

**BOARD OF WORKS  
WASTEWATER UTILITY  
FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010  
8:00 A.M.**

Mayor James Fleck – Present  
Deputy Clerk Treasurer Sally Wherry – Present  
Attorney Marcia McNagny – Present  
Walter Crowder – Present  
Roger Seymoure – Present

The Columbia City Board of Works met in regular session specifically with the Wastewater Department. Mayor Fleck presiding.

**MINUTES** Motion was made by Seymoure to approve an overview of the February 12, 2010 meeting minutes as amended regarding lift station costs, Mayor Fleck second the motion, Seymoure and Mayor Fleck voted aye, Crowder abstained.

Motion was made by Seymoure to approve an overview of the February 19, 2010 meeting minutes as amended concerning an incorrect word in the ash tree discussion, Crowder second the motion, all voted aye.

**PAY REQUEST – BURGESS & NIPLE: INVOICE 378991 – LTCP UPDATE - \$25,740**

Jeff Walker explained the request was regarding the Long Term Control Plan. He stated it was required through IDEM to be updated every 5 years and we were currently in that period. He advised everything was in order and recommended payment in the sum of \$25,740.00.

Motion was made by Mayor Fleck to approve payment of Invoice 378991 to Burgess & Niple in the amount of \$25,740.00, Seymoure second the motion, all voted aye.

**PAY REQUEST – BONAR GROUP – INVOICE 45661 – STORMWATER OUTFALLS - \$420.03**

Jeff Walker explained this request regarding stormwater outfalls was essentially for final design clean up and getting ready to bid the project out. He explained since we were improving outfalls in two separate waterways the DNR needed two separate applications along with two separate checks. He stated they had to follow up with a second permit application with the DNR. He advised they were about 80% into the project contract completion. He stated they were anticipating the project would come in under \$50,000 for all 5 outfall locations.

Roger Seymoure confirmed the funding would come out of the storm water utility. Jeff advised it would be 100% funded by storm water.

Motion was made by Seymoure to approve Invoice 45661 to Bonar Group in the amount of \$420.03 as recommended by Jeff Walker, Crowder second the motion, all voted aye.

**PAY REQUEST – BONAR GROUP – INVOICE 45660 – LIFT STATION REPLACEMENT - \$4,710.00**

Mike Cook reported they received the final plans and also the

project manual for the two lift stations. He advised he reviewed the documents and saw one typo but other than that did not see anything wrong. He stated the application for the construction permit was signed and on its way back to Bonar to add the appropriate materials and then they would send it on to IDEM for their approval.

Motion was made by Mayor Fleck to pay Bonar Group for Invoice 45660 in the sum of \$4,710.00 as recommended by Mike Cook and Jeff Walker, Seymoure second the motion, all voted aye.

**LB FOSTER – SEWER HOOK UP** Mayor Fleck introduced John Lefever, representative to the Economic Development Corporation, who has been working with the company with respect to their request to hook into our sewer.

John Lefever reported he, Jeff Walker and Marcia McNagny briefly discussed the sewer line out there particularly the force main and whether or not an additional tap should be permitted. He advised it was his understanding that the recommendation from the engineering groups was that not happen and there really should have not been any taps along that force main because of the potential of weakening that main. He commented that precedence has been set in that there are already 5 taps on that main, 2 commercial and 3 residential. He stated LB Foster potentially does have an alternative in that they could connect to a lift station but would be approximately \$40,000 in additional costs. He advised the question becomes who really needs to bear that cost or should it be a shared cost. He stated the City would get revenue from LB Foster because of sewage discharge into the system and County would get revenue because it was in the TIF district but LB Foster certainly has some responsibility. He felt the issue was broader than just helping LB Foster in that the City, from the standpoint that if it is not in the best interest to hook into the force main, needed to draw the line now and say errors have been made in the past and it was time to stop.

Mayor Fleck confirmed they needed a decision. Mr. Lefever advised they did because they needed to know how to move forward.

