburg, Indiana. Members Lehr, Bounds, McPherron, Kissling and Summers were present. Also present were Mayor Spinner and City Attorney Schneider.

Mayor Spinner called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Lehr and carried to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2015 meeting.

A motion was made by Lehr, seconded by Summers and carried to approve the claims as presented.

The Mayor indicated that this was the date, time and place advertised for a public hearing on the proposed sewage works rates. The Mayor opened the public hearing. Otto "Buzz" Krohn of O.W. Krohn and Associates gave a presentation on the proposed rates, projects and financial status of the Wastewater Utility. Attorney Schneider informed all present that he was passing around an attendance sheet for people attending the public hearing to sign (Exhibit A).

The Mayor asked if anyone would like to comment on the proposed sewer rates and charges. Robert "Rocky" Owen indicated that he had concerns that the rate increase was needed just for the proposed Hunters Crossing Subdivision. The Mayor and Attorney Schneider addressed the question and indicated that the rate increase was to make the Wastewater Utility financially sound and cover costs of current operations. Additionally a portion of the rate increase is to cover the new debt service needed to fund the wastewater upgrade that has been planned since 2012 to address the current sewage capacity issues with future development also considered.

The Mayor again asked for comments. No more comments were received.

A motion was made by Kissling, seconded by Bounds and carried to close the public hearing.

The Mayor indicated that Ordinance No. 2015-37 was introduced at the last meeting.

A motion was made by McPherron, seconded by Lehr and carried to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-37 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A NEW SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR USE OF AND SERVICES RENDERED BY THE MUNICIPALLY OWNED SEWAGE WORKS OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGBURG, INDIANA AND MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH

Upon call of roll for the adoption or rejection of Ordinance No. 2015-37 the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of adoption, Ordinance No. 2015-37 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 7:27 P.M.

The Mayor presented a proposed resolution to authorize the relocation and exchange of a general utility easement. Attorney Schneider explained the request of the property owner to exchange easements for undeveloped property so the property owner can build where he wants on the lot. The proposed resolution would authorize the Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer to execute and deliver a quit-claim deed quit-claiming and releasing to Kit A. Cooper and Arin L. Cooper the general utility easement over, across and under the unused easement in exchange for a grant by Kit A. Cooper and Arin L. Cooper of a general utility easement over, across and under another portion of the property.

A motion was made by Bounds, seconded by Lehr and carried to adopt Resolution No. 2015-40 entitled:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
HUNTINGBURG AUTHORIZING THE RELOCATION AND EXCHANGE OF A
GENERAL UTILITY EASEMENT**

Upon call of roll for the adoption or rejection of Resolution No. 2015-40 the vote being 5 ayes, 0 nays, in favor of adoption, Resolution No. 2015-40 was duly passed and adopted this date at the hour of 7:32 P.M.

Police Chief Parks was present to request to add four traffic auxiliary police officers to the City Police Department. He noted the presence of all four of the auxiliary police reserve candidates:

Alex Flores
Albert Braunecker
Christina Balbach
Chris Lee

The Mayor noted the process is that upon the Chief of Police's recommendation the Mayor recommends to the Common Council the candidate's acceptance. He noted the term would be indefinite. The Mayor indicated that Chief Parks recommends the candidates and he also offers his recommendation to appoint Alex Flores, Albert Braunecker, Christina Balbach and Chris Lee as Auxiliary Traffic Police Officers for the City of Huntingburg.

A motion was made by Lehr, seconded by McPherron and carried to approve the recommendations of the Police Chief and Mayor for the Auxiliary Traffic Police Officers noted above.

Energy Superintendent Reutepohler presented his monthly electric report. He updated the Board on the status of the new digger truck noting that other utilities have kept their old digger trucks as backup due to the lack of a market for the used vehicles; he will consider keeping the old truck. He indicated that a red digger truck would cost \$2,500.00 more and that other utility trucks are white. He will spec white for the new digger truck. He will be sending the specifications to three vendors for bids.

Reutepohler presented the monthly gas report. He noted that Ryan Hall passed his pipe welding test.

Water Superintendent Williams presented his monthly report. He informed the Board that water employees designed and built a weir system for the splitter box at the filtration plant; uniform distribution to each of the four filters has been an ongoing problem for several years. The new weir system now slows the flow and separates water proportionally to each filter.

Williams informed the Board that Industrial Valve Company will be in on a Saturday in December to rebuild the 8 inch Cla-val in the clear-well basin. He noted the basin will need to be drained giving the opportunity for a much needed cleaning of the basin.

Williams noted that the three largest Farbest meters were tested for accuracy by ME Simpson Co. and one of them failed by a small percentage. He noted a replacement meter has been ordered from Waller Meter Company.

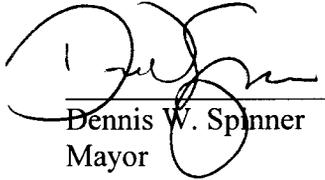
Williams requested approval to purchase the MC-Lite meter reading equipment from ITRON. He indicated that he is convinced that it will alleviate a large percentage of work orders for such matters as rereads and missed reads while enhancing the meter reader's productivity. It will also allow the benefits of the data logging feature on the 100 W water and gas ERTs. There was discussion. The Board would like more information and results of additional demonstrations with our equipment.

Williams addressed the Board and announced his retirement from the City in order to enter the ministry. He noted he will make himself as available as possible during the transition. He noted the effective date of his resignation will be January 8, 2016.

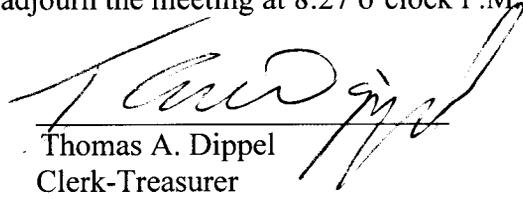
A motion was made by Lehr, seconded by McPherron and carried to accept Williams' resignation as Water Utility Superintendent.

The Mayor thanked Council members Lehr and Summers for their service on the Council as this will be the last Council meeting for both of them.

There being no further business before the Council, a motion was made by Summers, seconded by Lehr and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 o'clock P.M.



Dennis W. Spinner
Mayor



Thomas A. Dippel
Clerk-Treasurer