

COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2010
7:00 P.M.

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

Council Members

Walt Crowder – Present
Nicole Penrod – Present
Don Sexton – Present
Roger Seymoure – Present
Dan Weigold – Present

The Columbia City Common Council met in regular session with all members present, Mayor Fleck presiding.

MINUTES Motion was made by Sexton to approve an overview of the April 13, 2010 meeting minutes as presented, Seymoure second the motion, all voted aye.

H.J. UMBAUGH & ASSOCIATES: SEWAGE RATE UPDATE Jeff Rowe with Umbaugh & Associates was present to give an update on the sewer project. He distributed and reviewed a report with the Council.

Mr. Rowe advised the construction costs came in high. He stated the construction budget was \$6,020,000.00 and the low bidder came in at \$6,755,500.00. He explained in terms of construction contingency at the time the budget was established they were assuming about \$766,000.00 to provide some leeway between estimates and bid numbers but brought it down to about \$337,000.00. He advised the total construction and contingency was estimated at \$7,093,300.00. He stated the non construction costs which was made up of professional fees, grant administration, engineering design and construction, land easement and acquisition totaled \$1,165,200.00 for a total project cost based up on the bids was at \$8,258,500.00 which was about \$376,000.00 higher than what was originally estimated.

Mr. Rowe reviewed the project funding. He explained local funds would be \$10,000.00 and we received about \$50,500 more than anticipated for the OCRA grant for a total grant amount of \$4,779,500.00 which leaves a remainder of \$3,469,000.00 to be paid through SRF.

Mr. Rowe stated their concern was they were looking at having to borrow additional money from SRF. He explained they structured the bond issue and updated the repayment based upon the current SRF interest rate. He advised the total loan amount would be \$3,469,000.00 and would be paid back over approximately 17 years at 2.42%. He stated annually we would be looking at about \$194,000.00 per year in principal and interest payments.

Mr. Rowe reviewed the breakdown of annual revenue versus the revenue requirements. He advised they estimated total revenues to be \$3,869,417.00 and annual operating and debt service

to be \$3,727,668.00. He stated the difference of roughly \$141,000.00 represents funds available for ongoing capital improvements. He advised even though the project costs came in higher, with the lower interest rate and structuring of the bonds they were still able to fit the project in the current rate structure and did not recommend a rate increase at this time.

Mr. Rowe advised they anticipate when they close on the SRF bonds the City will be reimbursed for all of the engineering and planning costs that have been paid to date that were related to the project.

Mr. Rowe stated they anticipate closing by June 4, 2010.

Mayor Fleck understood that under the Long Term Control Plan we would not have another anticipated project for some time. He questioned Mr. Rowe if he knew when that was. Mr. Rowe advised he was not sure what the timing was on the next issue.

MASTER GARDENERS –AILEEN MEIER Aileen Meyer was present to talk about the master gardeners and what they have done for the City parks and the community.

PARK SIGN Mark Green made a presentation on the proposed park sign project for the entrance to Morsches Park. He explained when the City was given the 11 acres of the Wolfe property \$20,000 was allotted to purchase a new sign but there were stipulations to the sign. He explained the current Leadership Whitley County class had a group interested in putting up a sign in the community that would be used for advertising. He stated the type of sign they would like to get was similar to what Dairy Queen has. He stated in putting the two stories together has brought them to where they are today. He advised he talked with Johnson Brother signs and they provided two different quotes one was for a plain sign and one that had an Indian theme.

Mark Green explained a survey was sent out to businesses in our area to see what the interest would be in advertising. Mike Petersen advised the survey was a co-op done with the Chamber of Commerce to try to see if there was a private sector solution to help pay for the sign. He stated in the survey they tried to also see what would be a good pricing matrix. He advised there was interest but the average cost of \$300 - \$500 for 7 seconds might be a little steep for this area.

Mark Green presented a couple sample video's put together by Johnson Brother's. He stated the costs would be \$51,000 - \$53,000. He advised this would not happen for another 2 years so they had some time.

Don Sexton questioned if Johnson Brothers discussed maintenance on the sign. Mark advised it should be very low maintenance.

Roger Seymoure questioned how the sign was changed. Mark advised it was done by a computer. Mike Petersen reported they met with the high school administration and asked if there would be an interest in the Media class to integrate this into their class where the students would be able to design a graphic as an assignment. He advised they were very interested.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY – GRANT Mayor Fleck reported we received \$400,000 grant money from EPA for Brownfield assessment on petroleum and hazardous waste products. He advised Columbia City was the only city in Indiana to receive grant money. He stated it was 100% grant.

Mayor Fleck reported Don Sexton, Rosie Coyle, Alan Tio and Lori Shipman would be serving on the committee. Walt Crowder mentioned that the application listed multiple sites and questioned if we would have an opportunity to participate in prioritizing the sites listed. Mayor Fleck advised we would.

ORDINANCE 2010-7: ONE SIDE STREET PARKING – 2ND READING Motion was made by Weigold to read Ordinance 2010-7 by title only, Penrod second the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2010-7 an ordinance amending Title VII, Chapter 75, Schedule VI of the code of ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Motion was made by Sexton to adopt Ordinance 2010-7 on second and final reading, Weigold second the motion.

Dan Weigold advised he had not received any negative calls on the situation. Rosie Coyle reported letters did go out about the amended section on the north side.

Upon the motion, all voted aye.

ORDINANCE 2010-8: AMENDMENT TO SEWAGE DISCHARGE – 2ND READING Motion was made by Seymoure to read Ordinance 2010-8 by title only, Weigold second the motion, all voted aye. Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2010-8 an ordinance amending Title V, Chapter 51, sewage service and Title V, Chapter 55, pretreatment of pollutants of the code of ordinances of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

Motion was made by Penrod to pass Ordinance 2010-8 as amended on second and final reading, Seymoure second the motion, all voted aye.

ORDINANCE 2010-9: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION Motion was made by Crowder to read Ordinance 2010-9 by title only, Seymoure second the motion, all voted aye. Rosie Coyle read Ordinance 2010-9 an additional appropriation ordinance.

Mayor Fleck advised this was money for the server and asked Terry to explain again what had happened. Terry Wherry reported over one weekend we lost the main server which has 3 hard drives and 2 of the drives were lost. He stated in the process of trying to get that server back up on the one drive they experienced issues with the Komputrol server. He advised they went ahead and replaced the servers with virtual servers.

Rosie Coyle asked to do this as an emergency because she has to get it into the State.

Walt Crowder questioned the approximate balance of the Rainy Day Fund. Rosie thought it was around \$750,000.00

Motion was made by Seymoure to suspend the rules and consider passing Ordinance 2010-9 as first and final reading, Weigold second the motion, all voted aye.

Motion was made by Crowder to accept Ordinance 2010-9 as first and final reading for the appropriation of \$50,000 to pay for the emergency replacement of the data servers, Sexton second the motion, all voted aye.

WATER DEPARTMENT Mike Dear reported they flushed hydrants, fixed 3 service leaks and had two taps to get in as well as a meter setting for a new house. He advised he found a main valve leaking that they would need to get fixed.

POLICE DEPARTMENT Mike Petersen provided several pictures to the Council of alley intersections that need to be addressed. He stated the alley between Elm and Walnut behind the Marshall building their recommendation was to change the yield sign to a 4-way stop. He explained there was one that involved a bush and would like to move the stop sign to the opposite side of the alley and one intersection that involves a fence that they would like to make a 4-way stop. He advised there were other intersections that were similar but felt each individual situation was unique and should be looked at it that way.

Mayor Fleck questioned if the recommendation would be to draft an ordinance. Chief Petersen advised that was correct.

Walt Crowder advised he would be interested in the information from the speed sign compared to the complaints.

Chief Petersen advised he would call Attorney Grossnickle about the ordinance.

Chief Petersen reviewed the data gathered from the speed sign while in Eagle Glen.

COMMUNICATIONS/IS DEPARTMENT Terry Wherry reported he worked with CenturyLink to install two new wireless units from City Hall to the wastewater treatment plant. He advised he was waiting for J & K to install a directional antenna to see if it helps bring the network speed up to where it needs to be.

PARK DEPARTMENT Mark Green advised baseball and softball practices were under way as well as Co-ed leagues on Sundays. He recognized Shannon Snyder for stepping in while one of his employees was out. He reported high school track teams volunteered working at the park doing various jobs. He stated the office would be open from 12 – 3 p.m. tomorrow for the public to come in and review the Blue River Trail expansion project and share their thoughts.

ANIMAL ORDINANCE AMENDMENT Attorney McNagny distributed proposed changes to the animal ordinance to the Council for future discussion.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS Terry Smith advised there was a picture in the newspaper of someone's flooded backyard and questioned if anyone was doing anything about it. Roger

Seymoure advised it was the Palmer place. Mayor Fleck advised it was in the Long Term Control Plan to address.

A resident of Jefferson Street was present and felt stop signs were a good idea in the alleys but also felt people become immune to them too. Chief Petersen felt most people treat them like yield signs.

Having no further business to come before Council the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor James Fleck

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle