

Special Meeting

January 13, 2015

6:00 P.M.

The Town Council of the Town of Markle, Indiana met in the small meeting room at the Markle Town Hall Building on the 13th of January, 2015, at the hour of 6:00 p.m., in accordance with the rules of the Council, appropriate notice and applicable laws.

Town Council Members present: President Jeff Humbarger, Vice President Mark Hamilton, Clerk-Treasurer Shelley Monticue and (2) additional townspeople were also in attendance. Councilmember Rick Bower was absent.

President Humbarger called the Special Meeting to order at 6:06.

First order of business was to discuss the purpose of the Special Meeting: to discuss and potentially act upon the two quotes and their respective contracts from Leary Construction and Utility Services Group. The contracts are regarding maintenance of and repainting the two water towers.

Vice President Hamilton referred to the contracts as "Plan A" and "Plan B," but proposed a "Plan C" whereupon the Town would not have a contract. After Vice President Hamilton, Town Supervisor Rick Asher, and Water Superintendent Steve Jeffers met with a representative from Dixon Engineering, the three gentlemen believe it may be in the Town's best interest to just paint and inspect the individual towers as needed. Noting that it had been 23 years since the old tower was painted, new paint every ten years may not be necessary.

Dixon Engineering noted that since the west tower passed inspection at its construction, it probably would not need another inspection for five years, and that it could be done with a remote camera rather than draining the tank with a washout. Washouts are not needed, Mr. Jeffers continues, unless sediments are very high in the water. The Town does not have this problem with its water supply. Dixon stated that an inspection as needed will estimate around \$2,000 and would allow for an independent, third-party audit, rather than what Vice President Hamilton referred to as a "fox watching the hen house."

The problem with this plan, however, is that the east tower is due for a paint job that could range from \$75,000 for an exterior job to \$130,000 for both interior and exterior painting. It was noted that an interior paint job may not be necessary for 2-3 more years, but President Humbarger noted a potential cost savings if the contractors are only mobilized once. Mr. Asher noted that it is vital to paint the east tower soon before a sandblasting job is required. Since exterior sandblasting is no longer allowed, to tent the east tower and complete sandblasting prior to painting would add approximately \$75,000 to the exterior paint job.

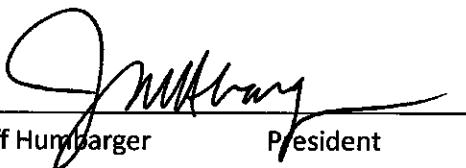
Dixon Engineering, who inspected the west tower both during and following construction, can recommend contractors. Mr. Asher further states that Dixon recommended placing a payment plan of three to four year installments in the specs for bidding the job to contractors. President Humbarger stated that while the Town does have the money, it would be nice to not deplete any Fund, but not if it will not be at the same cost as a one-time payment. Upon showing the book of specifications that Dixon would require of a contractor, Mr. Jeffers noted that Dixon's specs make the two to three page contracts presented by Leary and USG seem subpar and hard to enforce.


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Further discussion ensued regarding installing a mixer in the Spring of 2015 due to the frozen top of the east tower. The other items that were added to the requested proposals from Leary and USG are not required by OSHA and would not be installed until necessary. Vice President Hamilton requested that Clerk-Treasurer Monticue contact Richard Randol of General Insurance to ask about coverage for Town employees climbing either water tower for maintenance. Mr. Asher and Mr. Jeffers will look into having Dixon Engineering draft a proposal of costs to hire contractors to paint the east tower. While the 2015 paint job would need to come from either the Rainy Day or CEDIT funds, discussion included allocating approximately \$18,000-\$20,000 from the Water Fund annually to allow for repainting individual towers approximately every fifteen years.

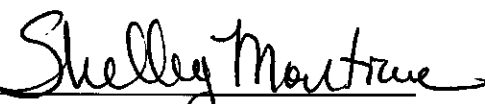
President Humbarger motioned to use Dixon Engineering in lieu of a contract from USG or Leary Construction, seconded by Vice President Hamilton. Motion carried 2-0.

With nothing else presented to the Council, the Special Meeting adjourned at 6:35 P.M.

By 
Jeff Humbarger President

By 
Mark Hamilton Vice-President

By Absent
Rick Bower Councilmember

Attest 
Shelley Monticue Clerk-Treasurer