



Community Development Committee

January 5, 2021

Regular Scheduled Meeting

DRAFTED MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 P.M.

Roll Call:

Councilmember Dan Swatman (Chair)

Councilmember Michelle Keith

Councilmember Tom Watson

Attendees:

City Administrator, John Vodopich

Public Services Director, Ryan Johnstone

Management Analyst/Executive Assistant, Leslie Harris

City Engineer, John Woodcock

Public Works Superintendent, Jack Niehuser

Assistant City Engineer, Doug Budzynski

Administrative Assistant III, Debbie McDonald

Reports/Presentations:

Ponderosa Tank Recoat Project - Doug Budzynski, Assistant City Engineer

Assistant City Engineer Budzynski presented a project summary for the Ponderosa Water Tank Recoat. The project is to paint and power wash the tank. All bids were over and rejected back in 2019. Learned that more information was needed for those bidding project. Bids came in high to cover the worse-case scenario. If better information would have been included as far as how they would be entering the tank that could have lowered bids and the time of year the project was to be completed. Decided to relook at the budget and comeback with the project in 2021. Would pay RH2 \$10,000.00 to update the bid document and give the City some other bidding services. Is trying to go out to bid in February and hoping to start in April.

Councilmember Watson asked why there is so much confusion on entering the tank.

Assistant City Engineer Budzynski responded they have a door in the bottom of the tank to enter, but it is only a 4 by 4 opening. With that small of an opening it would take a long time to get all the tools and supplies in to the tank. Will allow the contractor to open a larger entry way and weld it back together once the project is completed.

Councilmember Swatman how did we come up needing to paint and resurface the inside of the tank?

Assistant City Engineer Budzynski replied there is corrosion on the tank. The tank should be resurfaced about every 20-yrns and does not think the tank has ever be resurfaced.

Councilmember Watson asked how old is the tank and are the rest of the tanks on a service schedule.

Assistant City Engineer Budzynski stated he is not sure how old the tank is. The Lake Ridge tank was resurfaced in 2009. Does not have a regular maintenance schedule.

Councilmember Keith thanked Assistant City Engineer Budzynski for the project summary and asked if the budget will be enough to cover all the cost.

Assistant City Engineer Budzynski explained how he came up with the new budget figure and how it does include a 20% contingency.

Business Action Items:

AB21-07 Resolution 2895: Authorizing a professional Services Agreement with Parametrix for On-Call SCADA Services for Sewer - Todd Bright, Public Works Assistant Superintendent

Councilmember Swatman stated Public Works Superintendent Niehuser can combined the two agenda bills since they are the basically the same thing.

Public Works Superintendent Niehuser explained both bills are asking to authorize for Parametrix to complete on-call SCADA services for water and sewer. Parametrix provides this support on an on-call basis with technicians available for response 24/7.

Councilmember Watson asked why sewer went up to \$15,000 and can it still go up more.

Public Works Superintendent Niehuser responded after evaluating the amount of work needing to be completed in 2021, an increase to the budget was needed.

Moved to Consent Agenda

AB21-08 Resolution 2896: Authorizing a Professional Services Agreement with Parametrix for On-Call SCADA Services for Water - Dave Cihak, Public Works Assistant Superintendent

See above, the two bills were discussed together.

Moved to Consent Agenda

Approval of Meeting Notes: December 1, 2020 - Debbie McDonald, Administrative Assistant III

Minutes Approved With A Minor Correction

Open Committee Discussion:

Current Sewer Rates - Councilmember Swatman

Councilmember Swatman asked why the City's sewer rates are the highest in Pierce County. Even with Tehaleh building an MBR plant, those are supposed to be expensive yet their rates are lower.

Councilmember Watson questions how the City of Sumner tells us what to charge and how the money will be spent.

Councilmember Keith responded that wastewater is an expensive business and the City will need to question the expenditures from the City of Sumner.

Councilmember Swatman asked why the City of Sumner has lower rates. How can our City have two million in revenue yet the City is bringing in four million. How do you explain the increase in fees yet coming away with 4 million at the end of the year?

City Administrator Vodopich reminded the Committee that you need to look at each systems to make sure you are comparing apples to apples.

Public Services Director Johnstone replied that there are some big projects coming up. Have stepped up our engagement with the City of Sumner and holding them accountable. Need to look at how the City can reduce the volume of wastewater.

Councilmember Keith commented that there was just a big rate increase. Need to look at upcoming City Improvement Projects and their cost.

Public Services Director Johnstone reminded the Committee that the sewer rate increase was front loaded. The first increase was 15% and will go down each year after. Chief Financial Officer Reiersen can tell you more about the debt services that will be paid off with the rate increase. .

Councilmember Watson asked how the sewer project at Walmart was going.

Assistant City Engineer Budzynski responded that the project is on hold till March. WSDOT is requiring them to do all work at night. Will save money waiting for the asphalt plant to be open for night work.

Adjourn:

Councilmember Swatman adjourned the meeting at 5:38 P.M.

Debbie McDonald
Administrative Assistant III