

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
October 14, 2013**

The Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Rensselaer met in regular session in Council Chambers of City Hall on October 14, 2013. Board President Stephen Wood called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Answering roll call were: President Stephen Wood; Secretary Frieda Bretzinger; Board Members Scott Barton and Ernest Watson, Jr.; Police Chief Jeff Phillips; Street Supt. Mike Murphy; Project Coordinator Jerry Lockridge.

Also in attendance were: Office Manager Heather Smart.

The minutes of the September 9, 2013 regular board meeting were presented and approved upon a motion by Barton, second by Watson.

Clark-Dietz Invoice for WTP Upgrade: Lockridge said the invoice is in the amount of \$1,898.96 and this billing is for the O & M Manuals, drafting as-built drawings and coordinating with Walsh on final completion. The biggest problem right now is the de-humidification system. There was a motion by Watson, second by Barton, to approve the invoice for payment. The motion passed unanimously.

Request for Waivers: There was a written request from Randall and Trudy Garrison for a waiver of the environmental fee. In their statement they asked to not pay the environmental fee since they did not receive any services associated with the fee. They also asked for a credit of \$136.00 to their gas bill, the amount they've paid in environmental fees since it started. Lockridge said the environmental fee has been around for a couple of years. This fee is used to help with leaf pick up and yard waste pick up, snow removal, recycling center operation and street sweeping. People outside of the city limits that do not receive curbside recycling can bring recycling to the center. Also street sweeping and snow removal are not just for the citizens but for others that come in to the city for business. Smart said the previous mayor waived the environmental fee for one person because that person was receiving two utility bills for one location. There was a motion by Barton, second by Watson, to deny the request.

The second request comes from Frieda Bretzinger on behalf of the City of Rensselaer. The city is billed for street lights and water hydrant rent. She didn't feel the city should be charged an environmental fee for each of these nine billings. These are provided for public safety. As of January 1 it will amount to \$27 per month and though it's not a huge amount, it will add up. This is also paid from the Public Works and Safety budget. Lockridge asked if this is receipted back to the city and Bretzinger said it would be receipted back to General Fund. There was a motion by Barton, second by Wood, to approve the request for waiver. The motion passed unanimously.

Phillips said they've been testing for a new officer. He would like to set a Board of Works meeting on November 5th to interview officer applicants beginning at 3:00 p.m. and then hire at the November 12th regular meeting.

There being nothing more to come before the board, there was a motion by Wood, second by Barton, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Stephen A. Wood, President

ATTEST:

Frieda Bretzinger, Secretary