

**CITY OF RHINELANDER
WATER/WASTEWATER COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2011 – 5:00-7:00 P.M.
CITY HALL MEETING ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Mark Pelletier, Sherrie Belliveau, Joe Salzer, Tom Kelly and Sonny Paszak.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Dick Johns, Gene Laschinger of Town and Country Engineering, Assistant Water & Wastewater Superintendent Tim Phelan, Kyle Rogers of the Northwoods River News, Water & Wastewater Superintendent John Zatopa.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairman Mark Pelletier called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The media was notified, the agenda was posted, and a quorum was present to do business.

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES

MOTION BY PASZAK, SECOND BY BELLIVEAU, TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 7, 2010. ALL AYE; MOTION CARRIED.

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITY REPORTS

Wastewater Superintendent John Zatopa and Assistant Superintendent Tim Phelan gave their monthly activity reports.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss/Approve Ratification of Pay Request #13 in the Amount of \$1,737,273.83

MOTION BY BELLIVEAU, SECOND BY SALZER, TO APPROVE RATIFICATION OF PAY REQUEST #13 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,737,273.83 FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT. ALL AYE; MOTION CARRIED.

Discuss/Approve Work Directives and Change Orders for Contracts A, B and C - None.

Discuss/Approve the Water Supply for the New Wastewater Treatment Plant

Gene Laschinger noted that there are some potential issues with the original plan for the water supply, due to necessary easements from property owners. We're now looking at an alternate route, straight down Boyce Drive; this would be about 2,000 feet longer, and depending on whether 8- or 12-inch pipe is used, the additional cost is expected to be \$70,000 - \$100,000. The Committee agreed to use 12-inch pipe; Pelletier noted that gives us options in the future. Gene advised they are planning to get the survey done this week, and will begin working on the plans, and will try to have it done in time for the next meeting. Gene stated they have also talked to the DOT about the crossing, and there are no issues; we have discussed the project with the Corps of Engineers, who may not get involved if there are no wetland impacts; and we have also talked to the DNR and will be getting the facilities plan in to them. Gene stated this covers the permitting issues, and we hope to get all of the approvals within the next 4-5 weeks.

The Mayor asked if we can include this increased cost under the grant; Gene stated that we have already used all of the grant funds, and are now working with loan proceeds.

Pelletier asked about going down the highway in the DOT right-of-way. Gene stated they did look at that, but there were some issues, including the presence of fiberoptic cable and additional wetlands.

MOTION BY PASZAK, SECOND BY KELLY, TO APPROVE THE BOYCE DRIVE WATER SUPPLY FOR THE NEW WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT. ALL AYE; MOTION CARRIED.

Discuss/Approve the Sewer Interceptor Project

Gene advised that the route will be down Bruner, west on Kemp, then Moen, behind the south side of the VFW, and up along the Wisconsin River between the river and Trig's mall. He noted that in discussions with the City Administrator, they learned that the VFW wants to expand, and the only place they can go is over our current route. The area along the river is exactly the same place the Riverwalk will go, which might reduce the costs of the Riverfront Improvement Project. Town & Country is currently under contract for preliminary engineering work, and the City previously approved AECOM for wetlands, soil borings, and contaminated soils. That report has been submitted in draft form, and a conference call is scheduled for Thursday morning. Gene noted that there are several issues. Going along the Pelican River won't be easy; nor will going along the former gas company site. There are wetlands along the Pelican and a series of wetlands along the gas company site. There are at least four contaminated sites; the two most significant are the former ICO site at Moen and Kemp, and the former gas company site. This interceptor was originally going to go to Davenport Street; the problem is that we would have to run under the current Priebe Law Office; but Bell has advised that with the Riverwalk development, that building may not be there in the future, so we decided to stop the new line at that point and keep the old pipe in place from that point up to Davenport Street. With regard to the ICO site, Administrator Bell had talked about trying to obtain the property and reconstruct the intersection as recommended by Warren in the past. Bell is also working on brownfield funds to help with that site acquisition and remediation. Gene noted that if we keep the pipe on the south side of Kemp and the west side of Moen, we'll stay out of the contaminated areas. The toughest area is the old gas company site, which has a higher level of contamination. We have had a conference call with the new owners of that property; the DNR has them under orders to do independent studies, and we're trying to share some of that cost in exchange for easements, but we're in the course of negotiating with the DNR as to what we'll have to do with the contaminated soil.

Gene stated that the interceptor is not in good shape; it can't be accessed for cleaning, and is causing restriction upstream, resulting in some bypass; we will lower the pipe to address this. Another issue is that there are about 30 roofs in that area that are causing storm water runoff into the system; that issue may be addressed in the future. In addition to the interceptor, the Sutliff and Kemp Street lift stations need to be done. The total is about \$4.5 million. The Mayor advised that he was pursuing grants, but he doesn't know what's happening now with the changes in Madison. Gene stated that he doesn't believe the grants will be there; we are eligible for a Clean Water Fund loan, which has a low interest rate. He noted that there are two other possible grants – CDBG and Rural Development. Gene's suggestion is that we apply for these grants.

Gene advised that we really should include Kemp Street in this project, as we're going to have to tear it up anyway. Pelletier stated that the thought was to do it over two years, to help traffic flow issues. Zatopa noted that Public Works Director Randy Knuth originally had it in his plan for 2011, but moved it back because of this project. Gene suggested including at least half of Kemp Street in the design work.

Gene will continue with what they're under contract to do and bring revised estimates to the March meeting.

Discuss/Approve Water/Wastewater Superintendent Succession Plan

John Zatopa stated that he and Bill Bell met and revised the job description. As to a timeline, John's tentative plan is to start using vacation time effective July 1st, he would work about 20 hours per week. Ideally, the new person would start May 1st; this means we need to get authorization to advertise for the position, as there are a lot of steps with accepting applications, interviewing, etc. that will take some time.

Paszak stated that he thinks this should be discussed at the Committee level, as there are too many people at the Council level for questions and discussion; he feels we could do a better job on it at the Committee level, even if we need to call a special meeting. Belliveau agreed.

MOTION BY PASZAK, SECOND BY KELLY, TO TABLE APPROVAL OF THE WATER/WASTEWATER SUPERINTENDENT SUCCESSION PLAN TO A FUTURE MEETING WHEN MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE. ALL AYE; MOTION CARRIED.

Discuss/Approve the 2010 Utility Improvements – Phillip Street Project

Zatopa advised we had a meeting in the beginning of December. At that time, Warren presented what we thought was a reasonable settlement, but the contractor was still trying to justify additional costs, mainly for rock. Warren has done everything he can; now the contractor will have to negotiate directly with the City.

Discuss/Approve 2010 Water Main, Sanitary Sewer & Sewage Lift Station – Barnes Street & Eastern Avenue Project

Zatopa noted that this project has issues similar to the Phillip Street project, and is also in negotiation. He noted that the DNR issued a Notice of Noncompliance, which is A-1's issue to resolve.

Discuss/Approve McCann's Sewer & Drain Cleaning Service Invoices

Zatopa explained that during the Barnes Street lift station project, we found crumbling transite sewer line, and were concerned about it falling apart. We hired McCann's to line the pipe for \$25,000; they spent two days trying, with no success. McCann's billed us; Warren requested they give us an itemized time and materials bill so that we knew what we were paying for. We never received the itemization, so we haven't paid the bill. McCann's did buy the liner, which was a special order at a cost of \$5,870; Zatopa said we need to pay for that, but he feels the rest of it's up in the air because they haven't given us an itemized invoice.

Gene suggested we approve the \$5,870 and state that this is final payment; if an itemization is received in the future, we can reconsider it.

MOTION BY PELLETIER, SECOND BY BELLIVEAU, TO APPROVE PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,870 TO MCCANN'S UNDERGROUND, INC., AS FINAL PAYMENT ON ALL OUTSTANDING INVOICES UNTIL SUCH TIME AS A TIME AND MATERIAL ITEMIZATION IS SUBMITTED. ALL AYE; MOTION CARRIED.

Executive Session

MOTION BY BELLIVEAU, SECOND BY SALZER, TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO §19.85(1)(e), WIS. STATS., TO APPROVE EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 7, 2010. ALL AYE; MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY BELLIVEAU, SECOND BY KELLY, TO TABLE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 7, 2010 FOR CORRECTIONS, TO BE BROUGHT BACK TO THE NEXT MEETING. ALL AYE; MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY PASZAK, SECOND BY SALZER, TO ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION. ALL AYE; MOTION CARRIED.

MATTERS OF EMERGENCY/INFORMATIONAL NATURE – None.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS & CLAIMS

MOTION BY PASZAK, SECOND BY BELLIVEAU, TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS & CLAIMS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,742,545.20. ALL AYE; MOTION CARRIED.

FUTURE AGENDA REQUESTS AND MEETING DATE

1. Applications for CDBG and Rural Development Grants
2. Water/Wastewater Superintendent Succession Plan

The next meeting date is Tuesday, February 8 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Water Utility, 1032 Coon Street.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY KELLY, SECOND BY SALZER, TO ADJOURN THE WATER/WASTEWATER COMMITTEE MEETING OF JANUARY 4, 2011 AT 7:00 P.M. ALL AYE; MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVED BY _____ RECEIVED BY _____

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