

Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission

August 25, 1998

The Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting at 4:00 PM, Tuesday, August 25, 1998, at the Rogers Water Utilities Training Center. Commissioners Dick McLelland, Beck Scott, Donnie Moore, and Jerry Pittman were present. Lon Pepple was absent. RWU staff in attendance were Tom McAlister, Mark Johnson, Don Roberts, Mike Lawrence, Joyce Johnson, and Terry McCauley. Others in attendance were Jim Clark, Deputy City Attorney, Richard Koenig, Howard Berens, John Bowerman, Bill Platz, Joe Tarvin, Tom Sissom, and Tonya McKeiver. Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

Motion by Scott, second by Pittman, to approve the July minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Moore recognized Mark Johnson, Water Utilities Engineer. Johnson gave a short, oral report on the status on several jobs the City of Rogers was working on. He said that the West Walnut Utilities Relocation job was virtually complete. The waterline replacement project in Hillcrest Addition was 90% complete. The sewer line replacement job in Fairgrounds Addition was about 60% complete, he said. The utility relocations on Olive were complete, Johnson said. Moore asked what was going on behind Kentucky Fried Chicken? Johnson said that the Utilities had contracted with DECCO Contractors to dig up and replace the sewer lines in 7th and Pine Streets, so that the street might be safely paved over.

Moore recognized Don Roberts, Field Operations Superintendent. Roberts presented the Commission with a proposed resolution to waive competitive bids, and award a contract to Hansen Technologies for \$38,860. Roberts said that the existing Hansen software was not Y2K compliant, and that he also desired to upgrade the existing system, which he called the backbone of the sewer rehabilitation effort. He said that, since we already had Hansen software, Hansen could do the conversion much cheaper than migrating to a new system. He also said the new system would track the water system as well. Motion by McLelland, second by Scott, to approve Resolution No. 99-01. All in favor, motion carried.

Moore recognized Bill Platz, P. E., engineer for Lendell Vines Trucking Company. He said the Owner had purchased the land immediately east of Chicken Quick on Olrich Street, and needed sanitary sewer service. His options were: a. jack and bore the railroad, at a cost of \$9505, or b. extend a sewer line 1100 feet south, at an estimated cost of \$20,400. He asked if the Commission was interested in helping his client. McAlister said that the sewer line to the South would benefit an unsewered area on South

First St., which would also fit into the Utilities master plan. Motion by McLelland, second by Pittman, to cooperate in the cost of the sewer line to the South, not to exceed \$10,200. All in favor, motion carried.

Platz then represented his client, Elmer Gall, owner of the proposed Silica Valley Mobile Home Park, on Highway 12 east of Prairie Creek. Platz said that the development had been approved by the Rogers Planning Commission. The extension to serve the MHP was 200 feet of eight-inch pipe and a fire hydrant. Platz said that there would be one master meter for the entire park. Motion by Pittman, second by McLelland, to approve the water extension, subject to the approval of Rogers City Council. All in favor, motion carried.

Moore recognized Rick Koenig, buyer of a parcel of land near Quapah Street, just north of Osage Reservation. Koenig had been before the Commission before to request permission to extend a water service to his property, and had been offered half the cost to extend an eight-inch water main line to his property. At the time, Koenig had demurred, saying that he could not afford the cost. Now, Koenig had a proposal to extend an eight-inch main line across his property, all the way to Wildwood Drive, a private access drive on Koenig's north boundary. Koenig said that he had polled his neighbors, and they were interested in sharing the cost of the main line. Motion by Pittman, second by McLelland, to pay for half the cost of the line, up to \$12,500, provided easements were dedicated all the way North to Dogwood Street. All in favor, motion carried.

Moore recognized Howard Berens, developer of Berens Addition on Green Acres Drive. Berens said that he had recently spent over \$12,000 on water and sewer extensions into his property. Berens said that he had read in the newspaper that the Commission paid for half the cost of water and sewer extensions, and he was asking for "help" of an unspecified nature. McAlister said that the Commission had, in the past, helped people with the cost of off-site utilities, but this improvement was all on-site, and already in the ground. McLelland suggested the Commission table the issue for at least a month, to give the Commission time to develop guidelines for the staff on this sort of request. No action was taken.

Moore recognized Tom McAlister, Utilities Manager. McAlister presented the Commission with the staff's master plan for development. McAlister said that the staff had drawn needed infrastructure improvements on a map, came up with cost estimates, and gave the separate projects a priority rating. The water system improvements totaled over \$10 million, while the sewer needs were set at \$5.6 million. Since there was not sufficient funds in the water system to pay for all needed improvements, McAlister said that the staff had prioritized three projects that could be funded with water department reserves. These projects included a six million-gallon storage tank and pump station. All the planned improvements on the sewer side could be easily funded through the state revolving loan fund, he said. He said all funded work could be engineered in-house and complete within five years, but additional help would be needed in the Engineering section. McAlister said that the engineering could be done in-house at a cost savings to the Commission, even with the addition of personnel.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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