

The Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission

October 27, 1998

The Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting at 4:00PM, October 27, 1998, in the Rogers Water Utilities training Center. Commissioners Donnie Moore, Dick McLelland, Lon Pepple, and Jerry Pittman were present. Beck Scott was absent. Others in attendance were Rogers Water Utilities Staff Tom McAlister, Don Roberts, Mark Johnson, and Joyce Johnson, Deputy City Attorney Jim Clark, Tom Sissom, Jim Fowler, John Echols, and Dennis Hunt. Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

Motion by McLelland, second by Moore, to approve the September minutes as submitted. All in favor, motion carried.

Moore recognized Mark Johnson, Utilities Engineer. Johnson said that the Hillcrest Waterline project was almost complete, as was the Fairgrounds sewer line replacement project. The West Walnut utilities relocation project was finished except for some cleanup issues, he said. South Dixieland Road was underway, and the utilities relocation contractor had most of the waterline relocated, but had not gotten started on the sewer line relocation. The off-site sewer line for Walter Schrader had been designed and sent to the Health Department for approval. The lift station demise project had been awarded to Dean Crowder Construction, but the contractor had not yet started. McAlister reported that the Harris Baking Company off site sewer was in the process of being redesigned.

Moore recognized Don Roberts, Field Operations Superintendent. Roberts reported receiving three bids for a backhoe replacement. The lowest bid was from Warrior, Inc., of Rogers, for \$35,837 plus the trade-in of a 1986 John Deere 310C. Motion by Pittman, second by McLelland, to approve the bid from Warrior. All in favor, motion carried.

Roberts presented a resolution No. 99-06, which would lock in prices for meters for a year, and authorize the Utility to purchase up to \$161,000 from U. S. Filter Co., which was the sole proprietor of Sensus meters in Arkansas. Motion by McLelland, second by Pittman, to approve the resolution. All in favor, motion carried.

Moore recognized Jim Fowler, bond underwriter for Morgan Keegan, Inc. of Little Rock. Fowler said that the proposed ten million-dollar bond issue had received an "A" rating from a rating agency, which meant that the City of Rogers was a good credit risk. He also said that the municipal bond market was even stronger than before, with an all inclusive interest rate of 4.5% at present. In order to lock in the low rate, he said that the City Council needed to pass two resolutions at their meeting later that evening that would allow Morgan-Keegan to proceed with the sale of the bonds. Fowler said that Dennis Hunt of Stephens, Inc. had been brought on board as co-manager, so that the entire Arkansas market could be covered. Motion by McLelland, second by Pittman, to recommend the resolutions to the City Council for approval. All in favor, motion carried.

Moore said that it should be emphasized that the bond issue and the resulting construction projects would not necessitate a water or sewer rate increase.

Moore recognized Joyce Johnson, Controller for RWU. Johnson presented the September financial sheets. McLelland asked about the Beaver Water District rebate accrual process. Johnson said that, since the rebate was a budgeted item, it skewed the profit loss statement until December, when the rebate usually came, so, she had been accruing an amount every month until the actual rebate was received, then the account could be adjusted over the proceeding months. No action was taken on the statements.

McAlister said that the employee Christmas dinner would be Friday, December 18 this year. He also announced that the November Commission meeting was scheduled for the 23rd.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Sincerely,

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

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