

**Town Council  
Utility Meeting  
May 8, 2023**

*The Town Council of the Town of Kouts, Indiana met in the Kouts Town Hall, 210 South Main Street, Kouts, Indiana on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of May at 5:00 pm for the purpose of conducting a utility meeting.*

*The meeting was called to order by Council President Tyler Brock and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.*

*Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Councilors Tyler Brock, Robert Forster, Blake Jefferson, Harold Salyer and CJ Wittmer. Also, Clerk-Treasurer Laurie Tribble, Cory Clarke and Bryant Barrera representing MCO. Attorney Schwerd was not in attendance.*

***Adam Simka, Wessler Engineering**, explained the Water System Improvement Agreement to the council. This agreement includes surveys, design and permitting. Design services include meeting attendance to discuss design and review information at a minimum they will include 10%, 30%, 60% and 90% design review workshops. Project Management services for the duration of the project, including quality control and assurance, and regular communication with the Council. They will also coordinate with SRF, OCRA and Rate Consultants to facilitate the loan and grant process. Utility Identification and Coordination prior to the Topographical Survey. Regulatory Approvals and Permitting such as Construction Permits, INDOT, FAA and Homeland Security. Preparation of easement documentation. Assisting with the bid phase with bidders and SRF. The contract is in the amount of \$625,000. The entire contract is available for review in the Clerk's Office. A special meeting will be held at some point for the Rate Adoption. The scheduling for that will depend on the OCRA grant funding. The town will need to hire a geotechnical engineering consultant to obtain soil borings and complete a Hazardous Material Inventory required by IDEM for demolition. For budget purposes the estimated fee for this work is \$25,000.*

Councilor Salyer motioned to approve the Wessler Engineering Contract, Water System Improvement Agreement, Addendum 1 in a lump sum amount of \$625,000 and Councilor Wittmer seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**Surf Air-** Surf-Air reported they completed the handhole replacements and would like the approval to move to the next step of pulling fiber through the conduit system to allow customers to choose their service. After some discussion, it was decided not to allow Surf-Air to pull fiber at this time. The council would like to see the televising done first to make sure there are no other problems, the handhole moved on the corner of Strong and Daumer, the driveway on Alice repaired and all invoices due to the Town paid before allowing them to move forward.

**MCO Report-**Cory Clarke reported hydrant flushing will begin next week. The new truck is in service. He received a quote from Signature Graphics for a new town garage sign, and truck and building decals in the amount of \$1830.00. Councilor Jefferson motioned to approve the purchase and Councilor Wittmer seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. He also reported they received quotes to purchase a bobcat. Three quotes were received. Councilor Forster motioned to approve the purchase through Atlas Bobcat, LLC. The current Bobcat was purchased through Atlas Bobcat and they have been satisfied with the product received. There will also be the trade-in of the current bobcat for a final cost of \$63,689.00 and Councilor Salyer seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. Lastly, he discussed a new meter reading system. The current one is no longer supported and parts are not available. He will schedule a visit from Utility Supply to do a short presentation on the equipment available and how it works for the next utility meeting.

Adjournment:

Councilor Jefferson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 pm, Councilor Forster seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

*Laurie A. Tribble*

Laurie A. Tribble  
Clerk-Treasurer

*Tyler Brock*

Tyler Brock

*Blake Jefferson*

Blake Jefferson

*Robert Forster*

Robert Forster

*CJ Wittmer*

CJ Wittmer

*Harold Salyer*

Harold Salyer