

MINUTES

MONTEAGLE PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD MEETING

March 9, 2009

PRESENT: **Charles Rollins**
 Dean Lay
 Marilyn Nixon
 Lex Orr

This meeting of the Montecagle Public Utility Board was called to order at 9:00 am by Mayor Charles Rollins:

The following items were discussed:

- 1. WATER LEAK ADJUSTMENTS – Jim Masiella (Bear Hollow) said he cannot pay a bill for 18 minimums and continue to operate. The water and sewer bills will put him out of business. He asked the council to treat him the same as the motels/hotels because he is licensed as one. He said he has a contract with the cottage owners stating that he will pay the water bills. Ald. Orr said without doing a complete review and revising our current policy, he can't see any action that the council could take. Ald. Lay made a motion to allow customers with multiple users on a master meter to continue to operate under the previous billing rate by posting a bond until the court case is resolved in April. Ald. Orr seconded the motion. The vote was 4/0 in favor of the motion on roll call. The council then asked anyone who was here concerning a leak adjustment to come forward with their bills. Ald. Lay made a motion to give each of the customers with a leak an adjustment in accordance with our current leak policy. Ald. Orr seconded the motion and it carried 4/0. The next group of individuals said they did not know why their bills were higher. Among this group was Ray Myers, Linda Thomas, Betty Haynes, Sue Meeks, Daniel Byers, Michael Smith, Martha Childers, and Jeff Thomas. Ald. Lay made a motion to give each of these people a leak adjustment based on our current policy. Ald. Orr seconded the motion and it passed 4/0. There was a discussion**

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on meter reading. Questions were raised as to whether or not the meters are actually being read. Kevin Gilliam said he has spot checked some of these complaints and the readings appear to be accurate to him. Some of the complaints are about the top of the meter being too dirty to read and Mr. Gilliam said the meters get dirty very quickly. It was noted that a remote reader system would take care of any questions about meter reading. Ald. Lay made a motion to have Mr. Gilliam research these issues and meet with each council member and make recommendations at the March 31st meeting. Ald. Orr seconded the motion and it carried 4/0.

- 2. LEAK ADJUSTMENT POLICY -- Kevin Gilliam recommended to the council a change in the leak adjustment policy that would allow requests for adjustments to come through him rather than being heard at council meetings. Ald. Lay made a motion to adopt the change in the leak adjustment policy proposed by Mr. Gilliam. Ald. Nixon seconded the motion and it passed 4/0.**

- 3. HAILEY ENGINEERING – The mayor asked Anthony Pelham about the SRF loan, and said that he has found that we have many problems with this loan. He discussed the \$1.3 M project to pump from Plant #1 to Plant #2. He said we have a design for a 500,000 gallon per day plant, but only have a permit for 250,000 gallons per day at each plant. It appears, then, that ½ the sewage would have to be pumped back to Plant #1. Mr. Pelham stated that the line back to Plant #1 would be the existing line. A new line would be installed to pump it to Plant #2. It was suggested that the city should look at updating the Trussell Creek permit to 500,000 gallons per day at some point. The 201 Plan has been submitted for 500,000 gallons per day. There was a discussion on how much flow would be taken out of the system when the rehab is complete. There was also a discussion on building the new plant at the location of Plant #1, but there was a question about enough space being available at that site.**

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The mayor said he was also concerned about the contract to start the rehab of the line at the Assembly. Mr. Pelham said the funding for the \$1.3 M for this work is included in the project total of \$7.2 M. It was noted that there are still some items that the State needs in order to make a decision on our loan request. It was reported that we are not in a good position to be on the March agenda for SRF consideration. Ald. Lay made a motion that Kevin Gilliam and Joy Sturtevant be directed to assemble the four items needed by SRF before the end of the business day and show proof of delivery. Ald. Orr seconded the motion and it passed 4/0. There was a discussion on increasing the permit for Trussell Creek to 500,000 gallons per day. Anthony Pelham agreed that the city should do this, but noted that we would not actually need it until the discharge exceeds 250,000 gallons per day. John Condra asked the council about leaving Plant #1 in operation. Ald. Lay suggested that the council meet to discuss the four options: 1) increasing the permit at Plant #2 2) pumping back to Plant #1 3) Cooley's Rift gray water or 4) continue operating Plant #1. There were many other items of discussion and the council decided not to adjourn today's meeting. It will reconvene at 9:00 am on Tuesday, March 17th.

