

A special called meeting of the Kirklin Town Council was held on Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at Kirklin Town Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce Ordinance No. 2024-9-3 "An Ordinance Amending the Rates and Charges for the Sewer Works Utility".

Town Council Members in attendance were: Walt Minnick, Melinda Jobe, Craig Hudzinski, and Jerry Faucett. Brent Stetler was absent.

Also present: Jay Moore, Steve Brock, & Tara Walker.

The meeting was opened by Melinda Jobe.

Steve Brock, rate consultant from Therber, Brock & Assoc., gave an overview of the wastewater project. He stated that the original project was projected to cost around \$5,000,000.00 but that the cost was too high. He said that while the Town chose to do a smaller project now, the larger project will still be needed at some point. The reason for the project is to alleviate some of the inflow and infiltration (I & I) that is allowing too much storm water to infiltrate the sanitary sewer infrastructure and is ending up out at the wastewater plant, which is only designed and permitted to treat 200,000 gallons of sewage per day. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management is requiring the Town to fix its I & I issues or face fines and a potential sewer ban. The total cost of the project is \$1,857,000.00, which includes the \$450,000.00 payoff of the Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) the Town took out earlier in the year, plus its interest. The BAN was used to pay non-construction costs, such as the preliminary engineering report and smoke testing to identify problem areas in the system, among other soft costs. The Town has a \$700,000.00 OCRA grant bringing the Town's responsibility down to \$1,157,000.00. The bond will be wrapped around existing bond debt. This will be paid using a State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan for a term of 35 years. It also necessitates a sewer rate increase of 17.1% to cover the payments on this loan. Pre-loan closing is scheduled for October 10, 2024 and loan closing is scheduled for October 25, 2024. The first payment of the bond will be November 2024. Melinda Jobe read Ord. #2024-9-3. After no further discussion, Jerry Faucett made a motion to approve the first reading of Ord. #2024-9-3. The motion was supported by Walt Minnick and it carried with a unanimous vote of the council members present. A public hearing is scheduled for October 7, 2024 at 7:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

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Melinda Jobe, Council President