

BOARD OF WORKS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2012
5:15 P.M.

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

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

MINUTES Motion was made by Weigold to approve an overview of the September 11, 2012 meeting minutes as presented, Mayor Daniel second the motion, Weigold and Mayor Daniel voted aye, Crowder abstained.

PAY REQUEST – ROBERT E. CROSBY, INC. INV#11136-23 \$157,521.00 Jeff Walker explained this was for the miscellaneous improvement project. He advised everything was ok with this and it represents about 85% complete on the project. He recommended the Board act favorably in the sum of \$157,521.00.

Motion was made by Weigold to pay Inv. #11136-23 for the amount of \$157,521.00, Crowder second the motion, all voted aye.

PAY REQUEST – DONOHUE & ASSOCIATES – INVOICE #7 \$3,168.01 Jeff Walker explained this was also for the miscellaneous improvement project. He stated they have been working on the substantial completion deadline information, have started a punch list and have worked on the progress meeting and follow up pay application information. He advised everything was in order and recommended the Board act favorably. He stated they were at about 85% complete. Mike Cook advised final completion was October 25.

Motion was made by Crowder to approve Donohue Invoice #12148 as recommended for the amount of \$3,168.01, Weigold second the motion, all voted aye.

SOUTH WHITLEY UTILITIES - AGREEMENT Larry Whetstone reported he talked with Mr. Smith again since the last meeting and they have reviewed everything with their Counsel but had a couple questions that the 2 lawyers need to work out. He stated one of the issues was they wanted the time to be from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. but our hours are 7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. and anything after that would be at time and one half. Attorney McNagny advised she got that issue changed. Larry advised other than that both parties have agreed to what was written up and suggested we ok it.

Mayor Daniel shared that one of the things they talked about and wanted to get clarification on was if for some instance there was a strong storm that comes through, obviously our customers would be first priority and would get to South Whitley as soon as we could. Attorney McNagny advised she put that in the agreement; Columbia City would take priority. Mayor Daniel

mentioned one other thing was the liability. Attorney McNagny advised she checked with our insurance company and also put language in the agreement.

Walt Crowder questioned Larry if he had a list of people who were prioritized due to health reasons such as someone being on oxygen. Larry advised we do but that was something they have not talked about with South Whitley. Walt suggested that may be something we should verify. Larry explained with anything major there was no way to take that specified customer and get them on without the rest of the circuit being on. He stated they take what they feel is most important and fix first then go down the line. Walt confirmed that we do not have any of the health things to reflect on the decisions that were made. Rosie Coyle explained we do have a list but the only time we use it is for disconnect day; otherwise, we tell them to go to the hospital. Mayor Daniel suggested that was a discussion we should have with South Whitley to see if it was a practice they have had in the past and if it was, how would it work with the contract we were looking at right now.

Attorney McNagny reiterated that her firm was involved in this and the Board of Works had every right to seek outside Counsel to review the document. Walt Crowder confirmed she and Greg worked together on it. Attorney McNagny advised they both worked on it. Mayor Daniel questioned the Board if they would be interested in having outside Counsel look at it or feel comfortable moving on. Dan Weigold advised he was comfortable with moving on with it and had confidence in both attorneys. Walt Crowder concurred and was very comfortable with it. Mayor Daniel agreed.

Attorney McNagny advised she would get a copy of the email to Rosie from the insurance agency so we have record of what they said.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to enter into the electric utility services agreement with South Whitley, Weigold second the motion, all voted aye.

STORM WATER: SOUTH SIDE STORM WATER PROJECT Jeff Walker explained one of the storm water problem areas identified in the last couple years was the South Walnut, South Elm Street area at and near Vine Street. He reviewed the topography study put together by GAI and the possible project routes. He advised Jeff Rowe looked into, if we did bond, if our current rates would support a bond and he confirmed that they would.

Jeff Walker explained it had been over a year since he first presented this to the Board of Works, so at this point the proposal was over a year old and could not expect GAI to hold these rates much longer. He advised he was asked to put it on hold until the completion of the Long Term Control Plan and although storm water and waste water were tied together, they do both generate their own separate revenue streams through rates. He reported as of last week with everything we are indebted to SRF on for open projects it looks like we are about \$200,000 - \$250,000 in a shortfall.

Mayor Daniel questioned if what they were looking at with GAI was final design or design and construction. Jeff Walker advised the agreement would be for them to do the design for the project. He explained the project itself was anticipated to be a little over \$800,000.00.

Walt Crowder felt Cheryl Culler did a great job explaining our options and recommended that she come back for a review to understand the intent and purpose of why this area has been selected for storm water improvements. Dan Weigold agreed and would not mind seeing another presentation on this.

Jeff Walker questioned if there would be any additional information that would help the Board to make a decision or give direction. Mayor Daniel questioned if this fit in with the Long Term Control Plan. Jeff advised it helps with the CSO operational plan; this project does separate so that with rain events wastewater is getting less of the storm to treat.

Dan Weigold questioned if we would have to get permission from the County since we would be dumping more water into the Phillips Ditch. Jeff Walker explained it was a regulated drain and would have to get a permit; it was no different than any other discharge into the waters of the State.

Jeff Walker advised he would make sure Cheryl and Jeff would be at the next meeting.

Walt Crowder appreciated that the rates would not increase if this project was approved but if we take \$800,000.00 out for that project was there anything that would help verify or forecast if we spend that money what the projected impact would be on a future rate increase. Jeff Walker explained with a bond issue we would not be taking the full \$800,000.00 out. Mayor Daniel noted that the storm water utility was in good financial standing to be able to do that.

FIRE DEPARTMENT Tom LaRue reported on their assistance with the Fall Festival at Morsches Park. Mayor Daniel asked Tom to see about getting the total number of cars they parked for the festival.

WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT Mike Cook reported on plant repairs, he discussed the purchase of rain gauge and the Rural Water Conference will be held in Fort Wayne this year which will give his guys an opportunity to get some educational hours in.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT Jeff Walker reported he was working on the annual storm water report to IDEM, he and Attorney McNagny met to review the many different tax incentive districts, properties, ordinances and resolutions, he spent time reviewing the project manuals for the trail extension and bridge project and gave an update on the project, last Friday he attended a Grow Network meeting which was a group established by Leadership Whitley County and the Chamber. He reported our Draftsman, Brad Smith, and Dan Weigold attended the Indiana GIS Conference and they were currently working on a proposal to change from our existing AutoCad to GIS.

Jeff Walker reported they met with the Lieutenant Governor, her Chief of Staff and two INDOT representatives regarding the 205 project and the water main relocation being a part of it. He shared that they assured us they would do everything in their power to help us through this.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT Larry Whetstone reported they installed an underground service on 700 N, they had their annual infrared check on our biggest customers and annual truck inspection. He reported on their tree trimming and grinding projects. He advised the new building was complete and they have started the electric and concrete work on it.

WATER DEPARTMENT Mike Dear reported they have taken all of their lead and copper samples for the year, they hooked a new meter up in Rail Connect Park for a new building, they fixed the shut offs on a couple houses on Chauncey and Main Street, they hooked up 22 radio boxes and changed out 20 meters, they put in a 2” tap for the new First Source Bank, they put in 200 ft of 1” on North Whitley Street and sold some scrap copper and brass.

POLICE DEPARTMENT Tim Longenbaugh reported on their assistance with the Fall Festival, the Captain and he were working on setting goals for each officer for 2013, he reported on some training coming up for a few of their officers.

IS/COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT Terry Wherry reported he met with SDS Communications to get a quote for cameras at Kids Dreamland, he met with Niblock, Shawn Lickey and Jeff Walker at the Park to discuss moving the fiber for the new bathroom area, they fixed the weather station and met with the County on the Nixel system.

STREET DEPARTMENT Kelly Cearbaugh reported he met with Three River’s Barricade to get Line Street striped as well as some other streets, he advised the 50/50 sidewalks were completed, they have been working at the cemetery, running the sweeper and leaf pickup would probably begin October 22.

YOUTH COUNCIL Kiersten Thomas was present representing the Youth Council. She reported they were working on getting a program together to work with the 5th graders on government education, they had a comment box at the high school and ETA and they continue to work on their Facebook page. She advised they would be doing a downtown business walk to see how the youth could become involved with the businesses and what they could do to help.

FINANCIAL REPORTS Rosie Coyle reviewed the financial reports for the electric, water, wastewater and storm water departments.

Walt Crowder asked if they could get the financials for 2011 to compare.

Mayor Daniel advised they were going to need to make a decision on how to pay for the true up from the Long Term Control Plan. He advised right now Mike Cook has enough to pay for it out of his cash operating but we do need to think about how we were going to pay for that.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle