

**BOARD OF WORKS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023
5:00 PM**

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

The Columbia City Board of Works met in regular session with all members present. Mayor Daniel called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

MINUTES Mayor Daniel noted he had one correction to the spelling of the Youth Council member's name. Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the November 28, 2023 meeting minutes as corrected, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

STREET/PARKING CLOSING – 126 W. VAN BUREN Mayor Daniel explained the request was to block off 2 parking spaces for window installation at 126 W. Van Buren Street. He noted the dates were for December 13 - 15.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the street closing permit for 126 W. Van Buren Street for the 2 parking spaces in front as presented, Nicole Penrod seconded the motion.

Walt Crowder questioned who would monitor it to make sure there were no unsafe conditions. Chief Parrett advised he would monitor it.

Upon the motion, all voted aye.

PARKING CLOSING FOR ANNUAL CANDY GIVEAWAY DECEMBER 24 Tom LaRue advised it would be the same set up as they have had since Covid. He shared the drive-thru has worked out pretty well and were requesting to continue that again this year.

Mayor Daniel confirmed the route with Chief LaRue. Chief Parrett advised they would provide the cones.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the Fire Department candy giveaway as presented. Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

MOU – WARSAW FIRE DEPARTMENT Tom LaRue reported that Chief Mayo from Warsaw Fire Department sent out a request for an MOU to be signed between Warsaw and Columbia City. He explained if they have anything major, we would respond with our ladder truck and if we have anything major they would respond to ours. He shared right now with the statewide mutual aid agreement, you are only dedicated to that request for one operational period, which is 12 hours. He advised this would solidify that until the situation is rectified we would be able to hold them here or they could hold us there. He confirmed it really just does away with that 12-hour operational period.

Mayor Daniel questioned if this would create any manpower issues for us. Chief LaRue advised if they request us, it would create manpower issues and would have to call in personnel, it is just the way it would have to be but would be likewise for them. He did not feel in today's world it would come to that very often but is good to have in place when you do need somebody. He advised Attorney McNagny reviewed the MOU.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the mutual aid agreement with the Warsaw-Wayne Fire Territory as presented. Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

SERVICE AGREEMENT – INDIANA REPORTS ONLINE Tom LaRue reminded the Board as mentioned in early October, this is the software where inspection companies

would report to when they do an inspection on a sprinkler system. He advised if the Board passes this, it would go to Council for an ordinance which would mandate companies who do inspections to report to the software.

Mayor Daniel reiterated that there were challenges with the fire suppression system in a building that was being remodeled and the lack of oversight that was a part of that. He advised this would give us kind of a second check mark, if you will, to not just take somebody's word for it, and would get the actual report. He stated at the end of the day we can ensure that every resident and every individual going into a business is going to be safe.

Chief LaRue shared right now, it was like an Easter egg hunt for his guys to find the paperwork and most times have to ask for it, then have to look through it to see if there were any deficiencies in that system. He explained with this, those deficiencies are automatically reported and those red flags indicate to us that there is a problem with their system.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the IROL Service Agreement as presented. Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Walt Crowder questioned the fee and if it was per occurrence? Or per report? Trent Stamper explained there was a per report fee, but it does not come to the City. He advised it goes to the inspection company.

120WATER – ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL Mike Shoda explained they needed to extend the subscription for one more year. He reported after this year, they would have all the lines verified so they can send information to IDEM and EPA. He advised the cost was \$16,600.00 but after this year they would not renew. He thought they would be done, but in Columbia City, there were so many lead lines that they have to identify.

Mayor Daniel felt it probably would behoove us to explain to the public that our water is not corrosive. Mike Shoda advised that was correct. He explained they have to do lead test every 3 years and ours have always passed. He stressed that our water was safe but in 2025 they have to start taking the lead lines out.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the 2023 renewal for 120Water as presented. Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

QUOTES FOR A NEW TRENCHER Shawn Lickey advised at the last meeting he asked permission to get quotes to replace their 2005 Vermeer Trencher that was having a few issues. He noted it has been a really good trencher but obviously is almost 20 years old. He reported he got the quotes back; there were only two companies making these machines right now, Ditch Witch and Vermeer. He reviewed the quotes with the Board; the best quote from Vermeer was \$109,168.00 and Ditch Witch was \$101,968.00 for about a \$7,000 difference. He recommended going with Vermeer since they have all Vermeer equipment and have a local Vermeer store that already delivers to the shop. He advised they offered \$16,650.00 for the trade in which would leave an end price of \$92,518.00. He shared Ditch Witch said they would offer a trade in price if they were awarded the bid. He also noted that they have not sold a trencher for 2 years.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve the bid for Vermeer Midwest with the quote amount of \$109,168.00 with a trade in value of \$16,650.00 for a total, with trade, of \$92,518.00. Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

QUOTE FOR FLYGT EQUIPMENT – WASTEWATER Mike Cook explained they had a couple of these units on their current pumps but one was malfunctioning and is causing the pump to shut down. He advised they were outdated and starting to fail so had a quote put together to replace them with the most recent units that have more capabilities and more areas to look at as far as monitoring the pumps. He reviewed the quote with an amount of \$35,345.38.

