

BOARD OF WORKS
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2009
8:00 A.M.

Mayor James Fleck – Present
Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle – Present
Attorney Lindsey Grossnickle - Present
Walter Crowder – Present
Roger Seymoure – Present

The Columbia City Board of Works met in regular session with all members present, Mayor Fleck presiding.

MINUTES Upon the motion of Seymoure second by Crowder to approve an overview of the August 28, 2009 meeting minutes, Seymoure and Crowder voted aye, Mayor Fleck abstained.

Upon the motion of Mayor Fleck second by Sexton to approve an overview of the September 4, 2009 meeting minutes as presented, all voted aye.

TREES OBSTRUCTING VIEW – GATES ROAD AT HILL DRIVE Mayor Fleck explained there was an issue with some trees on Gates Road at Hill Drive right beside Judy Gates' home. He advised Mike Petersen had a report and there were also some things in the Board of Works packet with respect to it.

Mike Petersen reported the school contacted the department and asked for them to look at the tree and see what could be done. He explained the bus driver was not able to see the intersection. He advised he spoke with Judy about the visibility issue and talked about different options. He explained the school sent a bus to the intersection so he could see what the driver was seeing. He reviewed pictures with the Board that were taken. He advised the bus driver has no view and has to put the bus into the intersection in order to see to make the turn. He stated it was a public safety issue so asked Judy to come in to see what the City could do to help with the situation. He felt if they dealt with just the tree in the corner it would allow enough view for the bus driver.

Amy Gates-Maher advised they agreed there was an issue and did not have a problem cutting the tree down if it was done properly and then replanting something further back such as a small bush.

Mayor Fleck confirmed that was the only tree that was a problem. Chief Petersen advised it was the only one they could tell and felt it would resolve the issue.

Kelly Cearbaugh advised they could take the tree down but would need a bucket truck to trim the other trees.

Walt Crowder questioned if the tree was in the right of way or back on the property. Chief Petersen advised he would not know without checking. Mayor Fleck did some calculating and

figured at least part of the tree was in the right of way. Walt appreciated that they understood all of the safety concerns but heard 'replanting' and was trying to see who would have ownership of that. Amy Gates advised that was what they discussed. Mayor Fleck thought it would probably be a street tree and the size would be very small. Chief Petersen advised too they had no problem with replanting further back. Walt stated he never recalled ever planting on private property. Mayor Fleck did not want to state the policy because he did not truly know it. Walt questioned Mrs. Gates if the City was able to take the tree down and dispose of the roots and everything if she would feel comfortable in taking ownership of replanting the tree on her property. Mrs. Gates felt if the City took it down the City should replace it. Walt understood but advised it was being taken down because of a safety issue and the tree resides on her personal property. He stated in all of the time he has been involved, never had the City put something on private property. Mayor Fleck advised it happened a lot with street trees. He explained if trees border the right of way and we take it down we often replace the tree. Walt understood but was trying to clarify the City's ownership and responsibility and had just never been involved with this type of request. He felt they had more homework to do and did not want to set precedence that the City was going to do anything on private property. He felt there was room for compromise on the actual planting of the tree. Roger Seymoure advised he could see where there could be a concern if the City would buy and plant the tree and then it would not live and then they would be back wanting another tree.

Mayor Fleck questioned if it could be worked out that the City furnish a tree but it would be their (Gates') responsibility to see that it gets done. Chief Petersen felt it could. The Board was satisfied with that.

PAY REQUEST – WHITAKER ENGINEERING – INV. 09/08-13 \$960.00 Rosie Coyle reported the request was for the start up observation for the influent screen.

Upon the motion of Seymoure second by Crowder to approve payment to Whitaker Engineering for Invoice 09/18 in the sum of \$960.00, all voted aye.

PAY REQUEST – WHITAKER ENGINEERING – INV. 09/08-14 \$1,783.67 Walt Crowder questioned if this would put closure to the screen issue. Mike Cook advised it was close and were into the 6 month warranty period. Roger Seymoure questioned if we were still working out some settlements as far as the mixers. Mike advised they were and they were real close to coming to an agreement.

Upon the motion Mayor Fleck second by Seymoure to approve Invoice 09/08-14 for Whitaker Engineering in the sum of \$1,783.67, all voted aye.

PAY REQUEST – SCHNEIDER CORPORATION – INV. 140260 \$1,555.71 Rosie Coyle reported the request was for the Interceptor Sewer Forced Main.

Upon the motion of Crowder second by Mayor Fleck to pay Schneider Corporation for Invoice 140260 in the amount of \$1,555.71, all voted aye.

PAY REQUEST – SCHNEIDER CORPORATION – INV. 140259 \$792.00 Mayor Fleck reported this was for the wastewater plant project.

Upon the motion of Seymoure second by Crowder to approve Invoice 140259 to Schneider Corporation in the amount of \$792.00, all voted aye.

