

BOARD OF WORKS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2018
5:00 PM

Mayor Ryan Daniel – Present
Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle – Present
Attorney Marcia McNagny – Present
Walter Crowder – Present
Daniel Weigold – Present

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

MINUTES Motion was made by Dan Weigold to approve an overview of the November 13, 2018 meeting minutes as presented, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

PUBLIC HEARING – WASTEWATER OCRA GRANT Mayor Daniel recessed the Board of Works meeting to hold a public hearing on the wastewater OCRA grant.

Lori Shipman was present to explain the grant process and the purpose for applying for the grant.

Mayor Daniel shared this project was important for our wastewater system and will help us to meet the 10 year, 1 hour threshold IDEM has mandated. He explained with our current system, without these types of improvements, we will continue to see backups into basements, outfalls that will affect public health into our streams and rivers and just in general we will not be meeting a mandate. He shared the OCRA grant will help to stabilize rates, satisfy IDEM regulations and improve the health and safety of our residents.

Walt Crowder advised this was part of the 5 year plan. He noted they talk about it every year on how to accomplish this, how to partner with others and how to make those goals and challenges successful. He felt it will be great for our community to not to have to worry about CSO's.

Dan Weigold felt the Board has done their due diligence in properly handing this mandate; looking at different ways of saving money and reevaluating the plan to make it more economically feasible for our residents.

Mayor Daniel shared one of the consistent comments he gets from the public is about the utility rates, specifically the sewer rate. He felt what was important about this grant was there would be \$700,000 less the City has to effectively borrow over the next 20 years. He felt that was critical when it comes to the economic wellbeing of our community and residents that we find alternative sources of funding such as OCRA to help offset the costs for our residents.

Hearing no further comments or questions the public hearing was closed.

CSO MITIGATION PROJECT Mayor Daniel explained this was a new contract for the CSO Long Term Control Plan mitigation project. He understood it was rewritten to meet certain specifications.

Jeff Walker explained Rural Development requires EJCDC specific engineering contracts be in a specific version so the agreement had to be resubmitted under that format. He advised the agreement also includes what was already approved by the Board as well as the proposed inspection services that have been discussed in the past.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the amendment to the agreement with United Consulting for the Columbia City CSO Long Term Control Plan Mitigation Project with the inclusion of the RPR services as presented, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

SCHOOL SAFETY MOU Mayor Daniel reminded the Board that in the 2019 City Council budget they approved a new SRO position for the Whitley County Consolidated School District. He noted the memorandum of understanding lists a 27/73 split of funding for the second SRO position.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to approve the school safety memorandum of understanding for the second SRO position, Walt Crowder seconded the motion.

Walt Crowder questioned if this would be retroactive. Mayor Daniel advised this would start in January when the new budget comes into effect.

Upon the motion, all voted aye.

PERMIT TO LOCATE IN RIGHT OF WAY – 499 S. MAIN STREET Mayor Daniel explained this was for Wannack LLC to install fiber cable. He thought this was the school's fiber provider. Shawn Lickey advised that was correct.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the application to locate utility improvements within the right of way for Wannack LLC, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

PERMIT TO LOCATE IN RIGHT OF WAY – WEST LINCOLNWAY Mayor Daniel explained this was for QC Communications for Mediacom. He stated it was on West Lincolnway where Park Street Extended comes in.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the application to locate utility improvements within the City's right of way for QC Communication for Mediacom, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye

COATS, SCARVES AND MITTENS AROUND TOWN Mayor Daniel shared there was a group of volunteers who would like to coordinate hanging coats, scarves and mittens on City trees around town for individuals to take if they need. He advised after a period of time they would pick the items back up that were not taken.

Dan Weigold questioned if there was a time frame. Mayor Daniel thought they were thinking a month or two. Dan Weigold agreed it was a great idea but at the same time did not want it to look messy. Walt Crowder suggested maybe they put the items inside a building where they'd be better protected.

Dan Weigold questioned if a representative could come to a meeting to further discuss the idea.

Walt Crowder questioned if this was being done in other towns. Mayor Daniel advised it was and thought that was where the idea came from. Walt Crowder wondered if we could reach out to those communities to see what their experience has been. He advised he was all for it if it could be made successful.

Mayor Daniel advised he would reach out to other communities as well as ask the leader to come to the next Board of Works meeting.

Walt Crowder questioned if the Downtown Association has had any input on it. Mayor Daniel did not believe they had but would request that of the group.

BILLS Motion was made by Dan Weigold to pay the bills in the amount of \$999,417.31, Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT – NEW HIRE Shawn Lickey reminded the Board one of our Lineman left and went to another utility. He requested permission to begin the hiring process to fill that position. He advised he plans to hire at the apprentice level.

The Board was in agreement to move forward with the hiring process.

BOND CLOSING – NOTICE OF AWARD Rosie Coyle reported the bond closing was November 28 and requested the Board give Mayor Daniel permission to sign the notice of award with Dunigan Brothers as well as the contract and notice to proceed.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder that the Board of Works give the Mayor signature power to sign the agreement for the City of Columbia City Contract B for County Road 300 S and 700 E force main with Dunigan Brothers out of Jackson, Michigan, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder to give the Mayor authorization of signature power for the notice proceed for the project at County Road 300 S and 700 E, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder to allow the Mayor to represent the Board of Works with signature power for the notice of award to Dunigan Brothers for the location of 300 S and 700 E, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE WITHOUT PAY – MILITARY Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the leave of absence without pay for military drill weekend as presented, Dan Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle