

Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission

June 17, 2002

Minutes

The Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting at 4:00 PM, Monday, June 17, 2002, in the Rogers Water Utilities Training Center. Commissioners in attendance were Don Moore, Dick McLelland, Lon Pepple, and Fred Wanger. Jerry Pittman was absent. Rogers Water Utilities staff in attendance were Tom McAlister, Mark Johnson, Don Roberts, Earl Rausch, Joyce Johnson, Steve Ponder, and Mike Lawrence. Others in the audience were Jim Clark, Lori Harrison-Stone, Kevin Thomas, E. J. Miller, and H. McLellan. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Moore at 4:00 PM.

There was a motion by Pepple, second by McLelland, to approve the minutes of the May meeting as submitted. All in favor, motion carried.

Moore recognized Mark Johnson, P. E., Utilities Engineer. Johnson presented the Commission with a spreadsheet showing the status of the many construction projects in which the Commission had an interest. He said that the Phase VI sewer project was proceeding, albeit slowly, due in part to rain delays. The same rainy weather had slowed the progress on the Phase VIII sewer project.

Continuing, Johnson said that the Phase III water projects were continuing in the area of I 540 highway and Pleasant Grove Road. He said that one part of the project was almost ready to turn on, that would form a hydraulic loop on the City's southwest side. He said that the contractor had laid most of the 24 inch main.

Johnson reported that bids had been taken to extend water and sewer services to the west side of the airport to serve the proposed air traffic control tower and the fire station. He said that Seven Valleys Construction Co., Inc., of Cassville, Missouri, had submitted the lowest bid, \$85,270. He said that Seven Valleys was doing the water line relocation work in Highway 62 North, so when they had completed the one job, they could move across the airport to the next. There was a motion by McLelland, second by Pepple, to approve the low bid from Seven Valleys. All in favor, motion carried.

Continuing, Johnson reported that the design work on the proposed ground storage tank/pump station at S. 23rd St. at Lilac was continuing, but taking more time than he originally thought. He said the design could be completed by the middle of August. Johnson said that he had finally received permission from the Arkansas Soil and Water Conservation Commission to advertise for bids for the rehabilitation of some large diameter sewer mains using state RLF money. He said that he would bring bids back to the Commission at the August meeting to award a contract to complete the work.

Moore recognized Joyce Johnson, Controller for the Utilities. Johnson presented the May financial sheets. She commented the demand for water had been very soft due to the extremely wet weather.

Moore asked if the City Council had approved the joining of health insurance groups between the City employees and the RWU employees? Johnson said that the Council had approved the merger effective July 1, but would “revisit” the issue when it came time to renew health insurance contracts in January.

Johnson presented the Commission with copies of the FY '03 Budget proposal for the Water and Sewer Departments. She indicated a few changes in the report since last month, including the cost savings from the insurance merger. She showed the Commission that revenue predictions were conservative, and, if all the capital items in the budget were actually bought and paid for in FY '03, the Commission will have spent down a large portion of the Departments' reserve monies.

There were a few questions from the Commission about some expense items, but no changes were required. There was a motion by Pepple, second by McLelland, to approve the budget as submitted. All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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