

**Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission**  
**April 17, 2023**  
**Minutes**

The Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting at 4:00 PM, April 17, 2023, in the Rogers Administration Building located at 601 S 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

Jessica Rush, City of Rogers City Clerk, swore in the newest Rogers Water & Sewer Commission Commissioner, Jerry Carmichael at 3:55PM.

Present were Commissioners Roger Surly, Travis Greene, Kathy McClure, Jerry Carmichael, and Chairman Peter Farmer. Rogers Water Utilities staff present were Todd Beaver, Debbie Putman, Aaron Short, Dana Daniel, Brian Sartain, Matt Savell, Jerry Roegner, Mark Landis, Mario Morales, and Brent Dobler. Also in attendance was Robert Frazier from the Frazier Law Firm. Mr. Jason Price joined the meeting virtually during the presentation of the reports.

Chairman Farmer called the meeting to order at 4:02PM. He then called for action on the minutes from the February 21, 2023, Water and Sewer Commission meeting. Commissioner McClure made a motion to approve the minutes, and Roger Surly seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Chairman Farmer then recognized Brent Dobler for the Financial Reports. Billed revenue in the Water department was up 14.70% from March 2022. Water consumption was down 5.83%, due to the use of the acoustic leak detectors in place. The Water department did report a \$61,000 loss for March of 2023. Revenues increased by \$102,000, but expenses increased by \$348,000 due to posting of the APERS pension amount and an extra pay period in the month of March this year. Fiscal YTD impact and access fees collected are \$501,100. This compares to \$759,000 in FY22 and \$942,000 in FY21. Year to date profit is more than the prior year and ahead of budget.

The Sewer department billed revenue was up 7.50% from March 2022. Sewer consumption was up 2.26% from March 2022. The Sewer department reported a loss of \$115,000 for March 23. Revenues increased by \$9,000 over March 2022, but expenses increased by \$542,000 due to posting of the APERS pension amount and an extra pay period in the month of March this year. Fiscal YTD impact and access fees collected are \$805,800 for 2023. This compares to YTD access and impact fee revenue of \$1,416,000 in FY22 and \$1,947,000 in FY21. Total restricted and unrestricted funds are \$48.3 million for March of 2023. This is an increase of \$3.8 million from March 22. \$5.45 million of this amount is restricted. Dobler mentioned that RWU would be presenting the 2024 budget at the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Surly asked why the APERS amount is not taken monthly instead of in one amount. Mr. Savell stated that this is the way RWU has always recorded this expense in the past.

Chairman Farmer then recognized Brian Sartain for the Engineering Reports. Brian said that the current project list is stable and that eighty-two projects were reviewed over the last two months. There are a few significant ongoing projects, the Village on Turtle Creek, Second Street Commercial Park, and CarMax that will be going in on S. Dixieland. The District Phil is also ongoing in the I-49 and Pauline Whitaker Parkway area. He then showed the project status for all ongoing projects. The Blossom Way and Hwy 12 waterline projects are well into design. The East Pine Street project is starting immediately



as well as the 2023 Misc Waterline improvements. The RWU material storage project at Lilac is well under way.

He then updated the Commission of the Western Corridor transmission line connection. There were several alternative routes due to City limits that have changed over the years, but after a detailed study, a route has been decided and a detailed corridor study will begin along with easement acquisition. Sartain also noted that the first round of notifications have been sent out to customers that were identified as having unlawful sanitary sewer connections, follow up forthcoming.

Commissioner McClure asked about the penalty for a customer that is notified of an unlawful connection. Sartain responded that we have sent letters out to the largest offenders to evaluate the program. Chairman Farmer asked to be kept abreast of this program.

Chairman Farmer then recognized Todd Beaver to present the RPCF reports. No issues with permits. He stated that they have been repairing one of the screens in the headworks. The plant treated 446.2MGD, therefore the plant received 182.7MGD of I&I. The ADF was 14.4MGD. Permit is for 14.5MGD. The plant did have an overflow. Commissioner Surly asked how often we exceed the 14.5MGD. Todd explained that we routinely exceed this amount, but it is indeed rare that we average 14.4MGD for an entire month. It puts a strain on all other processes at the plant. The projects in design will address these strains. The Field and Engineering are reducing this I&I as quickly as possible, and we are already in design on capacity improvements. Chairman Farmer asked how frequently we have overflowed, Beaver stated normally one/year. However, this year we have already had three occurrences. Dry weather flow last year was around 8.5MGD. All other flow is due to I&I.

Chairman Farmer then recognized Dobler to introduce Jason Price and a water bill dispute. Mr. Price had a leak on his service line and wanted to present his situation to the Commission. After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Price agreed to pay the bill and RWU management agreed to review their high-water usage policy.

Chairman Farmer then recognized Jerry Roegner to present Resolution 23-08 regarding the disposition of obsolete IT equipment. Commissioner Greene made a motion to approve, Commissioner McClure seconded. All in favor, Resolution passes.

Chairman Farmer then recognized Mr. Dobler to present a motion to approve a property insurance provider for RWU. Dobler explained that we received only one bid, same rate but for more assets this time. He stated that staff recommends awarding Rogers Insurance the bid in the amount of \$85,029 with a \$10,000 deductible along with an additional \$818 for the optional earthquake coverage as RWU has always done. Commissioner Surly asked if RWU would receive a better rate since the installation of the new Verkada security system. Dobler stated that he would return with this information. Commissioner McClure made a motion to accept, seconded by Commissioner Surly. All in favor, motion passes.

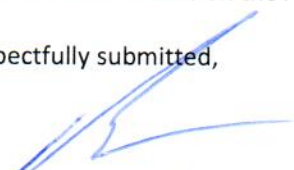
Dobler then went on to recognize our Red Flag policy as required. This policy deals with identity theft within RWU operating procedures. No Red Flags were noted, policies and procedures were noted as adequate. PCI compliance is now the responsibility of our third party provider, Chase payments.

Chairman Farmer then recognized Brian Sartain to present our Pinnacle Sewer Improvement project. This is one of our priority projects in the City that allows capacity for further development in the uptown

area. He reminded them that we went out for bid last year, but no bids were received. Engineering and the consultant re-designed the project to reduce contractor risk and as a result received two bids this time. Goodwin and Goodwin and Brothers Construction. The low bid was \$6,768,175 from Goodwin and Goodwin. The bid from Brothers was significantly higher. The engineer's estimate was 5,032,484. RWU has spoken with the City of Rogers and the City is working on earmarking ARPA funds so that we can balance our 2024 Budget. Sartain stated that we will value engineer this project to the best of our ability. Staff recommends awarding the bid to Goodwin and Goodwin in the amount of \$6,768,175. Commissioner Carmichael mentioned that this would be a tough project and that RWU must monitor closely. Sartain responded that we have been communicating with the owner for over three years leading up to this project. Commissioner Surly made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McClure. All in favor, motion passes.

With no further items on the Agenda, Chairman Farmer adjourned the meeting at 5:28pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Brent Dobler, Acting Secretary  
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