

**BOARD OF WORKS**  
**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2017**  
**5:00 PM**

Mayor Ryan Daniel – Present  
Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle – Present  
Attorney Marcia McNagny - Absent  
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 December 12, 2017 meeting minutes as presented, Walter Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT – ROBERT SANDS** Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the employment training agreement with Robert Sands to begin on the date of official employment, Daniel Weigold seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**ENGINEERING AGREEMENT – RE-CONDUCTOR PROJECT** Shawn Lickey reminded the Board of the outage issue with the high school substation. He shared the eventual plan is to eliminate that substation but with the outage it became obvious that they needed to be better prepared for when that substation does go out of service. He advised he has met with Spectrum Engineering about the project and it looked as though they need to re-conductor a lot of the lines throughout town. He explained there would be 3 phases of that project and once complete they would be able to feed every customer in Columbia City off of one substation.

Shawn Lickey shared the total for Phase I was \$44,976.00 and asked the Board to act favorably on the project. He advised it would probably be a 2-3 year project.

Mayor Daniel noted with projects that require engineering; typically the engineering ends up being about 10% of the total project costs and questioned if they would be looking at \$450,000.00 project, give or take. Shawn advised Spectrum had not given him a ballpark number yet but felt that would be close and was why they were going in phases. He explained the first phase would give them the ability to eliminate the high school substation; phase 2 & 3 would make it possible to be able to back feed if another substation was lost. He confirmed this agreement would be for engineering of the first phase.

Walt Crowder questioned the timeframe in which this project would be completed. Shawn Lickey advised he would like to have it done in 3 years. Walt Crowder confirmed the work being done was in preparation to reroute everything to other substations we want to keep functional; nothing would be done at the high school site. Shawn Lickey advised that was correct. He explained the only thing that would be done at the high school site was re-conductoring to the site and shared that site would be the future site of their switching station so that they can do all of the switching from one location.

Walt Crowder questioned if there was any language to support the time perimeter. Shawn Lickey did not believe there was. Walt Crowder expressed a concern for not putting a target time in the agreement. Shawn Lickey advised he would like to put in by June of 2018, which would give them 6 months.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve Task Order #142CCMU12042017A for Phase 1 of the re-conductor project and to be completed by June 30, 2018, Walt Crowder seconded the motion.

Rosie Coyle noted the agreement referred to Exhibit A, B & C and questioned where those were. Shawn Lickey advised the City signed a blanket agreement with Spectrum Engineering several years ago so we do not have to go through the pay, etc. every time we do a project with them. Rosie Coyle felt those should be hooked to the agreement since they are referred to.

Upon the motion, all voted aye.

**FINAL APPROVAL – WOODDALE PROJECT** Mayor Daniel reported the Wooddale project had been completed in the engineering phase and asked approval from the Board to go out for bids on the project.

Motion was made by Dan Weigold to go out for bids for the Wooddale construction project, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**QUOTES FOR NEW ELECTRIC METERS** Shawn Lickey reported he and Brent Buckles have been working on this project for awhile and would like to move forward with the pilot program. He reported for 100 meters the cost would be \$17,600.00 and would be the same meters that would be part of the main project moving forward. He explained the pilot was designed to work out any snags going forward with deployment whether it is building, collection, software, etc. He noted that Northeastern REMC received permission to purchase these same meters and were excited to help us get going. Mayor Daniel questioned if there would be any discount if we would order with REMC. Shawn Lickey advised there would be when we do full deployment.

Mayor Daniel questioned the difference in the types of meters. Shawn Lickey explained there were basically 2 different styles of meters; residential and instrument rated meters, which were more for commercial. He advised this pilot would only be for residential as it was a lot less risky. He shared they do have a few commercial meters in place and those were working very well. He advised there was an implantation piece that gets the reads into our billing system, which was the biggest step. He reported they were still working with Tantalus who was collecting the reads, putting them on the server and then off the server to get them into our billing software. He advised once they get these 100 meters going and working seamlessly then he would be back to the Board for deployment options.

Rosie Coyle questioned if anyone had been working with Keystone on this. Shawn Lickey advised Boyce and Tantalus have been in discussions and were still working on it. Rosie Coyle questioned if they cannot get it to work would everything have to be hand entered. Shawn

Lickey advised they would have to be hand entered but we were already doing that. He explained they have had over 70 meters fail in the last 2 months and they do not make our radio read meters anymore so the only option was to put in the AMI meters and hand read for now. Rosie Coyle confirmed there was no chance it was not going to work. Shawn Lickey shared that Tantalus promised him they could get any billing system to work and Boyce seemed pretty optimistic the last time they talked.

Additional discussion followed regarding the investment and the need for the meters and billing software to work together. Walt Crowder questioned if we needed the quantity being requested at this time. Shawn Lickey explained Tantalus suggested 100 because that gives pretty good coverage but could do as many as 50. Rosie Coyle questioned how many were not working now. Shawn Lickey advised at last count it was at least 40+.

Walt Crowder questioned when we get ready for the transparency would this all go out to bid. Shawn Lickey explained there were only 2 companies that bid in Tantalus and I-Tron meter; Anixter and Brownstown. Walt Crowder questioned Shawn if he would be comfortable just doing 100 meters and just a few of the disconnects. Shawn Lickey explained the disconnect was in the meter itself, not the Tantalus module. He explained the cost breakdown of the meter and module.

Mayor Daniel advised he was supportive of it with the understanding they would be taking a \$17,000 risk. He shared he would like to see additional pressure put on both companies to get this patch worked out because we cannot really make any further steps until that is worked out. He agreed with Walt Crowder in that we need an update as to where they were in getting the patch put together.

Shawn Lickey shared if we do not purchase these meters he needed to purchase something. He felt it made more sense to purchase something they hopefully will be moving forward with.

Walt Crowder confirmed the AMI meter would get us by on the day to day needs and could be enhanced when appropriate. Shawn Lickey advised that was correct.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve Shawn Lickey's request for Quote U00525378 for Anixter for the purchase of 100 meters and modules for the price of \$17,600.00, Walt Crowder seconded the motion.

Shawn Lickey advised once the meters were in place he would give the Board a better idea of what a long term plan would look like. Walt Crowder confirmed with Shawn he would still have an update at the next Board meeting on the billing piece. Shawn advised he would.

Upon the motion, all voted aye.

**QUOTES FOR NEW WASTEWATER TRUCK** Mike Cook reminded the Board of his request for a purchase of a new truck to replace the 2001 Chevy. He shared in the meantime their 2004 dump truck has failed; the rear end went out and has been nothing but trouble ever since it was purchased. He asked permission to instead purchase a dump truck. He added that

they were to replace their loader tractor in 2018 and thought if they would push that back a couple years, since nothing was wrong with the current one, and use the funding for that to put together a package to purchase both a pickup and dump truck. He advised he would have the vehicles bid individually and as a package.

The Board was in agreement to move forward.

**BILLS** Motion was made by Dan Weigold to pay the bills in the amount of \$1,682,611.40, Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

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Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

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Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle