

**COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2010
7:00 P.M.**

Mayor James Fleck – Absent
Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle – Present
Attorney Lindsey Grossnickle – Present

Council members

Walter Crowder – Present
Nicole Penrod – Present
Donald Sexton – Present
Roger Seymoure – Absent
Daniel Weigold – Present

The Columbia City Common Council met in regular session with all members except Seymoure present, Walt Crowder presiding.

MINUTES Motion was made by Sexton to approve an overview of the January 26, 2010 meeting minutes as presented, Penrod second the motion, all voted aye.

ORDINANCE 2010-3 SEWAGE BOND ORDINANCE – 2ND READING Motion was made by Weigold to read Ordinance 2010-3 by title only, Penrod second the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2010-3 an ordinance of the City of Columbia City authorizing the issuance of sewage works revenue bonds for the purpose of providing funds to pay the cost of certain additions, extensions and improvements to the municipal sewage works of said City, providing for the safeguarding of the interests of the owners of said bonds, other matters connected therewith, including the issuance of note in anticipation of bonds, and repealing ordinances inconsistent herewith.

Terry Smith questioned when they were going to fill in the blanks in the ordinance. Walt Crowder advised it was explained to him that this was the process to start the request for the bond and the blanks would be filled in once they get actual costs from the bids. He stated at this point in time it was strictly an administrative process to start the bonds. Mr. Smith questioned if the blanks would be filled in before final approval of the ordinance. Rosie Coyle explained none of those blanks could be filled in until the bonds were sold and the SRF bonds were done. Mr. Smith understood there was \$1.5 million left from the last bond and the Mayor was talking about spending that money for other purposes and wanted to fund this fully with taxpayer money. Walt advised Mr. Smith had a valid question but could not speak for the Mayor's intent but the bond he was referring to was for wastewater. Walt stated there were bids and quotes out to continue to use that money for wastewater. Mr. Smith questioned if they would approve the ordinance with blanks and then the Mayor would fill in the blanks. Walt explained once they determine the dollar amount that was required for this then the section where the blanks were would be filled in with the appropriate dollar value. Mr. Smith questioned who would fill in the blanks. Rosie Coyle advised Ice Miller. Walt advised we would know before going for bond what our true costs were. He explained until it goes out for bid we needed to know what it was going to cost us and these were strictly estimate dollars and the ordinance was strictly

administrative with forecasted dollars for requests. He advised it was not what we were bonding for but it started the process. He stated it was not actual or factual until we get the quotes back from construction costs and deductions from any grant money that would be applied. Mr. Smith questioned if they would lose control after this was adopted as to what numbers would be plugged in there. Walt advised they did not lose control of anything and still had to be approved. He advised all they were saying was that they were requesting a bond for this dollar value, not to exceed that dollar value, based on an estimate received from our accounting firm.

Attorney McNagny felt it was important to state that this was not to exceed based upon other things that may occur but have not occurred prior to this.

Mr. Smith questioned why the Council does not have the Mayor apply the \$1.5 million left from the last bond to this one and save the taxpayers of Columbia City money. Walt Crowder explained we were still fixing things at the wastewater plant and when we are done then we would have to determine what would be done with any balances left over. Rosie Coyle added about \$850,000 of the money left was going towards the replacement of the Main Street and Jefferson Street lift stations. Mike Cook explained the lift stations were over 50 years old and they could not get replacement parts anymore.

Motion was made by Sexton to approve Ordinance 2010-3 as second and final reading, Weigold second the motion, all voted aye.

POLICE DEPARTMENT Mike Petersen reported he and Captain Anspach attended a pursuit policy seminar/workshop in Fort Wayne. He explained the goal was to try to make sure departments across the nation had similar pursuit policies. He advised their policy was real close and just needed to make some minor adjustments.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT Larry Whetstone reported they pulled in a couple runs for the library and new hospital. He advised they continue to work on tree trimming and have put in a couple new services. He reported there were 10 cities out of 52 that IMPA represents still belonging to the IURC. He explained IURC was coming up with some levers to pull to possibly have these utilities reduce their consumption of energy by 10% by the year 2020. He advised he would give a full report when there was a full Council.

WATER DEPARTMENT Mike Dear reported they continue to hook up radio boxes and do meter inspections. He advised he was getting ready to pressure test the main to the Overlook Villas.

FIRE DEPARTMENT Tom LaRue advised they had all of their air packs inspected and reported they would be attending trench training in March.

WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT Mike Cook reported the Grease Trap Ordinance was now listed on the City website under the wastewater department. He advised he was in contact with Bonar to go over some last minute things on the lift stations and could possibly have final design to review on Friday. He reported they were looking in to costs on UV bulbs.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

President Walter Crowder

Attest:

Clerk Treasure Rosie Coyle