The bid opening for the dewatering boxes took place and the low bid was \$155,178.05. This was submitted by Madewell Construction Co. Ald. Orr made a motion to authorize the mayor to sign the contract with Madewell Construction under date of March 6, 2009, in the amount of \$155,178.05 for the dewatering boxes. Ald. Nixon seconded the motion and it passed 4/0 on roll call.

Camera work – LTS Construction was the low bidder at \$23,180.00 for the Grundy County portion only. Doing both counties would cost \$45,955.00. Ald. Lay asked Anthony Pelham if we wouldn't be wasting the money for the Marion County side if we don't do the low pressure system and he said yes. Neal Westerman stated that, if Monteagle can get all of our rehab work done by February 2010, we may be able to receive some of the stimulus package money.

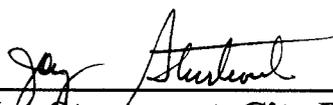
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Ald. Orr made a motion to authorize the mayor to sign Contract 309 with LTS Construction to video the Grundy County side only for \$23,180.00. Ald. Nixon seconded the motion and it passed 4/0 on roll call. Ald. Nixon asked about a mapping key to the videos and Mr. Gilliam said we would have an accurate map of the Grundy County side when this work is completed.

- 4. MANAGER'S REPORT – Kevin Gilliam went through the work we are currently doing. He also reported that we can sell our surplus vehicles and other equipment on line at Gov Deals. They charge 7% of the sale price for putting it on the internet. Ald. Lay made a motion to have Mr. Gilliam put our surplus items on Gov Deals. Ald. Orr seconded the motion and it passed 4/0. After a brief discussion on hiring new personnel Ald. Lay made a motion to authorize Kevin Gilliam to review the applications for the water plant operator and the part-time utility worker and that Carl Cantrell review the applications for a street worker and that they be authorized to hire these employees. Ald. Orr seconded the motion and it passed 4/0.**

The meeting recessed at 12:35 pm and will reconvene at 9:00 am on Tuesday, March 17th.

Respectfully submitted,



Joy Sturtevant, City Recorder

MINUTES

MONTEAGLE PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD MEETING

March 17, 2009

(Reconvened from March 9, 2009)

PRESENT: **Charles Rollins**
 Dean Lay
 Bud Knott
 Marilyn Nixon
 Lex Orr

This meeting of the Monteagle Public Utility Board was reconvened at 9:12 am by Mayor Charles Rollins. It was a continuation of the meeting of March 9, 2009.

The following items were discussed:

- 1. The mayor reported on the collapse of the Equalization Tank at STP #1. The side of the tank ruptured and spilled about 100,000 gallons of sewage into Juanita Creek. This was discovered early on Sunday morning, March 15th. He said that he had met yesterday with TDEC. Dr. Urban and Angela Young from TDEC were in attendance at this meeting. Dr. Urban reported that there are 27 wells in Pelham that will need to be tested for bacteria. Hailey Engineering was contacted to find the city a company that does dye testing as we will need to do this type of testing to see where the sewage has gone. Angela Young reported that they are doing some testing and the sheriff's office is helping to advise the well owners. Dr. Urban said he had dropped off staff members at the creek who are walking the area to try to locate the exact spots where the sewage disappeared into the ground. Dr. Urban said the samples they had taken from the creek had "maxed out" for ecoli - meaning the count was higher than the highest number that could register. He said he has briefed EPA about the spill. Dr. Urban also noted that just because there is ecoli present does not mean that it is**

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coming from the Monteagle event. He said there are septic systems, cattle, and other contributing factors. He said 126 colonies is a conservative evaluation on what would be considered contamination. He also noted that there are some ways to determine where the contamination is from, but there must be at least 250 colonies to determine the source. Dr. Urban said he has talked with Rick Hogshead from SRF about the situation. He said that we will need adequate chlorination at the spill site to help with the bypass. John Condra said he has ordered two additional chlorine pumps to effectively treat the bypass. Dr. Urban said that the sludge boxes are now very critical. He said they were important before, but they are critical now. He also reported that Beth Jones is going to a meeting on Friday about the funding of our project. He said that stimulus money will be coming to Tennessee and we may be eligible for some of it.

Dr. Urban discussed the plans for our new sewer plant and said that pumping back to STP #1 is not necessary. He said we do not need to operate with part of the effluent going to Trussell Creek and part going to Juanita Creek. He also said that SRF cannot continue to evaluate alternatives - that Monteagle must make a decision so SRF can do what they need to do. The mayor asked Dr. Urban if he knew what remaining requirements there are from SRF and he said he did not, but that they would communicate that to us. Kevin Gilliam said he had sent Dale Hager all the documents that they had asked for and that Mr. Hager had acknowledged receipt of these items at 1:50 pm on March 10th. He said he is now reviewing them to see if there is anything else they need.

Ald. Orr asked, if we find that a creek, spring, or well is contaminated, is there a way to determine where the contamination comes from. Dr. Urban said there is, but only if there are a minimum of 250 colonies. He said dye testing might also help to determine this. He also noted that ecoli will only live about 18 hours.

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Ald. Lay asked Dr. Urban to clarify that we have an immediate threat to the people using wells and an environmental threat as well. Dr. Urban said that this was true. Ald. Lay asked Dr. Urban if there were any other steps we should be taking. Dr. Urban said that as far as he is concerned, he feels that this is being attacked on all the fronts that it can be. Dr. Urban was asked if we need to replace the equalization tank immediately and he said there are portable tanks that we might be able to use. Ald. Lay asked Dr. Urban if we needed to call the CDC to come in on this. Dr. Urban said the state Health Department is looking at how to get the word out. Ald. Lay asked the mayor about uncertainties that Dr. Urban mentioned that SRF has, and wanted to know what they are. Mayor Rollins said that we are building a 500,000 gallon per day plant and only have a 250,000 gallon per day permit. Neal Westerman mentioned that when Hailey was first brought into this they were told that ½ of the effluent would be pumped to Cooley's Rift for irrigating the golf course. However, he said the city does not have a permit to pump this to Cooley's Rift. That is why they looked at pumping half of it into Trussell Creek and half of it into Juanita Creek.

Dr. Urban said that when the Agreed Order was developed the city was given limits for one million gallons a day. He said the lady handling all of this had left the employment of TDEC and he was unaware that there was any problem over this until now. Ald. Lay asked him, then, as of today there are no problems over this and Dr. Urban said no. Neal Westerman said that they needed to know the limits of the plant. Dr. Urban said the limits are 5-5-1. He said as long as we meet these limits, he doesn't care if we dump a million gallons a day into Trussell Creek.

The mayor said that at one time when the 201 Plan was done Dr. Urban wanted to know how rehab had gotten back into the plans. Neal Westerman said it is because we have a gravity system on the Grundy County side and this line has to stay a gravity line. Ald. Lay said that this has nothing to do with the "uncertainty." He asked Dr. Urban if he said that as long as we meet 5-5-1 it doesn't

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matter if we put 1,000,000 gallons per day in the creek. Dr. Urban said that is correct. Neal Westerman said that the plant we are building will meet 5-5-1. Angela Young mentioned that Arcadis was the engineer of record at the time the limits were issued and they were issued to Arcadis. The mayor asked Neal Westerman if the 500,000 gallon per day plant would meet the limits of 5-5-1 and he said yes. Ald. Lay asked Mr. Westerman if this plant would be on line by 12-31-09 and he said no. Mr. Westerman said we are ready to advertise for bids, but SRF hasn't approved the funding. Neal Westerman noted that with the use of stimulus money there may be a few additional requirements, but those changes would just be things that have to be inserted. Ald. Orr asked Mr. Westerman if modules can be added to the 500,000 gallon plant in 250,000 gallon modules and he answered yes. Ald. Orr asked if the plant will meet the 5-5-1 requirements and Mr. Westerman said yes. Ald. Orr asked if the city was going to meet all of the requirements and Mr. Westerman said yes. There was a discussion about scrapping the grinder pump system on the Marion County side. Anthony Pelham said we would get figures on the work done on the Grundy County Side. Neal Westerman noted that they can do a design change after the plant is started. Kevin Gilliam said the rehab would be cheaper than the grinder pump system so the funding would be in place either way. Neal Westerman said he had talked to Rick Hogshead this morning and he said technically he has everything he needs. Kevin Gilliam said he is talking to Dale Hager to make sure they have the information they need. Ald. Orr asked the mayor what we need to do today to make sure we are going in the right direction. The mayor said we just need to vote today on what we will be doing.

Ald. Lay asked Dr. Urban if we build a half million gallon per day plant at the site of Plant #2 and it will meet the 5-5-1 permit limits, and we can add additional capacity and discharge everything into Trussell Creek, are we going in the right direction. Dr. Urban said he didn't believe there were any other viable options. Ald. Lay made a motion that we go on record that this council agrees that our

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plan of action is to build, if and when financing becomes available, a 500,000 gallon per day SBR plant at the site of Plant #2 and we will discharge into Trussell Creek and meet the 5-5-1 limits and that there are no other plans at this time. Ald. Orr seconded the motion and it passed on roll call 5/0. Ald. Lay also made a motion to instruct Hailey to immediately begin to design the transfer pumping station that will pump from Plant 1 to Plant 2. Ald. Orr seconded the motion and it carried 5/0 on roll call. Ald. Nixon made a motion that every piece of paper be copied to Kevin Gilliam and the City Recorder. Ald. Knott seconded the motion and it passed 5/0. Ald. Lay noted that the charter states that the city recorder is the custodian of all city records.

- 2. HAILEY – The mayor asked Hailey if there is a mobile unit that could be used at Plant #1. Anthony Pelham has made inquiries but does not have any costs yet or a direct contact. The mayor asked if the 201 Plan will be revised to reflect today’s discussion. Mr. Westerman said it would either be revised or the last revision would be removed. Richard Martin was introduced to the council as someone that Hailey has contacted about the dye testing. Mr. Martin was asked about the cost and he said he had no idea at this time. It would depend on the number of injection points, the number of receptors, etc. Ald. Lay asked if Mr. Martin could give us a time line and he said he doesn’t know how fast this will travel underground. He said in some cases they get results within a few hours and in other cases that were done years ago they still don’t have the results. Ald. Orr asked Dr. Urban if they could assist us in any way and he replied that the two people he has working at the creek today are geologists and they are very familiar with this kind of work. He said he would ask them to share all information that they come up with. The mayor asked Mr. Martin how long it would take to give us an estimate of the cost. Mr. Martin said within a day’s time he should be able to put together a budget. Ald. Lay asked Dr. Urban if we should not make the collection system a priority in order to end the bypassing. He noted that if we take**

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care of the I & I problem we will end the bypassing problem. Dr. Urban said the sooner we get started on this the better it will be. He also said that the emphasis on rehab is important, but we are going to have to do the dye tests. He said one thing he does not know is if people are using Gilliam Spring for drinking water, so we just need to make a commitment today to do the dye testing.

- 3. PLANT FAILURE – It will be necessary due to the collapse of the equalization tank to test +/- 27 wells in Pelham. Ald. Orr made a motion to proceed with plans and documentation on the new sewer plant as designed by Hailey Engineering. Ald. Lay seconded the motion and it passed 5/0. Dr. Urban approved of this plan.**
- 4. REPORT FROM FIELD REPRESENTATIVES – There is H2O in ground in at least 4 places. There is a chlorine odor in a cave, but Dr. Urban said this isn't necessarily from Juanita Creek.**
- 5. GRIGGS & MALONEY – Ald. Orr made a motion for Griggs & Maloney to proceed to work with TDEC geologists to accumulate inventory and data, not to exceed \$7500.00 Ald. Knott seconded the motion and it passed 5/0. We should have a report within a week. This process and time frame is acceptable with Dr. Urban and TDEC.**
- 6. HAILEY ENGINEERING – After a brief recess the meeting continued with Anthony Pelham and Neal Westerman discussing evaluation of the tank. They will get an estimate to do an x-ray of it. There was a discussion of other funding that might be available.**
- 7. TAUD – John Hall noted that we could rent a portable plant for \$30,000.00 per month. He said interim financing is available, but it might not be much of an advantage. Rural Development also might have some relief money.**
- 8. TRUCK AUCTION – Kevin Gilliam and Ald. Lay will get registered for this on-line auction to be held on March 19th.**

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- 9. ENGINEERING DATA – Ald. Lay made a motion to have Hailey present engineering data on sludge removal and land application at our next meeting. Ald. Knott seconded the motion and it passed 5/0.**
- 10. SLUDGE TRUCK – The council agreed to increase the money for a new sludge truck from \$12,000.00 to \$25,000.00.**
- 11. CITY ATTORNEY – Ald. Lay suggested meeting with the city attorney to discuss issues on the emergency caused by the collapse of the equalization tank.**

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Joy Sturtevant, City Recorder

**AGENDA
MONTEAGLE PUBLIC UTILITY
BOARDMEETING**

March 9, 2009

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Hearing on Water Leak Adjustments**
- 3. Hailey Engineering**
- 4. SRF Funding**
- 5. LTS Contract**
- 6. Manager's Report**
- 7. Adjournment**