

**BOARD OF WORKS
WASTEWATER UTILITY
FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2009
8:00 A.M.**

Mayor James Fleck – Present
Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle – Present
Attorney Marcia McNagny – Absent
Walter Crowder – Present
Roger Seymoure – Present

The Columbia City Board of Works met in regular session with the Wastewater Utility. All members were present, Mayor Fleck presiding.

PAY REQUEST – WHITAKER ENGINEERING: INFLUENT SCREEN \$3,230.00 Jeff Walker explained the request was regarding the influent screen process. He reported the project continued to move forward and advised during this time they found out there was a lot of bigger debris coming in so were looking into a trash rack change to the process. He recommended the Board act favorably on the request in the sum of \$3,230.00.

Upon the motion of Mayor Fleck second by Seymoure to approve the request as recommended.

Walt Crowder questioned if this would be an operational expense. Rosie Coyle advised it would go through SRF. Jeff explained the trash rack was part of the process but not part of the pay request.

Upon the motion, all voted aye.

PAY REQUEST – WHITAKER ENGINEERING: POST CONSTRUCTION \$1,010.00 Jeff Walker explained this was regarding the sludge. He reported a letter was sent out to Corporate Construction and a meeting was set for next Wednesday at 1 p.m. with Corporate Constructions and Cecil to work through the final negotiations for the cost reimbursements for the sludge removal. He advised everything was in order and recommended the Board act favorably in the sum of \$1,010.00.

Upon the motion of Seymoure second by Crowder to approve payment of Invoice 09/05-07 as recommended by Jeff Walker in the amount of \$1,010.00, all voted aye.

DEPARTMENT REPORT Mike Cook reported he received notification that the mixer was back from being repaired and advised Shambaugh would be delivering and hooking it up next week. He also asked to incorporate a training session so they had an idea of how easy or difficult it was going to be. He reported they have been painting a few items around the plant and have made frames around the valve boxes that were in the driveways to better protect them. He reported they changed the oils in the primary's & secondary's from winter oil to summer oil. He advised a company came in to address odor control at the Morsches Park lift station. He reported they set some hydrogen sulfide sensors called odor loggers and also put a deodorant block inside the station. Jeff Walker reported it was anticipated there would be some odor because of the length of distance it was confined in the force main and so was designed in the lift station to have

odor control. He explained along the force main route there were green candy canes every so often that were vent pipes from the air release valve structures in the ground. He advised those were at high points in the pipe so that air does not get trapped and cause problems. He reported we were now building up enough that it necessitated odor control. Mike advised they were treating it at 10 gallons a day which was the recommendation off of the readings from the loggers. He explained to have free delivery of the chemical they had to purchase 3,000 gallons or more. He advised they purchased two 1500 gallon tanks and if they were able to stay at 10 gallons a day it should cover the whole season. He stated they would be able to stop the process in the winter months because there was not as much gas produced. He advised an estimated cost for about 6 months of treatment was \$8,000 and paybacks on the tanks would be about 2 ½ years.

Mike reported he was still waiting on recycle proposals and requested to have those by June 19. He advised his new employee started June 1 and seemed to be working out really well.

Roger Seymoure questioned if they ever got the asphalt issue resolved. Mike advised they did and were given an extended warranty of 5 years rather than 3 years. He stated it would be tested when they come in to do the equalization basin.

FINANCIAL REPORT Rosie Coyle pointed out the differences under total plant maintenance due to the sludge hauling. Mike advised they were working to recoup some of those costs.

Mayor Fleck questioned the engineering cost to date for the South Chauncey Street project and if we get to incorporate that in the financing so we can change back our cash position. Jeff Walker thought of the \$625,000 contract we were about \$500,000 into it. He stated the project was at 75% design. He reported it was all coming out of our current operational revenue and was why we were cash flow poor right now. Mayor Fleck explained in order to comply with the timeframe SRF has and as far as stimulus monies we have to proceed with the engineering design. He was not sure if the engineering costs would be includable in the project. Jeff explained even if financing wise we held off until next year at least the design would be done and ready to go.

STIMULUS PACKAGE UPDATE Mayor Fleck gave an update on the stimulus package.

SR 205 UPDATE Mayor Fleck reported they met with INDOT and all the party's who had a part in the project. He explained the basic purpose of the meeting was to set out what steps needed to be followed and how it would work in terms of time, the application of their 2.9 grant and what 80% meant. He stated they were proceeding with trying to determine what the next step was and at some point the Council would need to approve to move ahead with the project. He explained one of the very first steps would be to select an engineering firm for design construction in order to determine what the costs would be.

Walt Crowder questioned how to determine when to present it. Mayor Fleck explained that was what they were trying to do with the proper kinds of consulting. He advised if we create the financing package properly the 20% would be reduced significantly because they could use the whole project, which includes Parkview. He explained in trying to move through this they were having to get information put together, He advised they had 60 days to enter into the contract which meant they had to get the information put together in a form that was understandable to

present to Council. He stated even then there was no way they could guarantee the numbers were right on and would not know that for a year. Walt confirmed it would be ballpark figures. Mayor Fleck advised they would. He reported we applied for, through Souder's office, a \$2 million grant which was also 80/20. He stated part of the project as it affects us would have to be done anyway by moving utilities, upsizing utilities and at some point would have to move or improve the entrance to Morsches Park. He reported the combination of those two would approach ½ million dollars but also based upon the original design our share would be ½ million dollars. He explained it wasn't that we were spending additional money but how do we spend the money to maximize it. He added that it wasn't that the City or the utilities would have to invest in it we would and was part of the responsibility of the utility companies. He explained he did not want it misunderstood that this was going from 0 to whatever the 20% was, but were talking about the difference of maybe what it would cost us and completing this project as it was proposed.

BILLS Walt Crowder questioned if the operational expenses had stabilized or reduced. Rosie felt they had and reported fuel costs were tremendously lower. Walt questioned if we had historically talked about merging fuel costs with the County. Rosie advised they had talked about it before and explained the fuel was purchased from the same place but there was no savings for bulk purchase. She advised the City gets a lower rate and thought the County got the same rate. Jeff Walker reported when he investigated the issue a few years ago with the County he found that they have an agreement with the school and Passages and if they would allow us to join their program there would be an additional cost to us because of their overhead in maintenance of the facility but that they were also to a point where they could not add many major agencies because storage capacity. He reported we have had huge success with Mr. Auer and United Oil and advised they were very customer oriented.

Upon the motion of Seymoure second by Crowder to approve the bills dated 6/05/09 in the amount of \$477,713.98 as presented, all voted aye.

Walt Crowder acknowledged that on the itemized bill it showed we were only paying \$2 per gallon for gas.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – PLAT APPROVAL Jeff Walker asked for the Board's signature on the plat for the Habitat for Humanity project on West Ellsworth Street. Mayor Fleck confirmed it had been reviewed and approved by the Plan Commission. Jeff advised it had.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor James Fleck

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle