

Minutes of the Board of Water Commissioners' Meeting

Monday, June 25, 2012

Present: Commissioners G. Van De Kreeke, R. Haen, A. Stewart, and J. Trueblood, Superintendent.

The meeting was called to order by G. Van De Kreeke, President, at 4:02 P.M. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Commissioner Haen, that the minutes of the May 14, 2012 meetings be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports

The financial reports for April and May were discussed. The Commissioners accepted the reports as presented.

Superintendent's Report

Operations' Department Report

Superintendent reported that May pumpage was down by 4%, continuing a downward trend observed in the first quarter of 2012. Superintendent reported that students from Horace Mann and Urban schools had toured the plant. Operations staff had repaired or maintained various other equipment including level sensors on alum day and bulk tanks, wash tank transmitter, 1929 clear well sluice gate, clear well level sensor, new KMNO₄ feed lines to suction well area, and various work at the Wilgus Avenue pump station. Training included a session by Hach Company, CPR by Aurora, and a West Shore Water Producers meeting. The Commissioners accepted the report as presented.

Construction Maintenance Department Report

Superintendent reported that the crew had completed installing water main on N. 13 Street near Johnston's bakery. Training included several staff members attending a CVMIC session on managing heavy construction equipment. Staking and layout for the Broadway Avenue water main project had been nearly completed. The Commissioners accepted the report as presented.

Old Business

Old Business Presented By Commissioners

Commissioner Van De Kreeke gave an update on his attendance at the last Finance Committee meeting. The Committee accepted the Board's proposal on resolving costs involved with the South Business Drive water main installation south of Weeden Creek Road. Remaining costs will be deducted from the PILOT payment over a four year period.

Other Old Business

None.

New Business

Business to be presented by Commissioners

None.

Other New Business

Discuss and ask Board approval of Commercial Insurance Renewal

Superintendent presented information from Maritime Insurance regarding renewal of the Utility's commercial insurance package including property, crime fidelity, inland marine, general liability, public officials, automobile, and umbrella coverage. Mr. Niel Larsen had reported that the new excavator and increased revenues accounted for some of the 5.5% increase over last year's premiums. Commissioner Haen made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Stewart, to accept the renewal with Selective Insurance at a total cost of \$67,460. Motion passed unanimously.

Discuss and ask Board approval of replacement fluoride transfer and ortho feed pumps

Superintendent presented a proposal Hawkins for a Blue White M-Series metering pump to replace the existing fluoride transfer pump at a cost of \$5,670 plus estimated freight of \$65 including startup and training service. The proposal also included two Blue White M-Series metering pumps to replace the existing orthophosphate feed pumps at a cost of \$7,700 for both, along with estimate freight of \$110. Superintendent explained that we have previously used Watson Marlowe hose pumps, but the operations foremen felt that the Blue White pumps had numerous advantages including a much lower cost in addition to being manufactured in the U.S. Commissioner Van De Kreeke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Stewart, to accept the proposals. The motion passed unanimously.

Discuss and ask Board approval of mag meters and meter accessories

Superintendent presented a proposal from Badger Meter for two 3" mag meters at a total cost of \$3,442.05. Commissioner Stewart made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Haen, to accept the proposal. The motion passed unanimously.

Update Board on Distribution of consumer confidence report

Superintendent reported that the report will start going out in the next bill run. It has already been distributed electronically to Council members, the Mayor, and department heads.

Discuss purchase of concrete boring device

Superintendent informed the Board that the Utility will need to install a significant amount of concrete dowels on the Broadway Avenue job and future concrete repair work. The City DPW is now setting a spec that any concrete less than 30 years old will need to be repaired with dowels at a spacing of 18-24". In the past, the Utility has relied on drilling dowel holes with a handheld Hilti type drill, but this is not feasible or safe on larger projects. Staff has identified a pneumatic, on-grade drill designed for this purpose. The Utility will need to rent the unit to complete the Broadway Avenue job. The estimated rental cost is \$2,500. The cost to purchase a new unit is \$7,493.00. After discussion, Commissioner Haen made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Stewart, to buy the unit outright. Motion passed unanimously.

Discuss potential acquisition of lot near Horace Mann school for water main installation

Superintendent presented drawings and description of the Broadwater Avenue water main project and the possible routes for connecting it to the Georgia Avenue standpipe. Generally the water main needs to run through the area along the recreational trail passing from Broadway to the Horace Mann school, but there are significant storm sewer pipelines in the area to be crossed. One is a very large box that the water main would have to be placed under, at excessive depth of about 12'. Also the water main would have to traverse the runoff pond area, which is known to contain considerable rubble materials. An alternative route is to run the water main through the vacant lot adjacent to the trail. In that area, the water main could be installed over the sewer infrastructure, and clean fill could be placed over the rear of the parcel, giving sufficient cover over the

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water main. The parcel is currently owned by Mr. Bob Werner. After discussion, the Board directed the Superintendent to invite Mr. Werner to discuss acquisition of the parcel with the Board.

Discuss and ask Board approval for purchase of fittings/appurtenances

Superintendent presented three proposals for various bends, megalugs, curb stop accessories, valve boxes, and hydrant repair accessories. Commissioner Van De Kreeke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Haen, to approve the low cost proposal from Davies/Ferguson for a total of \$7,732.75. Motion passed unanimously.

Discuss a privatized water main proposal from North and Calumet LLC

Superintendent presented a proposal drafted by Abacus Architects involving the development of a parcel at North Avenue and Calumet Drive. A right of way existed in the parcel connecting N. 22nd Street and Calumet Drive. However, the right of way will be vacated, leaving about 200' of public water main without public access. The Utility had planned to abandon this stretch of water main because it serves no customers and is unnecessary. The developer proposes to take over ownership of the public water main and utilize it as a private service to the new development. The water main is a 6" cast iron main installed in 1965. Superintendent had relayed the proposed agreement to the City Attorney but did not yet receive a response. Commissioner Van De Kreeke stated that it would be an advantage for the Utility to remove the water main without any cost, but it would also be an advantage to the developer to utilize it. Commissioner Stewart and Superintendent stated the larger service would allow the developer to include fire suppression systems. Commissioner Van De Kreeke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Stewart, to accept the transfer in principle, pending review of the agreement by the City Attorney. Commissioner Haen abstained from the voting. The motion passed.

Correspondence

There was no additional correspondence.

Approve Vouchers

Motion by Commissioner Haen, seconded by Commissioner Stewart, that gross payroll of \$134,997.31, and the general vouchers of \$161,886.91 for May be allowed and approved. Motion passed unanimously.

Personnel

Update Board on status of new plant operators

Superintendent reported that the new operators, Mr. Duenkel and Mr. Wellman, have made very good progress in their first six months of employment here.

Other Matters

None.

July Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, July 31, 2012, at 4:00 P.M. in the Utility conference room.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM on a motion by Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Commissioner Van De Kreeke. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes taken by:
Superintendent
Joe R. Trueblood

Raymond W. Haen, Secretary

