

**MINUTES OF THE  
MERRILLVILLE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2015**

President Leonard White called the December 1, 2015 Merrillville Stormwater Management Board (SWMB) meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was said. The other members in attendance were Ralph Simek and Barbara Ghoston. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was established. Staff present was Attorney James Meyer and secretary Liz Bushemi. Others present were Councilman Tom Goralczyk, Chas Riley from *The Times*, Karen Caffarini from the *Post-Tribune*, Dolores Flaska and residents Constance and Gerald Zeilenga.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Mr. White said he hoped everyone had a nice Thanksgiving holiday.

**MINUTES**

Included in the agenda packet was a copy of the minutes from the November 4, 2015 SWMB meeting. Leonard White made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 4, 2015 SWMB meeting, and it was seconded by Ralph Simek. A voice vote was taken, and all members voted to approve the minutes from the November 4, 2015 meeting, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REGISTERS APPROVAL**

Also included in the agenda packet were copies of the accounts payable registers from November 10 and November 24, 2015. Leonard White made a motion to approve the accounts payable registers from November 10 and November 24, 2015, and it was seconded by Ralph Simek. A voice vote was taken, and all members voted to approve the accounts payable registers from November 10 and November 24, 2015, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

**OLD BUSINESS**

In Matt Lake's absence, Liz Bushemi had closed the acceptance of quotes for the Ross Meadow Farms project at 4:31 just before the meeting began. Attorney James Meyer opened the three (3) sealed quotes that were received:

Gough, Inc., Merrillville, IN - \$117,565.50  
Dyer Construction Company, Inc., Dyer, IN - \$136,560.00  
Rex Construction Co., Inc., Schererville, IN - \$154,200.00

Mr. Meyer said that Matt Lake had requested that the Board vote to approve the awarding of the contract to the lowest, most responsive bidder with the condition that it be reviewed by him, Christopher Burke Engineering and Matt to make sure it meets all requirements. Barbara Ghoston made a motion to approve the acceptance of the quote from Gough, Inc. in the amount of \$117,565.50, with the contingency that it be reviewed by Mr. Meyer, Christopher Burke Engineering and Matt Lake to make sure it meets all requirements, and it was seconded by Ralph Simek. A roll call vote was taken, and all three members voted to approve the acceptance of the quote from Gough, Inc. in the amount of \$117,565.50, with the contingency that it be reviewed by Mr. Meyer, Christopher Burke Engineering and Matt Lake to make sure it meets all requirements, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote. For the record, Mr. Meyer stated that since this contract was expected to be under \$150,000, a request for quotes is permitted instead of it being let for bids. Mr. White asked about the proposed start date, and Mr. Meyer said they are still waiting on the wetland permit.

In Matt Lake's absence, Liz reported that the Robinson Engineering proposal for Southmoor Park design engineering is being tabled until the January meeting since Matt has not been able to speak with Councilwoman Miano since she is recovering from a health issue. Matt submitted the final list of 13,003 parcels to Lake County for 2016, which were accepted. If 100% of them are paid, \$1,137,579 will be generated from stormwater fees. A Lunch & Learn was held at the SWRC on November 17<sup>th</sup>, sponsored by ADS StormTech. Two representatives from ADS gave a presentation to local engineers and municipal department heads about their polypropylene (or heavy plastic) pipe, and they talked about the benefits of using it as opposed to concrete pipes. They brought two samples, which were viewed in the SWRC garage. All attendees received certificates. Pictures were passed out from the event. A brief discussion was held.

Councilman Goralczyk asked about the 53<sup>rd</sup> Court/Meadowdale project, and Liz said the project was finalized by Gatlin, but Matt found some issues that needed correcting and has discussed it with Robinson Engineering, and Robinson is working on it. No as builts have been issued yet.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

In Matt's absence, Liz reported that the Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District submitted its 2016 Agreement for educational services to Merrillville schools, and it was part of the members' agenda packets delivered to them. Stormwater Utility has entered into this contract with Soil & Water for the past three consecutive years, which is in lieu of the contract with NIRPC's regional educational outreach. The contract amount remains at \$5,000 for the year. Members were told that a motion to accept and vote is needed, or it could be deferred until January. Ralph Simek made a motion to continue the Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District contract, and it was seconded by Leonard White. A roll call vote was taken, and all three members voted to approve the 2016 contract with Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

The members received a copy of a tentative Stormwater Management Board schedule of 2016 meetings at their place and were told that some meetings may be cancelled if there is a lack of agenda items. Attorney Meyer suggested approval by the board so the meetings would not be required to be advertised. Ralph Simek made a motion to approve the tentative Stormwater Management Board schedule of 2016 meetings, and it was seconded by Leonard White. A voice vote was taken, and all members voted to approve the tentative Stormwater Management Board schedule of 2016 meetings, and the motion unanimously passed with a 3/0 vote.

Liz also reported that Matt will meet with Karl Cender within the next two weeks about the end-of-year transfers to balance out line items in Fund 626; there are only a few line items that need additional funds, and this is typically done by all departments at the end of the year to balance out. She also said the Lake County Sheriff's Community Workforce crew was at the SWRC Monday and today to put some shredded leaves from the street department's leaf pick-up around trees here at the SWRC. The leaves serve as mulch for the trees and adds organic content to the soil. The area in the back of the SWRC was part of the old parking lot.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Resident Constance Zeilenga, who resides at 7215 Virginia Street, asked when the road work on 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue would be done. Councilman Tom Goralczyk asked if she meant east of Broadway near the cemetery, and she said yes. Councilman Goralczyk said the work is being done as a street project, and she can contact Town Manager Bruce Spires for a time table on when he expects it to be done; he gave her Mr. Spires's phone number. Mrs. Zeilenga said there has been construction traffic for a long time, and she is tired of the delays. He said work on Madison Street and Merrillville Road will be done next.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. White said the Stormwater Resource Center will be closed on Thursday and Friday, December 24-25, 2015, for the Christmas Holiday and on Thursday, December 31, 2015 at 1:00 pm and all day on Friday, January 1, 2016, for the New Year's Day holiday. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 19, 2016, at 4:30 pm at the Stormwater Resource Center.

Ralph Simek made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Leonard White. The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Liz Bushemi  
Staff Secretary