

Special Council Meeting

July 25th, 2025

9:00 a.m. (EST)

Present were President Tim McCarthy, Nancy Thill, and Mike Mumper. Also present were Rick Reitz Water Superintendent, Anne Heywood Clerk, Tracey McCay Treasurer and 1 resident was present. Tim McCarthy excused Mike Botelho and Brian Cassidy.

The purpose for the meeting was to engage in a new contract with NIES Engineering for Professional Design Engineering Service for the Water Main Projects included in FY 24 Community Project Grant for \$620,000. This project would include Creek Drive Water Main, Bidding Assistance, Lake Shore Drive Water Main for the design and bidding assistance. The cost for the engineer would be \$24,000.

The Water Board made a recommendation to the Council to terminate the current engineer which is Merritt Engineering. Tim McCarthy made a motion to terminate Merritt Engineering; Mike Mumper seconded the motion; There was some discussion; all were in favor.

Tim McCarthy will have the Village Attorney Sara Senica put together a termination letter sent certified mail to Merritt Engineering.

Mike Mumper stated that the new contract from NIES Engineering has been given to the Attorney Sara Senica to review.

NIES Engineering proposal is to present two water main replacement projects included in the Michiana's FY 24 Community Project Grant. Each of these projects would replace existing 4-inch cast iron water mains with new 6-inch PVC water mains to increase reliability, water quality and fire protection. The Creek Drive Project which was previously designed by others would include 3 fire hydrants and approximately 1150 LF of new water main from Chickagami Trail to Grand Beach Road. The Lake Shore Drive Project would include 1 fire hydrant and approximately 600 LF of new water main from Michiana Drive heading northeast. The Village (1) has completed the SHPO review process for both projects, (2) has a current, approved EGLE construction permit for the Creek Drive project, and (3) would like to receive bids by early September in order to commence construction this fall.

For the Creek Drive Project, NIES design engineering services are limited to assistance during the bid process, but would assist the Village in its effort to re-bid the work product owned by the Village that was previously designed and bid by others. For the Lake Shore Drive Project, NIES will have their design engineering services include field survey work, preparation of plans, specifications suitable for competitive bidding, EGLE permitting and assistance during the bid process.

Tim McCarthy made a motion to move forward with NIES Engineering subject to review by the Village Attorney and not exceed \$24,000; Nancy Thill seconded the motion a roll call vote was taken; 3 ayes and 0 nays; motion approved.

Public Comment – No

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m. EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Heywood/Clerk

