

**Town Council
Utility Meeting
September 11, 2023**

The Town Council of the Town of Kouts, Indiana met in the Kouts Town Hall, 210 South Main Street, Kouts, Indiana on the 11th day of September at 5:00 pm for the purpose of conducting their regular 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, and Cory Clarke representing MCO.

Cory reported there is an issue with a few of the Blackstone duplexes being built. When installing the utilities, contractors are asked to avoid installing shut-offs or clean outs in driveways or sidewalks due to freezing issues. The plumber hired to do the work started with the interior of the house instead of outside in. Due to the original tap ons, 10 or more years ago they didn't have options on the installs. Now, three of the new duplexes have y-shaped clean outs. The actual clean-out will be dry if someone checks the clean out because of the second line of the y comes from the home to the line sewer line. In order to clean the line, should it back-up into the home, the toilet would need to be removed. This is all on the customers side of the system. They are experiencing problems ordering brass fittings due to long lead times.

Surf Internet-Deborah Crawford and Gene Crusie proposed a plan to the council to be able to move forward with pulling fiber in town now that the televising has been completed. They agree to pay 50% of the televising invoice of \$102,409.18 in the next 5 days and the other 50% when their first customer gets service within approx. 30 days. They won't go any farther than the areas that were previously done. No new drilling will take place. They were asked about the lids that have been breaking over and over again. The representative stated they will send a data log of repetitive lids that have been reported previously and replace them with traffic rated lids in concrete before winter. They were also made aware of two additional repairs that have not been completed yet. One at 49 and Ross that is a sewer lateral repair, and the other at Sunset and Strong that is storm sewer repair. Both are scheduled to be completed next week. Councilman Salyer motioned to approve Surf Internet moving forward after the 50% payment of the televising invoice, and repairs to the lids that have repetitively had issues, in the current area only; Councilman Forster seconded

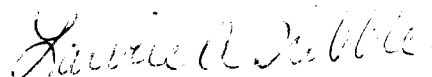
the motion. Motion carried 4-1 with Councilman Jefferson voting no. Councilman Wittmer stated he would like more conversations to happen before beginning Phase II. Councilman Jefferson expressed he had concerns with letting them continue working.

Wessler-Adam Simka was in attendance and gave the Council a quick rundown on the progress so far. They are at 30% design completion and will be deciding on the chemical feed strategy for the distribution system. The easement on Mentor is not necessary at this time and can be obtained outside of the project. Lastly, he asked the council to consider whether they would like to do an inspection in the next 90 days or wait until construction has begun on the new tower to see if the west tank can remain in service. This will give insight to what rehab is necessary. Dixon Engineering can do a submerged inspection rather than take the tank out of service to do an inspection. Adam will get a quote from Dixon to get an idea what the cost will be.


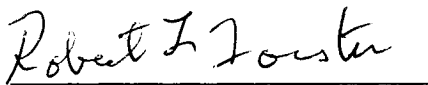
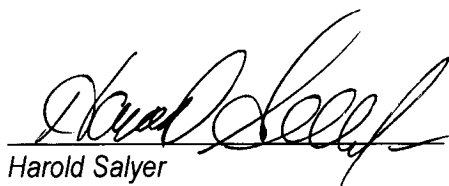
Adjournment:

Councilor Jefferson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 pm, Councilor Wittmer seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Laurie A. Tribble
Clerk-Treasurer


Tyler Brock
Blake Jefferson
Robert Forster
CJ Wittmer
Harold Salyer