## TOWN OF GRIFFITH SANITARY BOARD MEETING OF MAY 18, 2023

Sanitary Board Member Rick Ryfa called the May 18, 2023, meeting to order at 1:33p.m. at the Griffith Town Hall 111 N. Broad Street, Griffith, Indiana.

## Those in Attendance

George Jerome

Sanitary Board Vice President

Jim Hennes

Sanitary Board Member

Rick Ryfa

Sanitary Board President

Also in Attendance:

Jake Dammarell

BF&S

Approval of Minutes:

Sanitary Board Vice President George Jerome motion to approve

the April 20, 2023, minutes. Sanitary Board President Rick Ryfa

seconded the motion. All in Favor

Bills and Expenditures:

Sanitary Vice President George Jerome motion to approve claims

totaling \$147,329.83. Sanitary Board President Rick Ryfa

seconded the motion. All in Favor.

Old Business:

Sanitary President Rick Ryfa gave updates on the consent decree; Erica Powers has been negotiating with Hammond and speaking

with the DOJ. The DOJ wants us to get this agreement with

Hammond executed, we already have a consent decree they want us to go to 15.5 million gallons, Hammond said they can take 8.5 in December with their existing set up and then they will build the new facility then that will allow us to get to 15.5, legally per court order we have to have 15.5 but hope to negotiate and possibly

get that reduced. Griffith has the lowest SSO currently.

Commission President Rick stated we are hoping that if we don't need 15.5, we could possibly sell what we don't use back to Hammond or another Town. This will cost about \$4 Million

dollars that we are going to bond for. In the last full year of actual billings from Hammond Sanitary was \$798,000 the projected cost for 2023 with the rate increase is going up to \$1.731 million dollars. The flow in 2021 which was \$798,000 million plus dollars was 729 million gallons, the flow projected for 2023 is 878 million

gallons at the charge of \$1.731 million is a huge increase. Commission President Rick Ryfa stated we are going to hopefully have a public hearing June 6th Council Meeting to present the new rate increase, someone who is using 4000 gallons a month currently would be paying \$21.25 under the new rates it would be \$39.30, then in 2025 it would bump up to \$41.33. Sanitary Board Vice President George Jerome motion to have Reedy Financial and our engineers look at the option to reduce the fees charged for larger meters in residential homes only, Commission President Rick Ryfa seconded the motion. All in Favor.

**Public Comment:** 

None.

The meeting closed at 2:06 p.m.

Jim Hennes, Member

Rick Ryfa, Preside

George Jerome, Vice President

Michelle Sims, Recording Secretary