

Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission

November 18, 2024

Minutes

The Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting at 4:00 PM Monday, November 18, 2024, in the Rogers Administration Building located at 601 S 2nd Street. Present were Commissioners Paige Sultemeier, Travis Greene, Kathy McClure, Jene' Huffman-Gilreath and Chairman Jerry Carmichael. Rogers Water Utilities staff present were Jered Sigmon, Brian Sartain, Todd Beaver, Johnny Lunsford, Jerry Roegner, Debbie Putman, and Brent Dobler. Robert Frazier, with the Frazier Law Firm, was also in attendance.

Chairman Carmichael called the meeting to order at 4:00PM and formally welcomed our newest Commissioner, Jene' Huffman-Gilreath, to the Rogers Water and Sewer Commission. Chairman Carmichael then asked for a motion to approve the October 21, 2024, Water and Sewer Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Greene made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Sultemeier. All in favor, meeting minutes approved.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Jered Sigmon to present the financial reports for October 2024. Billed revenue for the month in the Water department was \$1,990,004 a 22% YOY increase. Billed revenue for the month in the Sewer department was \$1,711,385 a 17% YOY increase. Mr. Sigmon then presented a water usage graph illustrating the historical water usages for the months of September and October for the last ten years. He explained that this year is certainly an anomaly due to an extremely dry weather pattern along with extended warm temperatures. Water consumption was up 19% YOY at 365,320,891 gallons, and Sewer consumption was up 11% YOY at 205,137,900 gallons. With 33.3% of the year passed, revenues in the Water department are at 41.7% and expenses are at 36.4%. In the Sewer department, revenues are at 31.8% and expenses are at 31.1%. Capital outlays in the Water department are at 20.6% and 10.3% in the Sewer department. October income in the water department was \$668,156.70. October income in the Sewer department was \$684,257.79. The Water department is tracking \$153,068 over FY23, and the Sewer department is tracking \$365,704 over this same period of FY23. Mr. Sigmon also stated that \$331,300 were collected in access and impact fees for a total of \$972,500 YTD. Access and impact YTD actuals are 31% of the FY24 total and 45% of the FY25 budget. Total restricted and unrestricted funds are at \$53.5M, versus \$52M in October of 2023. The 12-month rolling average for lost water stands at 8.0%.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Brian Sartain to go over the Engineering reports. Mr. Sartain stated that the department had reviewed 160 plan sets. RWU is beginning to see the transition to the new Uniform Development Code nomenclature. He mentioned a couple of large projects that are now underway. Specifically, the CarMax and Mathis Bros Furniture facilities planned for S. Dixieland Rd. just north of the Lowell city limits. He also spoke about the 5th and Walnut emergency repair and that it would begin shortly. The solids handling project at the RPCF officially broke ground this month and is now under construction. The Pinnacle Golf Course sewer project is substantially complete.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Todd Beaver to go over the RPCF reports. He went over the DMR summary and then the FOG program. No issues with either and he mentioned that the extreme dry weather can be used to calibrate processes due to the low flow rates into the plant. The FOG program

visited 33 locations in October. The new Kadent joints to replace the existing failed joints in place on the dryer have arrived and we will rebuild the others in-house once removed. The maintenance department installed a back-up hot oil pump on the dryer boiler as well. RWU has hired a new operations employee that has prior experience at a utility in Kansas. Other maintenance done during this period of low flow included replacing bearings on aerators that required draining an entire train. Again, due to the low flows, RWU had the opportunity to perform this maintenance. The RPCF treated 270MG in October, meaning the low flow estimate of 8.9MGD is still a bit high. Based on this calculation, staff will decrease the low flow estimate to 8.7MGD from.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Mr. Robert Frazier to present RESOLUTION 24-30 AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ROGERS WATERWORKS AND SEWER COMMISSION TO SIGN A DEED CONVEYING THE PERSIMMON STREET ELEVATED STORAGE TANK SITE TO THE CITY OF ROGERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALE OF THE SITE TO DRA PROPERTIES, LLC, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Mr. Frazier explained that RWU is in the process of selling this facility. The only deed that can be found for this property is from 1948 and references "Rogers Waterworks". In 1986, the separate entities of Rogers Waterworks and Rogers Sewer Commission were combined into the current Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission. The title company would like the Rogers Water and Sewer Commission to sign a deed conveying this property to the City of Rogers so that the City of Rogers can complete the sale of the Persimmon Street property to DRA Properties, LLC. Commissioner McClure made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Huffman-Gilreath to approve RESOLUTION 24-30 AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ROGERS WATERWORKS AND SEWER COMMISSION TO SIGN A DEED CONVEYING THE PERSIMMON STREET ELEVATED STORAGE TANK SITE TO THE CITY OF ROGERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALE OF THE SITE TO DRA PROPERTIES, LLC, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. All in favor, Resolution 24-30 passed.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Brian Sartain to present the bid tabulation for the 2024 Miscellaneous Water Project. Mr. Sartain explained that this is a collection of water line installations in the lake area where RWU has a few non-conforming lots and needs to complete a few loops that were not previously completed. Other included projects will mitigate erosion that is exposing water lines. These lines will be re-installed by directional boring to minimize any disruptions. The engineer's estimate for these projects was \$537,100.00. The low bid received was from Big M Ranch Inc. for \$299,304.00. There was discussion regarding the low bid amount, which was significantly less than the other bidders and also the engineer's estimate. Brian stated that RWU had called a meeting with the contractor to specifically discuss this low number, and the contractor felt that they had not missed anything and would honor the unit bid numbers submitted. Commissioner Greene made a motion to recommend the acceptance and approval of the bid from Big M Ranch, Inc. in the amount of \$299,304.00 for the 2024 Miscellaneous Water project. Commissioner McClure seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

With no further items, Commissioner Carmichael adjourned the meeting at 4:34pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brent Dobler/Secretary
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