

March 28, 2022, 7:00 P.M.

The Town Council of the Town of Glenwood met in the Town Hall, on the 28th day of March, 2022, at the hour of 7:00 P.M. for a public hearing on the matter of filing an application with the USDA Rural Development, Muncie Office in early March, 2022. The purpose of this application is to seek funding for needed Drinking Water infrastructure evaluation to include Preliminary Engineering Report and an Environmental Review.

Dennis Richardson, Council President, opened the public hearing. Other Council Members in attendance were Jo Temple, Council Vice President, and David Miller, Council Member. Mary Richardson, Clerk-Treasurer, was also in attendance. An attendance sheet was provided for all in attendance.

Wayne Bailey, Commonwealth Engineers, Inc., provided a recap of the proposed project.

Council President opened the public meeting and introduced Wayne Bailey of Commonwealth Engineers.

Mr. Bailey informed all present that the meeting is to obtain comments on the Town's intentions to apply for a Preliminary Planning Grant (PPG) from the USDA Rural Development Program. Mr. Bailey explained that the Planning will include evaluation of the Drinking Water Infrastructure as well as the evaluation of the operations. Several alternatives will be developed with the Town's participation, including the possibility of doing nothing. The cost of the project, which is expected to take about 4 months, is \$40,000 with the Grant to cover \$30,000.

One citizen commented that some work was done on the Drinking Water about 4 years ago, and nothing improved. Mr. Bailey responded that the approach we are taking this time with the town's continued involvement, will make sure the actual problems are addressed.

George Stamm, Glenwood resident, asked several questions regarding the cost and purpose of the grant. Responses to the questions were as follows:

- The project is expected to take 90 to 120 days.
- The cost of the study is \$40,000 of which \$10,000 may be paid from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). However, the Town of Glenwood may qualify for a 100% grant.
- The project is subject to obtaining the USDA grant.
- USDA does not require bids for this study.

Anna Miller, Glenwood resident, asked what the process will be after the study is completed. The response was that Commonwealth will discuss the results with the Town Council and provide recommendations of needed improvements including costs and time. For major improvements, Commonwealth will help the Town look for funding, probably through USDA and the State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF).

David Miller commented that the Town recently completed a major water project with the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) and SRF funding. The project resulted in a water rate increase that was implemented in two phases. That project was supposed to fix water issues but there are still water quality concerns. There was discussion that the project did address many infrastructure issues but there are still operational processes that need to be assessed. The proposed project will assess the operational process.

Mr. Bailey asked if anyone had other comments. Hearing none, Council President closed the Public Meeting portion of the Board Meeting. No other business was discussed and a motion was made by Jo Temple and seconded by David Miller to adjourn the meeting. Approval was unanimous.

Mary M. Richardson, Clerk-Treasurer