

TOWN OF ADVANCE
SPECIAL MEETING – MINUTES

LOCATION: TOWN HALL

August 2, 2021

7:00 PM

112 N. Main – P. O. Box 67 Advance, IN 46102 Phone: (765) 676-6611 – Fax (765) 676-6696

Email: advanceCT@townofadvance.com

Council Members: Melody Fry, Dale Thompson, Amanda Lyles and Jim Caldwell

Clerk Treasurer – Shari Johnson

Marshall: Brad Thomas

President Fry called the Meeting to order at 19:02

Pledge

Attendees: Gary Ladd, Keith Cromwell, Jeff Hopper, Krista Cromwell, Gerry Harstine (SERVline), and Joe Watts

Council Members: Amanda Lyles, Dale Thompson and Jim Caldwell

Clerk-Treasurer: Shari Johnson

Town Engineer, Gary Ladd opened BIDS for the CCMG for East Wall Street paving and sidewalk work.

BIDS were received from Milestone Contractors, LP, Reith-Riley Construction Co., INC., Midwest Paving LLC. And Baumgartner Asphalt Services.

Milestone's documents were in order and bid was \$147,306.00 with a bid alternate on millings of \$3235.00 for a total BID of \$150,541.00

Midwest Paving had all forms in order with a base bid of \$123,768.00 with no charge to add millings.

Baumgartner Asphalt Services documents were in order. The base bid was \$116,698.25 with an alternate bid for millings of \$5210.00 for a total bid of \$121,908.25.

Reith-Riley's forms were in order and the bid for project was \$144,698.00 with an alternate deduct of \$1000.00.

Councilwoman Lyles made a motion to take bids under advisement and approve at the August 9, 2021 meeting. Councilman Thompson seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Gerry Harstine with SERVline spoke about the leak protection program and benefits of this program, stating 65% of Americans cannot afford a \$500.00 emergency and this program assists both the resident and the town. There are different levels of coverage and are for water and sewer. Councilman Caldwell stated that the town has lost a lot of revenue by forgiving leak bills.

Mr. Harstine stated that the program typically has a 97% participation rate and feel the rates are a small portion to pay for protection.

Discussion ensued regarding local instances. Mr. Hopper questioned if the policy would cover repairs and Councilman Caldwell stated that was a separate coverage.

A marketing brochure would be sent to town to send to residents. The calendar for leaks would be a 12 month program. Rates are reviewed by SERVline every year and determine if rates could be lowered. Every person has the option to opt out of the program.

CT stated that the town would have an assigned representative and most leaks come from a leaking toilet. She questioned about approved contractors and Mr. Harstine stated that SERVline has a group of vetted vendors so there is no price gouging.

Discussion ensued regarding renters, and would they be required to carry this insurance and whose responsibility would the leak fall to? Councilman Caldwell stated that the use would fall to the renter to pay. There is also insurance for external and internal repair.

CT Johnson stated that the Town's current policy only covered for one month and a leak is usually discovered into the second month which would be two months and SERVline would cover up to two months of coverage.

Keith Cromwell questioned what an average bill was? CT stated an average bill was \$250.00-\$300.00.

If a resident chooses to opt out, a document will need to be signed confirming this decision. In addition, if the Town chooses to go with this program, a 5-8 week lead time would be needed to get the program active.

Councilwoman Lyles stated she would like to make sure our contractors would be utilized to repair the leaks. Mr. Harstine stated that if a contractor is vetted, they could be used for other cities/towns too.

CT stated she would send a separate letter to resident because if they see it's from the town, they might not open the letter.

The town decides the limits of coverage and residents have the choice to opt out and the coverage must be the same for all.

CT Johnson requested some kind of mailable material could be sent to her to forward to residents. Mr. Harstine stated the business is here to help and the utility is not responsible for the bills and SERVline is low cost solution.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Lyles seconded. All in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 19:46.

X

Clerk Treasurer



X Melody Fry

President