



BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETING

Monday July 12, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

Memorandum

Mr. Mills called the meeting to Order at 6:09 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: President Carl Mills, Vice President Steve Pitman, Treasurer Jane Merrill, Secretary Michael McDonald, members, Jeff Kimbell, Eric Hand, Chuck Ryerson, and Jeff Hill. Others in attendance were Utility Director Andrew Williams, Legal Counsel Anne Poindexter, and Scott Wyatt, Engineering Manager Wes Merkle, and Administrative Assistant Maggie Crediford

Amanda Foley was absent.

PUBLIC HEARING – RATE ORDINANCE NO. 5-10-2021-R

Mr. Mills opened the public hearing at 6:09 p.m. Mrs. Poindexter read the ordinance into the record. An ordinance establishing Utility wide schedule of monthly user rates, late fees, connection fees, interceptor fees, application fees, fees, and charges to be collected from the owners of property served by the sewage works of the Utility and matters connected therewith, replacing Ordinance 05-11-2020. There were no public comments. Mr. Mills closed the public hearing at 6:11 p.m.

Mr. Pittman made a motion to reorder the agenda and requested that item 9.A. the Second Reading of Rate Ordinance No. 5-10-2021-R be moved to the next item on the agenda. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Second Reading of the Rate Ordinance No. 5-10-2021-R

Mrs. Poindexter read Ordinance No. 5-10-2021-R, an ordinance establishing Utility wide schedule of monthly user rates, late fees, connection fees, interceptor fees, application fees, reinspection fees and charges to be collected from the owners of property served by the sewage works of the Utility and matters connected therewith, replacing Ordinance 05-11-2020. Ms. Merrill made a motion to approved Rate Ordinance No. 5-10-2021-R. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MEMORANDUM

Mr. Hand made a motion to approve the June 10, 2021, Board Meeting memorandum. Ms. Merrill seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS DOCKET

Mr. McDonald made a motion to approve the claims docket. Mr. Hand seconded the motion. Mr. Hand asked about several, approximately thirty, small refund payments appearing on pages two

and three. Mr. Williams said that if a customer moves out there are adjustments made for days in the billing cycle that occur after the closing date and the property changes hands. Mr. Pittman asked why there was a refund issued to the Zionsville Presbyterian Church. Mr. Williams did not know and said he would get the answer from Ms. Sheeks when she returns from her vacation. The motion to approve the claims docket was unanimously approved.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mrs. Poindexter said the Board members should have received an email from Mr. Kevin Hill. She asked the Board members to let her know if they did not receive a copy of the email so she can provide them with one. Mr. Hill has requested from the Board, fourteen thousand and some odd dollars because he discovered his property is not connected to the sewers. Mrs. Poindexter said, after reviewing the email if any Board member would like to make a motion on how to proceed with Mr. Hill's request, this would be the appropriate time to do so. Mrs. Poindexter said she has responded to Mr. Hill's initial request informing him the Utility does not make sewer connections for individuals. The connection fee the Utility collects is for the availability of the sewer to the homeowner, but the cost to connect to the lateral stub has always been an additional cost to the customer

Each property may have a different cost for connection depending on the placement of the home and topography of the property. Mr. Pittman asked Mrs. Poindexter if her response would be directed to the homeowner or through his attorney. Mrs. Poindexter said since the initial contact was made through an attorney, she will contact the attorney first to see if the response should go through his office or be sent directly to Mr. Hill.

Mr. Pittman made a motion to instruct Mrs. Poindexter to respond to Mr. Hill's email request and let him know the Utility is declining his request and does not make connections for customers. Mr. Hand seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

UTILITY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Williams said the staff had a team bonding event at Anarchy Axe throwing. Everyone really enjoyed it. The Utility had a booth at CarmelFest. The Utility's booth was next to the Monon Trail and the Gazebo. The event was well attended. People really seem to enjoy spinning the wheel to win prizes, even the adults. Mr. Williams noted he was surprised the number of people who did not know that "flushable" wipes are actually not flushable and do not dissolve. Mr. Williams reviewed an email he handed out to the Board from a customer regarding the excellent customer service received from the Utility. The customer noted having the phones answered by an actual person within ten seconds and the timely responses he received about his inquiries. Mr. Williams said with technology today it would be easy to move to an automated answering system, but TriCo's Customer Service Department has pushed back on that because human interaction provides better service to the customers. There was supposed to be a walking tour at the conclusion of the meeting so the Board could view the progress on the WWRF construction project, but there was a significant amount of rain, and the tour has been rescheduled to next month after the meeting for those who would like to view the progress.

Mr. Williams said that last week Fishers and HSE filed a petition with the IURC to sell the sewer service within Fisher's city limits to Fishers from HSE for \$90 million. Mr. Williams said thus far just the initial petition has been filed. It does exclude HSE holdings in Noblesville and Union Township. Mr. Williams will be researching to see if the transaction will have an impact on TriCo.

petitions online and will be reviewing the service/sale agreement when it is filed. Mr. Williams said he will be reaching out to HSE and Noblesville. Mr. Hill asked if HSE has a sewer facility in Noblesville. Mr. Williams said they have sewer lines in Noblesville, but they have no treatment facility. Mrs. Poindexter said HSE has no service lines currently in Union Township. Mr. Ryerson asked how they treat the sewage if they have no plant. Mrs. Poindexter said they have an interlocal agreement like TriCo does with Carmel and Fishers treats the wastewater from HSE's system.

Ms. Merrill made mention that she is impressed that TriCo's FOG program is working so well. Mr. Williams said the new FOG software has moved everything including reporting online which is more efficient. Mr. Williams said there are a couple of facilities that might come before the Board because staff is pushing them to install larger grease interceptors and they do not wish to do so.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Finance Committee

Mrs. Merrill said the Committee did not meet.

Personnel & Benefits Committee

Mr. Kimbell said the Committee did not meet.

Capital & Construction Committee

Mr. Pittman said the Committee did not meet and made a motion to accept the Dedication of the Appaloosa Crossing Sections 1 and 2 Sanitary Sewers. Mr. Kimbell seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

Mr. Pittman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Merrill seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

The next Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

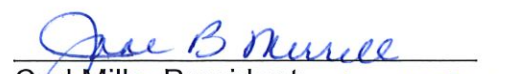
Respectfully submitted,



Andrew Williams
Utility Director

Approved:

 X as Presented
 as Amended


Michael McDonald, Secretary
Carl Mills, President *Secretary*