

SOUTH WHITLEY TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION

TOWN HALL BOARD ROOM, 118 E FRONT ST. SOUTH WHITLEY, IN 46787

MAY 10TH 2016 5:30 P.M.

Call to order by President Bill Boggs at 5:30 P.M.

Councilman Cokl stated that Lou with Triad and Lori Shipman, are here to all work together and throw out ideas as to what we want to fix the drinking water. Randy said he had sent Lori an e mail about the used equipment and we want to figure that in and get that going if it's possible to include that in the grant. Shipman said OCRA is not going to want you to purchase used equipment with the grant money, if it's something you would want to purchase out of pocket ahead of time you could maybe use that as a demonstration to OCRA that we have invested in this and this is what we could afford to do, but there is a bigger issue we need to address. President Boggs asked what if we would purchase the used equipment ourselves and use the grant money to build the buildings to put that equipment in. Lou said you could do that assuming when OCRA gets onboard, it's how you fund the rest of it. He did contact SRF and they will only participate if there is one point of responsibility for moving equipment and etc. when we bid the projects for contractors. Dealing with Davis Beacon on wages instead of just hiring of someone in the limits would change the huge savings drastically. Talked about storing the equipment and parts. Lori stated it is a big step to pursue grant funding and that she will be meeting with the regional representative from OCRA probably week of the May 23rd to talk and see how many other people they are talking to about drinking water projects to feel her out. In the past there have been scenarios where OCRA will set aside this amount of money for drinking water projects and this amount for main street projects and this much for waste water, and a couple of years ago they did not use all of their money so when they get down to October and their funding cycles they said okay these people were the top projects and they just missed the cut off so they let those people come in after to a special round just to use up all their funding it's not a guarantee that would happen every year. It is her understanding that OCRA is having two rounds of funding for next year if you didn't get in this fall you could turn around and apply again next year. Schedule is coming up and letters of intent are opening on Monday, June 20th until Friday, August 19th you will have to have your letter of intent submitted and she brought all the information with her tonight. Friday, August 26th they will issue letters saying we got your letter of intent and we're going to come out and do a site visit on August 29th thru September 22nd and then any outstanding documents we may have that they request on the site visit will be due on the 30th of September and full application due by October 14th, they will make award announcements on December 1st with the idea they would have grant agreement issued by January 6th. President Boggs stated so that means we need to make a decision on what we want today because by that time Fort Wayne Equipment will no longer be available. Lou said the biggest piece is if we determine we're going to do a plant and that we are going to do all the required water mains and leave meters out for now it would be 1.9 million including Lori's grant administration would qualify for \$550,000, the issue is how are we going to finance the rest of the money and I've talked about SRF program before, could get a 20 year loan for 2% and easily could convert water system report that was done under their required format for the public hearing then get all that stuff moving along, they are good to work with because if they know your trying to apply with OCRA in this fall round we can work on getting a letter of commitment to go along with the other forms. President Boggs stated the interest in the grant would

be getting brand new equipment with warranties and Steve Carter's figures show it would be less cost to customers. Lou stated that if you have complaints thru out the town, that they should save a sample of water and take a picture to show the quality and also have letters from customers to provide with the forms when applying for the grant. Lori stated the more proof we can show will have an impact, the more local match money you can bring to the table the more you will score and financial help you can show you need. Any one at the state level with the drinking water that can support with documentation with help also stating that you looked into buying used equipment and it was going to be higher expense, they want to see that you have been planning and been studying this for some time. Randy asked if we could use some of the information that American Water brought to them and use Lori said sure. Lori asked the Council that when American Water was going thru this process of testing and etc. did they say they would at a later date come back and buy but at a lower price? The council said they didn't really get into that we just didn't agree to sell our water at this time. For 2016 for round one drinking water letters of intent opened on Feb. 29th. Lou stated basically where the town is at the rate with SRF would be around 2%. Lou wanted to talk with Ron to see if he tracks the water loss and if we could make a case that we are losing too much water and think we could verbalize that it is coming in at these places where we are going to put water mains in and could possibly get rate lowered based on that. Lou stated if this is the decision they are going to make we need to start it tonight. Because with a grant you have to have a letter of commitment on other financing for money with SRF and he has material with him tonight to start with the application to SRF, Lou has prepared one and ready to be signed if that is their decision in the regular meeting and turn it in then they will go thru a preplanning conference with you, most recently it has been over the phone instead of driving up here. They will want to hear from one of the council as to what is your story, situation of your town and they will give an overview of the process. If decision is made tonight, tomorrow morning Dee and I will start converting the water plan that was already done to a preliminary engineering report. Once the report is done they have to issue notices and a public hearing where he would come and present it to the public and documents would be signed and environmental piece that goes with it and that does take some time getting approved. Lou said this is what we do every day and will guide us thru this, they will even publish notification of public hearing and things they need, Lori talked about leaving the USDA program for the waste water plant for down the road instead of this project. Which could be about 8 years away. Kent said they received the long term plan and meeting with DLZ this week and then it has to be approved by IDEM. As a town you can have two grants open, at this time so could pursue the waste water grant also. We will look at the Town Budget to know why these are balances in Budget and what they are intended for. The long term control plan with IDEM will have to know where we stand and the agreed order will be considered also. All things will be considered and also help us get the grant money knowing the financial status.

Facade Grants, Lori Starkey and Leeann Minear – 25,000 allocated for the 2016 year, each business can receive up to 5,000 per project in one application. She stated that Dickmeyer Automotive are applying and Trimmer's is interested. Dickmeyer's application process to board is windows and siding, they have packet here for board and will explain what their intentions are and why. Leann just asked council if anyone had any questions about the application before the regular meeting when Dickmeyer's come in front of the council for approval. No questions were asked.

President Boggs asked if there were any Lineman applications yet and there were no applications as of now.

Motion to adjourn meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM was made by President Boggs and seconded by Councilman Cokl and carried by unanimous.

Bill Boggs

Council President, Bill Boggs

Les Hoffman

Councilman, Les Hoffman

Randy Cokl

Councilman, Randy Cokl

ATTEST

Janet Howard

Clerk-Treasurer, Janet Howard