Mayor Daniel made a motion to approve Quote #2023-IND-0800 for a total price of \$35,345.38 as presented. Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

API PAY REQUEST - 100 S. SEWER Chip Hill explained this was a hybrid project with the County and the City. He advised the County was paying the bills and the City was running the project. He asked the Board to give him permission to sign off on the pay apps because of the way in which the County RDC meetings fall with ours there could be a 2-week delay in the approval process. He advised he met with the County RDC this morning and they approved the pay app retroactively if the Board of Works approved it tonight. He reported the 1st pay app was for the amount of \$94,303.41.

Mayor Daniel shared that Chip and he talked and felt since all the actual payments were being made through the County Redevelopment Commission, it probably made sense, since they effectively are the paying body, for Chip to review it before it goes to them. He advised it was going to end up being our infrastructure, which is why it was important for our people to take a look at the information to make sure they were doing what they are supposed to be doing.

Nicole Penrod and Walt Crowder advised they would be ok with having Chip review and sign off on the pay apps for this project. Nicole Penrod seconded the motion, all voted aye.

PAYROLL Nicole Penrod made a motion to pay all pay types except overtime in the amount of \$258,721.03 plus overtime in the amount of \$7,227.34 for a total of \$265,948.37 for the payfile ending 12/01/23. Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Nicole Penrod made a motion to pay all pay types except overtime in the amount of \$36,322.69 for wellness bonuses from the payfile ending 12/08/23. Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

VOLUNTEER FIRE PAY Nicole Penrod made a motion to pay all accounts payable in the amount of \$21,499.98 from the allowance of accounts payable vouchers dated December 8, 2023, for volunteer fire pay. Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

BILLS Nicole Penrod made a motion to pay all accounts payable in the amount of \$734,042.32 from the allowance of accounts payable vouchers dated December 12, 2023, for check payments. Mayor Daniel seconded the motion, all voted aye.

Nicole Penrod made a motion to pay all accounts payable. In the amount of \$276,949.39 from the allowance of accounts payable vouchers dated December 12, 2023 for EFT payments. Walt Crowder seconded the motion, all voted aye.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS **Gary Parrett** - Casey Hershberger started and is in the FTO process, received their cars from COPS Gear, Deputy Chief interviews this week, held trainer meeting and have most of the training scheduled for 2024, Dispatch shift lead interviews next week. **Chip Hill** - moving forward with 100 S. sewer project, Eagle Park will be bid January 22nd, meeting with the County to discuss Westgate drainage and then Monday night will be meeting with the Westgate residents, hoping to get the Trail out for a bid this month. **Mike Shoda** - set cement structure at Chauncey and Ellsworth Street and started laying the 30" pipe going South on Chauncey Street this week. **Kelly Cearbaugh** - winding down with leaf pickup, helping Shawn's crew with tree removal, poured a couple sidewalks for the water department. **Terry Wherry** - waiting on equipment to finish up the different fiber projects going on, have over 350 ft. of fiber to fix at Morsches Park. **Shawn Lickey** - update on the 69 kv conversion project, finished specs for the bucket truck and will probably have bid opening around January 9, attended IMPA Commissioners meeting and then was followed up their first Joint Municipal Legislative Committee meeting, will be starting on trees in the next couple weeks. **Matt Heiden** - ribbon cutting for the new office, cleaning up fallen trees from the last few storms and cutting down some of the dead ones that were marked for removal, ice rink opened December 1st. **Mike Cook** - working to get the sludge pump back in the tank,

staff evaluations were completed, power outage caused several issues at the plant and looking ahead, when we do that again, they will shut everything down prior to the outage. **Tom LaRue** - hired company to come in and evaluate where we are with our fire protection area, volunteers were paid for the year, all trucks have been repaired, truck specs have been completed and reviewed by engineering with bid opening February 27, Rhys Perry promoted to Captain with Rodney Ousley retiring it left a shift captain position open, Christmas candy giveaway at 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the courthouse.

YOUTH COUNCIL Sariah Arnold was present to share Youth Council activities.

LAST BOARD OF WORKS MEETING FOR 2023 Mayor Daniel reminded the Board that the final meeting for 2023 will be held on December 28.

Having no further business to discuss, Mayor Daniel called the meeting adjourned.

Mayor Ryan Daniel

Attest:

Clerk Treasurer Rosie Coyle