Jim Breckler with Engineering Resources was present on behalf of LB Foster. He explained LB Foster was a rail storage and handling company who would be taking rails from SDI and cutting them to length and shipping them out by truck or rail. He reported they purchased land on the north side of the new SDI rail building. He stated they would like to put in two temporary office trailers and a storage container and would like to have sanitary sewer service to those trailers. He advised the flows would be extremely low at 5 gpm. He explained that would be future demand flow as well if they would ever put up an office. He reviewed a map of where they would potentially like to tap in. He explained because they do not make pumps small enough to really pump 5 gpm they would be adding about 35 gpm. He reviewed an alternate route if they could not tap into the force main along US 30 which would be to tap into an existing lift station on CR 700 E. He explained the route would be about 5 times longer and involved conflicts with existing utilities but it could be done. He stated the cost estimate to hook into the force main as shown was around \$12,000 and for the alternate route was around \$45,000. He advised LB Foster was willing to sign a release of liability for any impacts to their line which occurs due to a faulty connection and may even be willing to sign a release of liability for any damages to the

existing force main. He stated they did not see adverse impacts on the existing lift station but realized there was an issue of precedence setting.

Jeff Walker asked Mr. Breckler to explain their coordination efforts with our engineering firm Donohue & Associates. Mr. Breckler reported they contacted Donohue & Associates to get their calculations on the lift station design. He advised they used their calculations to design their pump accordingly so that it could pump into the force main.

Walt Crowder questioned with the easement requirements, if it was obtained, if it would become a public utility easement. Jeff Walker advised it would be private. Mr. Breckler thought it would be an agreement with SDI but had not investigated the legal side of it. Walt Crowder advised he was trying to clarify the ownership of that easement.

Mr. Breckler thought the way LB Foster was looking at it was that there have been connections allowed in the past and it would be a very small connection. He stated it was probably not the absolutely best scenario but if it was not going to adversely affect the force main did it really justify the added cost to go to the lift station.

Walt Crowder questioned if there was a bigger picture of the future they needed to consider, was there anything else that would potentially discharge to the lift station. Mr. Breckler advised the lift station was currently designed to pump somewhere between 500 – 600 gpm but it was designed to be able to handle up to 1200 gpm.

Mike Cook advised the purpose of the force main was to improve the operation of our lift station and the problems we were having and was not meant for use by anyone else.

Mayor Fleck explained at least one maybe more of the residential units tapped into the force main were done at the request of the County Health Officer because of the side of the road the homes were on. He advised the residents were concerned that they had to tap into the main.

Attorney McNagny advised if the City did allow connection to the force main they would need to check into permit requirements through IDEM.

Mr. Lefever suggested taking a look at the force main area and determining from a residential stand point if the County Health Officer was correct in requiring hook ups into that force main, was it an actual ordinance or state law. He also questioned if it was in the best interest of the City and the wastewater facility to allow additional taps. Attorney McNagny advised it was not required and was at the City's discretion. She stated she would not look at precedence as a factor because it was at the City's discretion. She felt when they deal with liability issues it would be much more understood by an industry than perhaps by a residence as to what a backup might mean to them.

Walt Crowder confirmed with Mike Cook that the intent of the design was to be a point to point service high pressure line to support the wells. Mike Cook explained the new force main was put in because of the problems they were having at the lift station. Walt confirmed the intent was to go from lift station to lift station. Mike advised that was correct. Mayor Fleck felt that

was important information but in terms of the 5 exceptions he did not think it was until this application that it was truly understood what the risks were in tapping into that force main.

Roger Seymoure understood the concerns of a residence tapping into the force main that the backup could be devastating but questioned if there were concerns for the force main itself in that the more you tap into it the weaker it gets. He questioned if that would be true. Walt Crowder felt it logically made sense. Mayor Fleck advised the engineering firm was not asked to answer that question.

Walt Crowder felt it was time to make the decision that we were done and to have a follow up meeting concerning the 5 people that were tapped in. He felt long term big picture staying away from the high pressure and putting in an additional line by far was a long term better solution.

Roger Seymoure felt they needed to be consistent from this point forward and agreed this might be the time to draw the line.

Mr. Breckler questioned if the Board would be willing to consider allowing LB Foster to talk with Paul Elling at Donohue & Associates to address all the concerns so that he would feel comfortable as the designer of the force main. Mayor Fleck advised he would not. He stated it was not about LB Foster but the future of hook ups to the main.

Mr. Breckler mentioned it was likely that LB Foster could tie into the force main tap that was made for Dynamic Composites therefore not needing to tap the 10" force main. Jeff Walker advised that was his initial recommendation but it came back as a 'no' when the development was first handed to the City. He was unsure if Dynamic Composites said 'no' but that would be his preferred way of doing it. Mr. Breckler advised he would need to coordinate with SDI and Dynamic Composites. Jeff Walker advised the only issue internally with us would be that we would need to be able to pull apart what their actual discharge for billing purposes. Mr. Breckler advised they would have a water meter which would establish the sewage. Roger Seymoure questioned if that would be private. Jeff Walker advised it would be and would be no different from Beamer's and the gas station on the other side of county line road. Mr. Breckler felt it might be the same costs as what they were proposing. Walt Crowder confirmed it would all become owner provided equipment as well as maintenance.

Walt Crowder questioned if they decide to do private if the City still needs to work through Economic Development for an alternative plan or would we be on hold until we hear back. John Lefever felt the Board needed to make a decision on what to do with the force main. He stated from an Economic Development standpoint there was potentially 90 acres that could be developed on the south side of the railroad tracks and he has made the County fully aware that wastewater needs to be dealt with as a primary issue for the entire 90 acres.

Walt Crowder questioned Attorney McNagny if they needed to document as they go through this and acknowledge with the County what we were doing including the situation on old 30 and forcing connection. Attorney McNagny felt Scott Wagner needed to be notified that her review of the statute, the code and IDEM's comments to her where that it was not a forced situation and was totally at the City's discretion. Walt advised it was his understanding in working through

the issues from a process stand point it should come back to Board of Works for approval and not based upon a single individual. Attorney McNagny advised that was correct. She stated she would also get a copy of her legal analysis to Mr. Lefever to have from an insurance perspective as an understanding that we could do it and that IDEM had no prohibition against it.

Roger Seymoure questioned if there could be cases where if a resident's sewer system fails that for whatever reason they would have to hook up. Attorney McNagny advised the City may force them to but them coming to us or the Health Department saying that, appears not to be the case. Roger confirmed there was no state law that would force them to have to hook up. Attorney McNagny advised she was not finding it or seeing where that was the way it worked.

Motion was made by Mayor Fleck that they deny the request to tap into the force main by LB Foster, Seymoure second the motion, all voted aye.

**PAY REQUEST – BONAR GROUP – INVOICE 45662 – JEFFREY DRIVE & HOLDEN ROAD STORM WATER IMPROVEMENT - \$3,577.69** Jeff Walker explained this was for the Jeffrey Drive Holden Road area. He stated the project at the time of billing was about 85% complete and they were pretty much ready to bid the project out. He advised Kelly Cearbaugh was working on a letter to the property owners. He advised everything was in order and recommended the Board act favorably in the sum of \$3,577.69.

Motion was made by Crowder to accept Jeff Walker's recommendation for Invoice 45662 to Bonar Group in the amount of \$3,577.69, Seymoure second the motion, all voted aye.

**PAY REQUEST – BURGESS & NIPLE – INVOICE 383754 – LTCP UPDATE - \$9,945.00** Jeff Walker explained they were at about 61% on the Long Term Control Plan. He stated there were several sections to the LTCP and all but one section needed to be updated for IDEM. He stated everything was in order and recommended the Board approve the request for \$9,945.00.

Motion was made by Seymoure to approve payment to Burgess & Niple for Invoice 383754 for \$9,945.00 as recommended by Jeff Walker, Crowder second the motion, all voted aye.

**PARKVIEW WHITLEY HOSPITAL – COMPLIANCE WITH GREASE TRAP ORDINANCE** Mike Cook provided a recommendation to the Board concerning compliance with the ordinance. He advised the plumbing had not been installed yet so to make the change would not interfere with the structure or setting of the wall sleeves. He stated the only design change he could see was the way the piping may be routed. He advised they have changed the original location of where the grease trap was going to be and put it closer to the kitchen area.

Roger Seymoure confirmed they were basically requesting that the water from the dishwasher bypass the grease trap. Mike Cook advised that was correct but in the ordinance it was written that garbage disposals and dishwashers go to the grease trap.

Roger Seymoure confirmed the risk was that it would mess up their lift station or beyond that it gets into our system. Mike Cook advised that was correct. He stated if they run it to their lift station they are going to have problems but then we take the chance of it pumping out of theirs

into ours. Roger questioned if there was a reason why they would have engineered it the way they did. Mike Cook felt it was probably based on Indiana Plumbing Code.

Walt Crowder advised he was comfortable supporting the ordinance and the recommendation.

Attorney McNagny noted that the ordinance was not designed to grandfather in anyone.

Motion was made by Mayor Fleck to deny the request and require Parkview Whitley Hospital to comply with the grease trap ordinance, Seymoure second the motion, all voted aye.

**DEPARTMENT REPORT** Mike Cook questioned in looking back at the LB Foster issue if they needed to amend the current ordinance. Attorney McNagny did not feel they would because the code already says it is in the City's discretion. Jeff Walker thought they would need to formally notify Scott Wagner and additionally send out a letter annually to the 5 currently connected to have their plumber inspect their valves. Walt Crowder requested to have a follow up meeting to discuss those 5 connected.

Mike Cook advised he had a company coming in to demo a power washer unit. He reported their overhead cranes on the UV and in the Headworks Building were going to be inspected for any OSHA violations.

Walt Crowder questioned Mayor Fleck if he was ready to have Mike submit the proposals for the pending work. Mayor Fleck felt they needed to know what they were. Walt explained this was in reference to the list of things that still needed to be done. Mayor Fleck advised we would still need to run it by SRF. Jeff Walker advised he had not discussed it at all with them to see if they would be open or receptive to using the balance. He advised we would need an amended PER and recommended having Donohue do it since they did our first PER and would have the valued engineering portion readily at hand. Mayor Fleck felt it would be better if we could have an estimate of what the addition would be. Jeff advised SRF would want to know a ballpark budget and felt they could get pretty close.

Mayor Fleck discussed the balance of money available through SRF and all the different projects it could possibly be used for including the CF Gomma clean up and the valued engineering items.

Discussion was held regarding Holden Pond and the watershed area and the challenges involved.

**OSHA SAFETY TRAINING** Mayor Fleck reported it was requested of him to start pursuing the OSHA training. He advised it was brought to our attention that Cincinnati Insurance Company provides the services called for. Jeff Walker advised the Electric Utility was the only department that has monthly IMEA training.

Roger Seymoure felt as an insurance company it would be in their best interest to provide that safety training. Jeff Walker advised they committed to working with us it was just a matter of coordinating it.

**AMERICAN PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION MEETING** Mayor Fleck reported he attended an APPA meeting. He explained the power we receive from IMPA is 95% carbon based fuel and stated the issue nationally is the elimination of carbon based fuel. He advised the implications of that is if legislation imposes severe mandates on the elimination of carbon based fuels in order to be in compliance the actual amount of power available to us will be reduced significantly and the cost will double or triple.

**BILLS** Motion was made by Seymoure to approve the bills dated February 26, 2010 in the amount of \$856,333.41, Crowder second the motion, all voted aye.

Sally Wherry reported the sewage and storm water increase would be on the utility bill due March 20. This increase was to help fund the South Chauncey Street project.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

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Mayor James Fleck

Attest:

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Deputy Clerk Treasurer Sally Wherry