

Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission

May 16, 2005

Minutes

The Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting at 4:00 PM, Monday, May 16, 2005, in the Rogers City Administration Building. Commissioners present were Donnie Moore, Jerry Pittman, Lon Pepple, Donna Warren, and Don Kendall. Rogers Water Utilities staff in attendance were Tom McAlister, Mark Johnson, Joyce Johnson, Stephen Ponder, Earl Rausch, William Evans, Tim House, Mike Lawrence, and Cindy Bitgood. Others in attendance were Don Dailey, Jason Kelley, Derrel Smith, Mike Rowe, Heather Robason, and John Easterling. Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

There was a motion by Pittman, second by Warren, to approve the April minutes as submitted. All in favor, motion carried.

Mark Johnson, P. E., Utilities Engineer, recognized Cindy Bitgood, Engineering Secretary, with a certificate acknowledging ten years of dedicated service to Rogers Water Utilities.

Johnson presented the Commission with a short report on the several construction jobs in which the Commission had a monetary interest. He reported good progress on the large diameter water line project on Old Wire Road. Johnson said that the water line contractor for Pleasant Grove Road had ran into difficulties making a tap on the existing 24-inch water transmission main. He said the water line contractor on S. First St. was stalled due to lack of right-of-way (currently being obtained by the City of Rogers).

Continuing, Johnson reported that the Lilac St. ground storage tank and pump station was essentially complete and in service. He said that the water lines in New Hope had been constructed and placed into service, and that only some cleanup issues were left to resolve.

Moore asked if the residences on Prestwick had connected to the new sewer system yet. Earl Rausch, P. E., Design Engineer, said that connections to the system were

waiting cleanup from the general contractor. Rausch said that he had received no calls desiring to connect to the new sewer system on W. New Hope Road.

Continuing, Johnson said that the City's street widening projects were still pending receipt of plans from consulting engineers. What about service to the new junior high on S. First St.? Someone asked. Johnson said that the sewer existed, and that the water main construction had been contracted earlier. In any case, the school would not open until fall of next year, he said.

Moore recognized Stephen Ponder, P. E., Project Facilitation Engineer. Ponder gave a brief report detailing some of the activities of his section. He noted that there had been an increase in the number of predesign meetings, which were beneficial to both the engineers and Rogers Water Utilities. Ponder said he thought the meetings were well received by the design community.

Moore recognized Heather Robason, P. E., Morrison and Shipley Engineering. Robason said she represented the Adams family, who owned some land on Tiffany Circle on Highway 94 East, in Benton County. She said her client desired to extend a main approximately 600 feet to serve approximately four tracts of property. She said that she desired the approval of the Commission before she went to City Council.

Someone asked if the owner was asking for aid to build the main. The answer was, "No". Pepple moved, second by Pittman, to approve the main line extension, contingent upon approval by City Council. All in favor, motion carried.

Moore recognized Joyce Johnson, CPA, Utilities Controller. Johnson presented the Commission with financial sheets for April. She noted the water sales were off from the same period last year, but due to the 12 percent rate increase last January, RWU had still managed to make a "profit". She noted that over \$200,000 had been collected in water/sewer access fees in April.

Johnson then presented the Commission with copies of the draft budget report for FY 2006. She went through the budget for the Commission, pointing out the need for major capital expenditures in the coming fiscal year. She said that she had budgeted two, six million dollar bond issues for early calendar year 2006, one for water and one for sewer. Johnson noted that the manpower contingent had risen by seven full time equivalents. Since RWU had started the process of accounting contributed mainlines from others, in order to better reflect the fiscal condition of the Utilities, depreciation expense had increased dramatically. There were a few questions from the Commission. Johnson encouraged the Commission to look over the draft budgets, and call her with any questions.

McAlister said that he attended a meeting at Beaver Water District with the Mayors of Rogers and Bentonville, to discuss the upcoming hot, dry months, and expected high water demand. He reported that the mayors were in agreement, that both

cities should communicate and cooperate with Beaver Water District, in order to protect the water system from destructively high demands.

Moore asked if McAlister had a contingency plan in place for curtailment of the water supply. McAlister said that RWU had an Emergency Response Plan.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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