

**Town Council
Utility Meeting
November 13, 2023**

The Town Council of the Town of Kouts, Indiana met in the Kouts Town Hall, 210 South Main Street, Kouts, Indiana on the 13th day of November 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 and Bryant Barrera representing MCO.

Cory Clarke reported the following:

1. Save-A-Lot needs to be contacted regarding installing a main shutoff. They are the only unit in the building that does not have its own shut off valve. Should something unforeseen happen the building would flood and the entire building would need to be shut off for repairs. Laurie reported she has sent them numerous letters with no response. The council directed Laurie to contact Attorney Schwerd for assistance in this matter.
2. It was decided to not repair the deficiency with the ladder on the east tower since it is scheduled to be taken down with the water project.
3. The 4" line at Church and 8 will need to be addressed. There is a valve under 8 that needs to be worked shut and at this time MCO has not been able to do that. There was a water main break on the 4" line recently. The 4" line should be retired and connected to the 6" line on the west side of the road.
4. The radio read meters are more than half installed throughout the town. The new lead and copper rule has gone into effect. MCO and the Clerk's office are working together to update the Lead Service Inventory.
5. CTL Engineering has been doing the soil boring in the new well field. Dixon Engineering will be performing the tower cleaning on November 20, 2023. Peerless Midwest was here to do the annual maintenance on the wells at the water plant. Wessler requested they do some additional testing while they were here.
6. The industrial size meters need to be tested. ME Simpson will be called to verify the readings are accurate. Kouts School's meter will be updated to a radio read rather than spending money on the testing.
7. The National Jr. Honor Society asked if they could contribute in some way with water project.

8. In two locations at the WWTP the valves underground should be replaced before the concrete is poured. They will investigate the cost of the concrete replacement. The worn-out scraper blades at the bottom of each clarifier need to be replaced.
9. There was a non-compliance issue at the WWTP. At this point we are not sure what caused it. The portable pH and conductivity meter has been purchased and is used inside the sewer structure to log pH and conductivity discharging from Merit Steel. Updates to Merit's NPDES permit will resolve the pH issue. We are still experiencing elevated levels of Molybdenum in the sludge. This will also be corrected with the new limits in Merit Steel's NPDES permit.
10. The expansion board is failing and mostly non-existent on the sidewalks in the downtown area. American Concrete has made repairs to the imprinted sidewalk area.
11. Cory discussed some areas of town that need water/sewer lines and hydrants replaced. He will contact Lawson-Fisher to discuss what is needed and get plans and cost estimates worked up.

Surf Internet- Mrs. Jenkins called to report that Surf Internet had bored under her driveway and through her front yard, 8' in from the sidewalk on the house side, to the neighbors and marked her newly sealed driveway with marking paint. When she confronted them, they told her they had permission to do so from the Town. A work order was sent to MCO to check on what they were doing. It was reported they did not have permission to do this type of work without a right-of-way permit and permission in writing from the homeowner before doing so. Laurie will email the Surf Internet contacts to let them know what happened and discuss correcting the issue so it doesn't happen again.

Garage Roof-The garage rubber roof is leaking and needs to be replaced. Three rubber roof contractors were called several times and asked to do an estimate during the past 60 days. Only one contractor responded. Mighty Dog sent a quote to the replacement. Councilor Wittmer motioned to approve Mighty Dog Roofing's quote in the amount of \$37,305.14, Councilor Jefferson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

Adjournment:

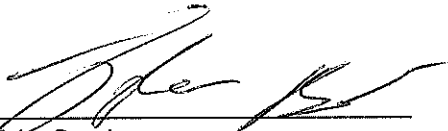
Councilor Jefferson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 pm, Councilor Salyer seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

(signatures on next page)

Respectfully submitted,


Laurie A. Tribble

Laurie A. Tribble
Clerk-Treasurer


Tyler Brock

Blake Jefferson

Robert Forster


CJ Wittmer


Harold Salyer