

Water & Sewer Commission Meeting
Minutes
2006-03-07

Roll Call:

Mick Wagner- present
Bill Brandt- present
Gene Baker- present
Larry Goddard- present
Casey Dunigan-absent

*Also in attendance the attorney for the Water & Sewer Commission Mr. