

BOARD OF WORKS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2016
5:00 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 January 12, 2016 meeting minutes as presented, Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

STREET CLOSING PERMIT – CUB SCOUT CUB MOBILE RACE Don Golden was present to request the same street closing as last year. He advised they would be sure to inform the floral shop. He stated the race would be on May 21st but everything else would be the same as last year.

Motion was made by Crowder to accept the request for street closing on May 21st from 6 am – 4 pm, Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

HISTORIC BLUE BELL Attorney McNagny advised this was preliminarily presented at the last Board meeting in regards to swapping of easements. She explained one of the easements was from the City to the Historic Blue Bell for parking along Wayne Street, stair access, driveway access and dumpster access. She stated the second one was from the Historic Blue Bell back to the City and was for ingress and egress to the combined sewer regulator, storm sewer catch basin and sanitary sewer manholes located in that easement area.

Jeff Walker agreed everything was in order and recommended approval.

Walt Crowder questioned if there were any fees attached to this to update records. Jeff Walker advised the City committed, as part as the incentive package, to pay for all of the local fees.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the Historic Blue Bell Lofts, LLC grant of easement to the City of Columbia City, Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the easement from the City of Columbia City to the Historic Blue Bell Lofts, LLC, Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

DRAINAGE FEES Dan Weigold explained these were fees that if the City did not pay through the storm water fund they would be distributed through a watershed and each resident within that watershed would pay a minimum ditch assessment. He stated in the past, instead of assessing

this to each property owner, the City has paid the fees. He reported the amount would be for 7 different drains for a total of \$14,427.23.

Walt Crowder questioned if it was requested in a lump sum. Dan Weigold advised it was.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to pay for the drainage assessment fees as presented out of the City storm water budget, Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

FIREFIGHTER EDUCATION IN THE SCHOOL Tom LaRue advised he has been talking for several months about looking into doing a firefighter I/II class in the local school system. He stated in talking with September McConnell and Vanessa Bills of the Community Foundation they found out the Dekko Foundation has a grant available that would potentially pay for such a program. He reported he and Kyle Francis held a meeting with Dr. O'Conner and a whole team from the high school to see if it would be a possibility to have such a program in the school. He advised they were very welcoming and wanted to start the program in the fall of 2016.

Chief LaRue asked for the Board's permission to proceed with applying for the grant to see where it goes.

Mayor Daniel confirmed that if we would get the grant we would put a trainer in the school and then we would have to replace that firefighter. Chief LaRue advised that was correct; the grant would pay for the trainer we would put in the school and would have to hire someone. Mayor Daniel confirmed with Chief LaRue that he was not asking to hire another firefighter but merely permission to apply for the grant. Chief LaRue advised that was correct.

Walt Crowder questioned if they knew the longevity of the grant. Chief LaRue reported the school Dekko Foundation was funding one of the school programs already and it has funded it for years. He advised it sounded like it would be a continuing grant but would be making a presentation to the Foundation on March 9 and should learn more about the grant then.

Walt Crowder was comfortable with it and felt they proceed with caution. Dan Weigold felt it would be a great opportunity to get more involved. Walt Crowder agreed.

CEMETERY MOWING Rosie Coyle advised it was time to either go out for bids or renew the contract with the current company.

Kelly Cearbaugh felt it would be nice if we could add leaf removal to the contract. He stated maintenance issues such as bumping stones needs to be addressed.

Rosie Coyle questioned if we could include in the agreement that if the company does not do what we expect, or have complaints, that we could terminate the contract. Attorney McNagny advised we could definitely put that in.

Walt Crowder felt we have some new businesses in the area and would be good for us to do competitive bidding and recommended rebidding the contract. Dan Weigold agreed especially

since we would be adding some responsibilities. Mayor Daniel asked Kelly Cearbaugh to get his list of recommendations to Rosie Coyle.

Motion was made by Crowder to support the recommendation to go out for bid for the years 2016, 2017 & 2018, Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

CHARGES FOR USE OF ICLOUD TO PAY UTILITY BILLS Rosie Coyle stated with the new program customers will have the capability of paying through Invoice Cloud. She asked the Board if they wanted the City to absorb the processing fee or pass through to the customer. She provided the Board with a spreadsheet of what customers were currently paying. She explained if we would set the level at \$500.00 the fee would be \$4.95 and they currently pay 3.95% of the total of their bill.

Mayor Daniel felt it would be good to get to a place where the fee was integrated into the rates so there was not that extra charge.

Walt Crowder confirmed a percentage was not an option with this company. Rosie Coyle advised that was correct and would need to choose a transaction limit of \$300, \$400 or \$500. She explained the fee for up to \$300 would be \$2.95, up to \$400 would be \$3.95 and up to \$500 would be \$4.95. She explained if someone had a \$600 bill they would have to make two transactions.

Dan Weigold confirmed those fees would go for the operating costs. Mayor Daniel advised they would go to the company, not the City. He stated if the City would absorb it we would pay those fees directly. He was not sure it made sense to do that now but would like to get there at some point. He advised he was comfortable going with the \$500 level. Walt Crowder felt it was a good starting point. Dan Weigold agreed.

Motion was made by Crowder to accept the recommendation to go to the \$500 and the \$4.95 service fee to be added on for the 3rd party billing service iCloud, Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

BILLS Motion was made by Weigold to approve the bills in the amount of \$1,184,184.70, Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

REPURPOSE POLICE VEHICLE FOR FIRE INSPECTOR Tom LaRue reported he had been talking with Chief Hively in reference to a retired police vehicle that he could potentially bring over to the Fire Department and repurpose for use by the Fire Inspector. He explained Terry Wherry and Chris LaRue have been sharing a vehicle but with both having a need for a vehicle there were times when there were conflicts.

Chief LaRue asked for the Board's permission to make a trade of a siren head to the police department for a vehicle so that Chris could be more productive in doing his job. The Board was in agreement of the trade.

DISPOSAL OF DODGE DURANGO Mayor Daniel asked the Board to strongly consider getting rid of the Dodge Durango. Tom LaRue felt that would be appropriate as it was in bad shape.

The Board was in agreement to dispose of the Dodge Durango due to it being unsafe.

DEPARTMENT GENERATORS Mike Shoda reported he had a price to purchase a generator for the water plant that would run Well 7, high service pump, filters and the chlorinator so that if anything happens we would still be able to provide filtered water. He advised the price for the generator was \$47,000 and with labor it would be about \$75,000. He talked with Rosie and she advised there was money in the equipment fund for it.

Mike Shoda advised they needed to consider not only furnishing water to the citizens but also pumping water for fire protection.

Dan Weigold shared after the 5-6 hour situation we had a month or so ago he felt we needed to prepare ourselves for situations like that, even though it does not happen very often.

Mike Shoda advised that IDEM, during their last inspection, said we needed to have backup power. He reported there was another inspection coming up and if written up again, he felt we may receive a letter from the State. He noted that we do have the diesel pump but if that is turned on we have to put a boil water advisory out.

Walt Crowder advised he did not disagree and felt they needed to continue to move forward. He stated there were more things he would like to talk about, not just for water, but across the whole utilities. Mayor Daniel advised he would like to review the financial situation but also Mike Cook and Shawn Lickey had information for their locations.

Mike Cook shared their quote for just equipment alone to power the office and blower building was \$41,445 but did not have an install price. He had a couple companies coming in to provide quotes.

Shawn Lickey reported for the MSF the total for equipment and labor was \$42,000 and would power the entire building. He advised they do have a manual start generator but only powers some of the lighting. He shared that he was hesitant to spend the money on generation as they would not be in the building anyway; would rather spend that money on upkeep of the lines.

Dan Weigold shared he would like to look at what someone could do comprehensively instead of doing things individually.

Mayor Daniel tabled the issue until the next meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES Rosie Coyle asked for approval of the miscellaneous charges. She advised the only thing that changed was the charge for copies.

Mayor Daniel asked that the charge for the trash bags be changed to \$1.00.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the charges for service and equipment as presented, Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

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

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle