



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

DAWN M. JONES, CITY CLERK

UTILITIES

OCTOBER 9, 2023, 5:10 P.M.

Committee Members Present:

Henry Davis Jr., Eli Wax, Troy Warner, Lori Hamann

Presenters:

Eric Horvath

Agenda:

Lead Service Lines Update

Members marked with an asterisk (*) are present digitally

Please note the attached link for the meeting recording:

<https://docs.southbendin.gov/WebLink/browse.aspx?dbid=0&mediaid=371539>

Committee Chair Henry Davis Jr. called to order the Utilities Committee meeting at 5:10 p.m.

Lead Service Lines Update

Eric Horvath, Director, Growth and Opportunity with offices on the fourteenth (14th) floor of the County-City building, noted that in the 80s lead pipes were banned. For anything built after that date, the materials could not be used. However, prior to that, it was frequently used. In 1991, there was a lead and copper rule put in place, further decreasing the use of these materials. There was a revision in 2021 that set a new trigger level that was more stringent. Trigger and action levels require the community and public water system to do some treatment, modifications, and education.

The South Bend infrastructure has numerous wells that are 200 feet in the ground. The water is treated at each well location. All of this occurs without lead. When it gets to private lines, there is opportunity for exposure. The water is very hard, which decreases the chance of pulling lead from the pipes. South Bend has been below the trigger point. There is a map which indicates where there is or could be lead service lines. Pot holing is being done to identify where there is the possibility of lead pipes. A survey will be issued to home owners in November. There are scratch and magnet tests that can be done. For pipes that are above the trigger level, there is \$50,000 in 2024 to provide filters to homeowners. There is no requirement for the City to replace lead service lines.

Joe Piertrzak, Edgewater Drive, South Bend, IN 46601, noted that his street was dug up 40 years ago and lead lines were exposed. He put new lines in his home. Currently, the lead testing is coming back too high. He asked who should be responsible, as he has replaced all his lines.

Eric Horvath noted that lines should be flushed at the start of the day for 30 seconds. He suggested that the lines be tested via the City. He also noted that the service lines, which is likely where the lead is, are the home owner's responsibility. This should be covered by insurance.



With no further business, Committee Chair Davis adjourned the Utilities Committee meeting at 5:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Henry Davis Jr., Committee Chair

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