

# **Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission**

**April 21, 1999**

The Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting at 4:00 PM, Wednesday, April 21, 1999, at the Rogers Water Utilities Training Center. Commissioners present for the meeting were Donnie Moore, Jerry Pittman, Lon Pepple, and Beck Scott. Dick McLelland was absent. RWU staff in attendance were Tom McAlister, Mark Johnson, Joyce Johnson, Mike Lawrence, Don Roberts, Earl Rausch, Judy Bridges, Randy Goodwin, and Randy Watson. Others in the audience were Jim Clark, Rebecca Pilcher, Tom Sissom, Jerry Kelso, Don Bridges, Bill Platz, David Cauldwell, and Joe Tarvin. Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

Action on the minutes of the March meeting was postponed to the next meeting.

Tom McAlister recognized the following members of the RWU staff for significant anniversaries in their careers with Rogers Water Utilities: Judy Bridges, twenty years, Randy Goodwin, 15 years, and Randy Watson, 10 years. All were presented with Certificates of Appreciation and gifts from the Commission.

Mark Johnson, Utilities Engineer, was recognized. Johnson brought the Commission up to date on the many construction projects involving water and sewer in Rogers. Johnson recognized Bill Platz, P. E., an engineer representing Paul Martin, a landowner in Monte Ne Shores, who needs a main line water extension to serve his property. The extension was approximately 80 feet long. Since this was outside the city limits, Platz needed approval from the Commission. Motion by Pittman, second by Pepple, to allow the extension, subject to approval by the City Council. All in favor, motion carried.

Johnson presented a bid tabulation for a short water line extension on Liberty Bell Road, which the Commission had approved at an earlier meeting. The low bid was \$14,135 from DECCO, Inc. Motion by Scott, second by Pittman, to approve the low bid. All in favor, motion carried.

Johnson said the city street department had started to channelize a drainage ditch in Chateau Terrace, which imperiled a pier supporting a large outfall sewer. Mark had designed a fix for the situation, which involved some paving of the ditch and a new pier. Johnson said that he had secured a bid from Northwest Excavation, Inc., for \$27,000 to do the work. Johnson said that the price was reasonable, and since time was critical, we could not wait for the usual competitive bid process. Johnson recommended that the Commission waive competitive bids and award the project to Northwest. Motion by Scott, second by Pittman, to waive the requirements of competitive bidding and award the project to Northwest Excavation for \$27,000. All in favor, motion carried.

Johnson continued with the issue of water and sewer lines to the new high school. Johnson said that the staff at RWU had requested that the school's engineer/architect, Crafton and Tull, change the design of the sewer to accommodate further expansion of the sewer system. Staff had also recommended a short water line extension to close a hydraulic loop at Perry Road and S. 21<sup>st</sup> St. The school's dirt contractor, DECCO, had submitted a change order for \$43,752 to do the work. With engineering fees of six percent, the total cost to do the work was set at \$46,377.12. Motion by Scott, second by Pittman, to waive competitive bidding, and approve the expenditure of \$46, 377.12. All in favor, motion carried.

Finally, Mark Johnson brought up the issue of the proposed Rogers annexation of about 1200 acres on the south west side of the City. Johnson reminded the Commission that, at the public meeting at Bellview School held earlier this month, many persons were interested to know when they could get water. McAlister had said that water could be extended into the area within 90 days of the passage of the annexation and the passage of the thirty-day recall period. Johnson showed the Commission a preliminary design of a water line extending into the annexation area. He estimated that the cost would be about \$564,000. Moore asked about the agreement with Beaver Water District and the four cities, which delineated the water service area boundaries. Had Springdale agreed to release their service area? McAlister said that he had spoken to Springdale's water and sewer director, and had been told to "try to work things out with Lowell", since some of the annexation area was in the area delineated as "Lowell service area". Jim Clark, Deputy City Attorney, said that Lowell was not signatory to the 1967 memorandum of understanding, which set forth the service area boundaries. McAlister said that, if the annexation passed, then he would seek Springdale's release of the area. McAlister asked the Commission to allow the Utilities to design the water extension so that, if the annexation passed, the Commission would be able to proceed with the waterline project. Motion by Pittman, second by Scott, to allow the staff to proceed with the design of the project. All in favor, motion carried.

The issue of a joint hydraulic study between Beaver Water District, Bentonville, and Rogers was discussed. McAlister presented the Commission with a letter from Richard Starr, Manager of Beaver Water District, which detailed the need for an engineering study, and a draft copy of a engineering contract between Beaver and McGoodwin, Williams, and Yates, Inc. The cost for developing the hydraulic model was not to exceed \$47,000 plus the cost of computer software. The contract alluded to a second phase of the project, in which the engineers would make projections of demand in the future, and make recommendations for capital expenditures and/or operational changes. McAlister said that the hydraulic study was needed before RWU could proceed with the water storage tank design. There was a lot of discussion regarding the details of the contract, and the next phase, for which a price had not been set. Motion by Scott, second by Pittman, to approve the contract, with the stipulation that not more than \$33,000 of the Commission's funds be spent for the project. All in favor, motion carried.

The FY '00 budget proposals were discussed. Pittman asked if the Commission needed to vote on the budget now? McAlister said that this was a draft for the review by

the Commission. There was a discussion about some of the details of the budget, but no action was taken.

The March financial sheets were discussed. No action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 4:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom S. McAlister, Acting Secretary  
Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission

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