

MINUTES

PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD MEETING

March 10, 2008

PRESENT: **Charles Rollins**
 Dean Lay
 Marvin Brannan
 Bud Knott
 Lex Orr

This meeting of the Monteagle Public Utility Board was called to order at 5:00 PM by Mayor Charles Rollins.

The following items were discussed:

- 1. Arcadis – There was a discussion on the low pressure grinder pump system for the Marion County portion of Monteagle. The city is working on securing easements from all property owners involved. Bill Johnson stated that these should all be in place before we proceed on to obtaining bids. Mr. Johnson noted that the plans have been approved by TDEC. There was a discussion having more than one customer on a grinder pump. Ald. Lay suggested moving ahead with bidding out the project while we are obtaining the easements to speed up the process. After a discussion on waiting to do the bids until after easements are secured, the mayor recommended that the council authorize the engineer to proceed with the bids and instruct the public works director to obtain the easements within the next 45 days. Ald. Orr made a motion that we instruct Arcadis to proceed with the bid process, and that our public works director have the easements in place within the next 45 days. Ald. Knott seconded the motion and it passed 5/0.**

- 2. Grant – There was a discussion on the modifications that need to be made to STP #2. The following items need to be done there: a) Media replacement - \$90,000.00 b) Digester – \$8,000.00 c) Dewatering boxes (2) – \$154,000.00 d) Lab – \$150,000.00 e) Out**

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flow filter system – \$50,000.00 f) Contingency and administrative fees – \$50,000.00 g) Engineering – \$45,000.00. This represents a total of \$547,000.00. Most of these items could be used when a new plant is built. This amount is more than the \$500,000.00 grant which has been approved, but we have to match the grant with \$164,400.00. We have already started on some of these items. The mayor asked Mr. Johnson if there was anything that would prevent the city from spending grant money on these items until we build a new plant and he didn't see any problem with any of these items. Mr. Johnson noted that our two critical issues are sludge and filtering. John Condra said he has a problem with the tests for nitrate and nitrite. We are never able to pass the limits for these tests. He doesn't feel any of this work will help us get into compliance with these tests.

3. TDEC Letter – The mayor asked the council what they want to do about the \$20,000.00 in fines we received for not meeting the requirements in the agreed order. Mr. Johnson reported that he had met with Dick Urban on Thursday. He feels Arcadis has met some of those requirements. He has not heard from Mr. Urban since the meeting. Ald. Orr asked what options we have and the mayor said he didn't see any except to pay the fine. Ald. Orr made a motion to authorize the mayor to work with the city attorney to respond to the demand letter fining the city \$20,000.00. Ald. Brannan seconded the motion and it passed 4/1 on roll call vote with Ald. Lay voting no. Ald. Lay asked Bill Johnson if there is anything else the council needs to be made aware that we are not in compliance on so we don't get another letter for another \$20,000.00. Mr. Johnson said he doesn't know of anything that is not in compliance. Ald. Lay asked Mr. Johnson to send us a letter clarifying the Trussell Creek restoration.

4. Gas Reading – Mayor Rollins said he has had numerous phone calls

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about gas bills. He said many of the customers got a minimum bill for gas last month and a huge bill this month. Jim Boynton will have Terry go out with the new meter reader to make sure she knows how to read the gas meters. It was noted that some of these customers will need additional time to pay these large bills. Ald. Lay made a motion that the utility department not shut off any gas meters for delinquent payments if the customer has a problem with an incorrectly read meter. Ald. Orr seconded the motion and it passed 5/0.

CITIZENS HEARING

Lynn Stubblefield asked why the grinder pump system was only being installed in Marion County. Ald. Lay said this was Phase I of the project and the worst I & I problem seems to be on the Marion County side.

Pam Peck wants to auction off some of the lots in the Eagle's Creek subdivision and would like to buy taps for these lots. There was a discussion on the fact that they would have to allow taps for all projects if they permitted it for this one. Ald. Orr made a motion to deny this request. Ald. Lay seconded the motion and it carried 5/0. They will revisit the issue in thirty days.

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