SIGN REQUEST – 212 W. VAN BUREN STREET Rosie Coyle advised the request was for Ball Furniture. She stated they would be placing the sign in the empty space beside the County building.

Upon the motion of Seymoure second by Mayor Fleck to approve the request from Ball Furniture as presented on their request for Wednesday, September 23 through Sunday, September 27, all voted aye.

REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE Rosie Coyle explained this was for one of the police officers who has gone for mobilization but has not gotten his final orders yet.

Upon the motion of Crowder second by Seymoure to approve the leave of absence as presented, all voted aye.

REQUEST FOR STREET CLOSING – JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT CAR SHOW Rosie Coyle advised they do work with the Farmer's Market and there were no problems this year.

Mayor Fleck expressed a concern for all events in that as they continue to be successful they tend to grow. He questioned if there would be a point where limitations would need to be set on space.

Tom LaRue advised he did have someone come to his office around the time of Old Settlers and suggested making the loop that goes down Market Street to Walnut 'No Parking' during the time frame those streets were closed so there was better passage around the west side of the event.

Mayor Fleck felt there needed to be consistent expectations.

Upon the motion of Mayor Fleck second by Seymoure to approve the request, all voted aye.

PARK DEPARTMENT Mark Green reported they removed some bee's nests on the Greenway behind Trier's.

STREET DEPARTMENT Kelly Cearbaugh reported they were finishing up with brush pickup and were working on replacing a culvert.

FIRE DEPARTMENT Tom LaRue reported he distributed another packet of quotes for vehicles. He advised the only thing that had changed was the 2009 vehicle from Trier's as it was no longer available. A quote was submitted on a 2010 Ford that had all the equipment that was requested except it had chrome steel rims.

Mayor Fleck questioned Tom what his recommendation was. Chief LaRue advised the 2009 was \$2,000 cheaper than the 2010 but the 2009 had more equipment on it. He recommended going with the least expensive vehicle but knew there were concerns with buying a vehicle that has a whole lot of options on it. He stated we could save a little money and get a lot of options or go with the striped down model that was more expensive.

Walt Crowder advised he and Tom were talking about keeping the fleet to the basics but had to go to the 2010 to get there which was about \$2,050 more. Mayor Fleck questioned what the difference was in the value from a 2009 to a 2010. He advised the truck being traded in had a \$2,000 trade in value. Walt stated the bottom line was it was going to cost a couple thousand dollars more but it would keep it in the perimeters of what the fleet is. Tom explained the group who put the specs together requested having power locks and power windows because it was not going to just be used as a fleet truck and would be used as a command vehicle.

Mayor Fleck questioned Tom which one he felt was the better selection. Tom advised he completely understood where Walt was coming from but his personal struggle was paying more for less. He stated his personal opinion was to go with the 2009 but understood if the Board did not want to.

Roger Seymoure advised Council approved \$30,000 and questioned if they spend the \$2,000 more if they would have enough to equip it. Tom stated he was counting on having that money off of the price and having almost \$4,000 to equip it. He advised there was a lot of the equipment they were using from the current command vehicle but stated they would have to use some of his budget money for next year.

Upon the motion of Mayor Fleck second by Seymoure to buy the vehicle that costs the least which was the 2009.

Roger Seymoure questioned what the color of the 2010 was. Tom advised it was white and would have to add money for the paint job which was about \$2,000. Roger questioned at some point they would have to paint the vehicle. Walt thought that would be a long term challenge. Tom advised the committee did not want the vehicle to match right now as the primary use would be as a command vehicle. Roger questioned the differences between the two. Tom discussed the differences in the vehicles. He advised either vehicle would work for what they needed. Walt felt they needed to put it into context of the purpose for the command vehicle.

Upon the motion, Mayor Fleck voted aye, Crowder and Seymoure voted against. Motion failed.

Upon the motion of Crowder second by Seymoure to go with the 2010 from Trier's and keep it to the basic necessities, all voted aye.

WATER DEPARTMENT Mike Dear reported the contractors started laying water main in Park 30 with building being constructed.

WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT Mike Cook reported he received the study proposal from Bonar Group on the lift station replacement for Main and Jefferson Streets and would be bringing that to the Board.

BILLS Upon the motion of Seymoure second by Crowder to approve the bills dated 9/11/09 in the amount of \$487,497.06, all voted aye.

RECYCLING Mayor Fleck reported the Solid Waste Board was preparing an RFP for the pickup of recyclables. He advised there had been considerable changes in that industries and would affect Columbia City. He stated part of the proposal was to go to one container rather than having to separate out the recyclables. He explained the technology in that industry was now that it was separated at the facilities. He advised this was throughout the industry and not just one company. He stated in order to change over they were looking at millions of dollars.

GREASE TRAPS Mayor Fleck reported we were one of the few communities our size to offer the grease traps. He stated they were available one per household and were free. He explained it will be helpful in keeping the grease out of the sewer system. He stated it was a small attempt to become a little more 'green' and environmentally friendly.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor James Fleck

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle