

Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission

October 21, 2024

Minutes

The Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting at 4:00 PM Monday, October 21, 2024, in the Rogers Administration Building located at 601 S 2nd Street. Present were Commissioners Paige Sultemeier, Travis Greene, and Jerry Carmichael. Rogers Water Utilities staff present were Jered Sigmon, Aaron Short, Todd Beaver, Johnny Lunsford, Mario Morales, Jerry Roegner, Debbie Putman, Travis Tripodi and Brent Dobler. Robert Frazier, with the Frazier Law Firm, was also in attendance as were Brett Peters and Josh Durham with Hawkins-Weir Engineers, Inc.

Chairman Carmichael called the meeting to order at 4:00PM.

Chairman Carmichael asked for a motion to approve the September 23, 2024, Water and Sewer Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Greene made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Sultemeier. All in favor (Greene, Sultemeier, Carmichael), meeting minutes approved.

Chairman Carmichael then asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2024, Special Meeting of the Water and Sewer Commission. Commissioner Sultemeier made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Greene. All in favor (Sultemeier, Greene, Carmichael), meeting minutes approved.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Jered Sigmon to present the financial reports for September 2024. September income in the water department was \$837,790.09. September income in the Sewer department was \$732,415.08. Billed revenue for the month in the Water department was \$1,953,329 a 2.1% YOY increase. Billed revenue for the month in the Sewer department was \$1,586,743 a 1.3% YOY increase. Water consumption was down 1.2% YOY at 388,221,952 gallons, and Sewer consumption was down 2.4% YOY at 207,881,300 gallons. With 25% of the year passed, revenues in the Water department are at 31.3% and expenses are at 23.6%. In the Sewer department, revenues are at 27.0% and expenses are at 23.1%. Capital outlays in the Water department are at 8.6% and 7.9% in the Sewer department. Total unrestricted and restricted funds are at \$54.0M, versus \$51.9M in September of 2023. The 12-month rolling average for lost water stands at 8.0%. Mr. Sigmon also stated that \$482,100 were collected in access and impact fees for a total of \$641,000 over the first three months of the year. He also stated that the audit was almost complete, and that the auditors will be able to present audited numbers for FY24 at the November regular meeting.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Aaron Short to go over the Engineering reports. Mr. Short stated that the department had reviewed 120 total plan sets including 21 large scale developments. With the new Uniform Development Code, we will start to see different nomenclature moving forward. He stated that only one manhole, and a fence repair remain on the Pinnacle Golf Course portion of the sanitary sewer replacement project. He also gave a summary of the Lead and Copper Rule requirements that currently dictate that RWU provide an inventory of service line materials within our service area to the State Department of Health as well as our customers. RWU is in full compliance with this rule. He also went over painting maintenance for one of the Lilac towers. The amount of this work is \$28,996.00. He then introduced Mr. Travis Tripodi (Field Inspection Manager) to go over our new inspection process within CityWorks.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Todd Beaver to go over the RPCF reports. He went over the DMR summary and then the FOG program. There was a discussion around the potential penalties that discharge violators are subject to. The RPCF treated 266 MG in September, $30 \times 9\text{MGD} = 270\text{MG}$, meaning the low flow estimate is a bit high. Based on this calculation, Todd will change the future low flow estimate to 8.9MGD from 9MGD. It was an extremely dry month with only .06" of rain over 3 events. The historical average rainfall for September is 3.86".

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Todd Beaver to present RESOLUTION 24-28 AUTHORIZING ROGERS WATER UTILITIES TO PURCHASE A GENERATOR OFFERED FOR SALE BY NORTHWEST ARKANSAS CONSERVATION AUTHORITY; AUTHORIZING A BIDDING RANGE; AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE; WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Mr. Beaver explained the need for additional generator power at the pollution control facility. Commissioner Sultemeier made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Greene to approve RESOLUTION 24-28 AUTHORIZING ROGERS WATER UTILITIES TO PURCHASE A GENERATOR OFFERED FOR SALE BY NORTHWEST ARKANSAS CONSERVATION AUTHORITY; AUTHORIZING A BIDDING RANGE; AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE; WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. All in favor, (Sultemeier, Greene, Carmichael), Resolution 24-28 passed.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Todd Beaver to present RESOLUTION 24-29 RENEWING A CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE AND REMOVAL OF BIOSOLIDS FROM THE ROGERS POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Mr. Beaver stated that RWU originally had three haulers, but two have eliminated themselves by not following the contractual requirements. Bordertown LLC has followed all contract stipulations. Commissioner Greene made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Sultemeier to approve RESOLUTION 24-29 RENEWING A CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE AND REMOVAL OF BIOSOLIDS FROM THE ROGERS POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. All in favor, (Sultemeier, Greene, Carmichael), Resolution 24-29 passed.

Chairman Carmichael then recognized Aaron Short to present a Professional Services Contract Amendment #5 with Hawkins-Wier Engineers. Mr. Short explained the scope and other details of the amendment to the Commissioners. This contract is for the observation and inspection of the Rogers Pollution Control Facility Solids Handling Project. This is a 20-month engagement and will include testing services and compliance monitoring as well regarding items such as DBE, Davis-Bacon Act, American Iron and Steel, and Clean Water Act requirements to meet all federal funding requirements. It will also include start-up services and record drawings. Commissioner Greene made a motion to recommend approval of Professional Services Contract Amendment #5 for an hourly rate not to exceed \$2,400,400 for construction phase services, allowing staff to negotiate the final form and content of the Agreement. Commissioner Sultemeier seconded the motion. All in favor, (Sultemeier, Greene, Carmichael), motion carried.

Chairman Carmichael recognized Aaron Short to present the bid tabulation for the 2025 Manhole Rehab project. The engineer's estimate was \$772,489.00. Kim Construction was low bid at \$660,256.50. Commissioner Sultemeier made a motion to recommend the acceptance and approval of the bid from Kim Construction Co, Inc. in the amount of \$660,256.50 for the 2025 Manhole Rehab project. Commissioner Greene seconded. All in favor, (Sultemeier, Greene, Carmichael), motion carried.

Chairman Carmichael recognized Aaron Short to present the bid tabulation for the 2025 Pipe Bursting Sewer Rehab project. The engineer's estimate was \$1,028,735.00. Horseshoe Construction was low bid

at \$853,060.00. Commissioner Greene made a motion to recommend the acceptance and approval of the bid from Horseshoe Construction in the amount of \$853,060.00 for the 2025 Pipe Bursting Sewer Rehab project. Commissioner Sultemeier seconded the motion. All in favor, (Sultemeier, Greene, Carmichael), motion carried.

Chairman Carmichael recognized Aaron Short to present the bid tabulation for the 2025 CIPP Sewer Rehab project. The engineer's estimate was \$1,874,191.00. Humbard Contracting, Inc. was low bid at \$1,139,959.00. Commissioner Sultemeier made a motion to recommend the acceptance and approval of the bid from Humbard Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$1,139,959.00 for the 2025 CIPP Sewer Rehab project. Commissioner Greene seconded the motion. All in favor, (Sultemeier, Greene, Carmichael), motion carried.

Chairman Carmichael recognized Aaron Short to present the bid tabulation for the 5th and Walnut Water and Sewer Replacement project. RWU has had difficulty securing contractors that are willing to bid this project. After soliciting many contractors, RWU has now received a bid from Ross & Co. Construction. Commissioner Sultemeier made a motion to accept and approve the bid from Ross & Co. Construction in the amount of \$357,362.33 for the 5th and Walnut Water and Sewer Replacement project. All in favor, (Sultemeier, Greene, Carmichael), motion carried.

Chairman Carmichael then made a recommendation to appoint a new Commissioner to fill Peter Farmer's vacant, unexpired term. He recommended Jene' Huffman-Gilreath to fill this vacancy. Huffman-Gilreath has prior experience as a Commissioner on the Rogers Water and Sewer Commission. She currently works for Arvest as a Senior Vice President Private Banking Manager. Commissioner Greene made a motion to approve the appointment of Jene' Huffman-Gilreath to fill the unexpired term of Peter Farmer. Commissioner Sultemeier seconded the motion. All in favor, (Sultemeier, Greene, Carmichael), motion carried. This recommendation will now be put on the next City Council Agenda for approval by the Rogers City Council.

With no further items, Commissioner Carmichael adjourned the meeting at 5:17pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brent Dobler/Secretary

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