

August 23, 2010

# Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission

## Minutes

The Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting at 4:00 PM, Monday, August 23, 2010, in the Rogers Water Utilities (RWU) Administration Building. Commissioners in attendance were Guy Cable, Don Kendall, Jene` Huffman-Gilreath, and Travis Greene. RWU staff in attendance were Tom McAlister, Mark Johnson, Joyce Johnson, Robert Moore, William Evans, Earl Rausch, and Johnny Lunsford. Others in attendance were Alan Wooten, Robert Frazier, Steve Patrick, and Roger Surly.

Acting-Chairman Cable called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM (Greene arrived about ten minutes later, and he assumed the meeting leadership). There was a motion by Huffman-Gilreath, second by Kendall, to accept the minutes as submitted. All in favor, motion carried.

Cable recognized Joyce Johnson, Utilities Controller. Johnson presented the financial reports for July 2010, the first month of Fiscal Year 2011. Johnson noted that revenue was up in the Water Department, due to a water rate increase in October and an increase in impact fee collection over the same period last year. Sewer Department revenue was up over 2009, due to an increase in impact/access fees and a decrease in sludge disposal costs. She said that the City's auditors had completed their data collection, and were holding the reports until the access/impact lawsuit was settled and the final costs might be accurately adjusted.

Cable recognized Mark Johnson, Utilities Engineer. Johnson presented the Commission with a report detailing the projects in which the Commission had a pecuniary interest. He said that the 24-inch waterline adjustment between Rozell Street and Olive Street was underway. He said that the waterline adjustments on N. "C" Street were complete except for pavement repair, which the City's street department has promised to complete. Johnson said that the RWU building expansion project was finished, except for a reconciliation of the final pay estimate. The lawyers were negotiating with Traveler's Insurance (the contractor) at this point, Johnson said.

Continuing, Johnson said that the sewer relocations/adjustment/ extensions for the S. 26<sup>th</sup> St. widening were almost complete. He said that a church on S. 26th St. had finally granted an easement for a sewer extension that could eventually serve a large basin of the City which was currently under served. Johnson said that staff was evaluating plans to widen W. Pleasant Grove Road between Bellview Road and Champions Road. He said that the project was one of the City's planned 2011 bond projects.

Johnson said that the engineering plans for the sludge dryer had been submitted to staff at the water treatment plant for review, with some changes necessary. Cable asked how long it would

take (to finish the project). Johnson said that the sludge dryer manufacturer needed at least 36 weeks from the date of the order. Huffman-Gilreath asked what kind of sludge dryer had been selected. Johnson said the staff wanted the device made by ThermaFlight, Inc. Huffman asked if the sludge would then be fertilizer. Johnson said that the dried sludge would have nutrients and organic material, but would not be considered fertilizer, since the final nutrient assay would vary, as well as the particle size. He said the main reason to dry sludge was to reduce hauling and disposal fees. The ultimate disposal had yet to be determined, Johnson said.

Greene asked about the process to secure a replacement Commissioner. Alan Wooten, attorney for the Commission, said that there was no particular prescribed way to determine between multiple applicants. The Commission could vote in public or in an executive session, if desired. The Commissioners were prohibited from discussing the applicants with one another outside the meeting, Wooten said.

Greene recognized Roger Surly, one of the applicants to fill the unexpired term of Lon Pepple. Surly said that he had lived in Rogers since 1976, with the exception of about six years. He said that he had cost accounting work experience with Superior Industries, Glad, PGI, and Wal-Mart, he said. He expressed a general interest in the infrastructure issues facing the City. Surly said he was married and had three sons.

Next, Greene recognized Steve Patrick. Patrick said that he and his family were Rogers residents for seven years. He has worked for Tyson's for that time, he said. His past experience included work for the State and as a consultant, he said. Patrick said that he has been involved in volunteer coaching at the Rogers Activity Center.

The third applicant, Kent Rylee, was absent. Kendall asked McAlister to determine if Rylee was "in or out". Kendall said he preferred that a ballot be sent to the Commissioners and a "winner" be announced at the next Commission meeting.

What if there was no clear winner, or a tie? Huffman-Gilreath asked. At that point, Wooten said, there would need to be deliberation by the Commission. There was a motion by Kendall, second by Greene, to direct McAlister to send out ballots to the Commissioners for a vote next meeting (September 20). All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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