

**BOARD OF WORKS  
TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2023  
5:00 PM**

Mayor Ryan Daniel – Present  
Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle – Present  
Attorney Marcia McNagny – Present  
Walter Crowder – Present  
Nicole Penrod – Absent

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

**MINUTES** Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve an overview of the March 14, 2023, meeting minutes with the spelling correction, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**BURGESS & NIPLE GROUNDWATER AGREEMENT** Chip Hill explained this was the standard agreement we have with them every year. Mayor Daniel explained Burgess & Niple performs the groundwater monitoring of the former Wayne Waste Reclamation site. He felt they provided the service for a pretty reasonable cost at \$13,300.00 Rosie Coyle noted the cost increased \$800 from last year.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve Proposal #23-1017 with Burges & Niple for the Wayne Reclamation and Recycling Facility as presented with a lump sum amount of \$13,300.00, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**UTILITY IMPROVEMENT IN RIGHT OF WAY – 102 E. CHICAGO ST. – BRIGHTSPEED** Mayor Daniel noted this was to place fiber to the Speedway on East Chicago Street.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the application to locate utility improvements within City right of way for Brightspeed, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**PERMIT TO CUT INTO STREETS – 851 N. EMANCIPATION CT. – NIPSCO** Mayor Daniel noted this was for the installation of gas service by NIPSCO.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder to allow the curb cut for NIPSCO for a 1” main at 851 N. Emancipation Ct., Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**PERMIT TO CUT INTO STREETS – 1615 W. BUDDALE DR. – NIPSCO** Mayor Daniel noted this was also for the installation of gas service by NIPSCO.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the permit to cut into curbs, streets or alleys for 1615 W. Buddale Dr. for gas service as presented, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**PERMIT TO CUT INTO STREETS – 239 W. LONGFELLOW BLVD– NIPSCO** Mayor Daniel noted this was for the installation of a 1” gas service for a new home.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the permit to cut into curbs, streets or alleys for 239 W. Longfellow Blvd. for gas service for NIPSCO, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT – 846 S. ARCHER COURT – TIFFANY BURTON**  
Discussion took place on the encroachment. Chip Hill did not feel there were any concerns.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the encroachment agreement for 846 S. Archer Ct. with the caveat that if our utilities need to get back there for some reason we would remove the fence and would be at the owners expense to replace it, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**STREET CLOSING PERMIT: EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATION TRAINING**  
Gary Parrett explained they were looking to close down Towerview Dr. between SR 205 and Short Street on Sunday, April 30. He advised they have talked to all of the business owners and would be able to give them access if needed. He advised they would like to close the streets from 8 am – 8 pm.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder to grant the street closing request for emergency vehicle operation training dated April 30 from 8 am – 8 pm, Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**BILLS** Motion was made by Walt Crowder to approve the accounts payable vouchers dated March 28, 2023 in the amount of \$993,309.48, Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder to approve the accounts payable vouchers for EFT payments in the amount of \$131,101.47, Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder to approve meter deposits in the amount of \$3,172.68, Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**PAYROLL** Motion was made by Walt Crowder to pay March 10, 2023 payroll except overtime in the amount of \$246,275.99, Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Motion was made by Walt Crowder to pay overtime for March 10, 2023 in the amount of \$5,902.79, Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**A & Z ENGINEERING AGREEMENT – PHASE 2 WESTGATE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS** Mayor Daniel advised Phase 1 was completed in 2022 and hope to have just 2 more phases. He shared they were originally looking at 3 or 4 phases with a new storm water line going from basically Westgate down to Phillips Ditch but the total project estimate was around \$11 million, which is just not something we can handle. He advised they looked at additional ways in which they can address the storm water issues, improve the roads, put in curbs

and sidewalks and really make that subdivision what it should have been when annexed into the City. He shared A & Z was asked to put together a contract to do the engineering to effectively finish off Westgate. He noted the goal was to apply for a Community Crossings grant to potentially get up to \$1 million. Chip Hill explained the process. Walt Crowder questioned when the actual construction would start. Mayor Daniel advised it would be 2024; we would apply in the second round of Community Crossings in 2023 for construction year 2024. He noted if there were 2 phases, and can figure a way to do it, their hope was to apply for phase 3 in 2024 and construction in 2025.

Walt Crowder questioned how this would be communicated. Mayor Daniel advised they have a Westgate Facebook account as well will have a community meeting with the Westgate individuals.

Mayor Daniel shared one of the things they were looking into is the opportunity to potentially use green infrastructure out there.

Motion was made by Mayor Daniel to approve the consulting engineering agreement with A & Z in a not to exceed amount for \$106,300.00 for the Westgate phase 2 project, Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

**DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PLAN – SCOPE PROPOSAL** Chip Hill explained this would be to do a study of what they would like to do downtown for \$48,500.00. After some discussion it was decided to table approval until the next meeting.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS** **Chip Hill** – met with ERI and are 30% complete on the trail, plans went out on Eagle Park for bids. **Mike Cook** – CSO project started, splash pad application completed, started UV system, SDI force main and valves cleaned. **Terry Wherry** – waiting on a quote to extend fiber to new park office and Eagle Park, updating computers to Windows 11. **Gary Parrett** – success story with drone program, hired 2 new officers and opened another hiring process, update on officers at police academy, update on dispatch hiring process. **Mike Shoda** – working on drainage problems, ordered new PLC for water plant. **Kelly Cearbaugh** – televising and vac truck in Columbia Shores. **Tom LaRue** – damage to Truck 109 from exhaust removal hose.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT – REQUEST FOR NEW HIRE** Tom LaRue reported Kyle Walters has turned in a letter of resignation and requested permission to start the hiring process. He advised he would like to look at a lateral process first and if that does not produce anything then move onto a full hiring process. Mayor Daniel questioned Chief LaRue if he felt there was a good candidate pool to do the lateral process. Chief LaRue believed so as he has had several individuals show interest in the past year.

The Board agreed to move forward with the process.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT – PURCHASE OF NEW TRUCK** Tom LaRue requested permission to move forward with getting quotes on a new fire truck. Mayor Daniel questioned what the cost

could potentially be. Chief LaRue advised, all included, somewhere around \$1.1 million which would include truck and all equipment.

Mayor Daniel shared the plan from a financing perspective was to do a lease structure, which is atypical from what we normally do. He advised because of the price, he felt we should spread it out so it was more budgetable and not bond or dip into savings for.

Rosie Coyle questioned delivery time. Chief LaRue advised they were getting word they could be well over 2 years.

Discussion took place on purchasing the truck and equipment separately as there potentially could be an increase in equipment costs. Mayor Daniel was not sure we had the money right now to purchase the equipment. He also shared he did not want to buy equipment for it to sit in the bay for a year waiting for a truck to be delivered. He felt we needed to do an all-encompassing package. Walt Crowder felt if a salesman knew he had an opportunity to win the bid they would find a partner to provide the accessories.

The Board agreed to move forward with getting bids for an all-encompassing package.

**MAYOR REPORTS** Mayor Daniel reported Chip Hill was standing in as the interim Park Director and anticipated having a hiring process mid-April.

**YOUTH COUNCIL** Jackson Shipman was present representing the Youth Council. He shared what they did at their last meeting.

Having no further business to come before the Board, Mayor Daniel called the meeting adjourned.

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Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

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Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle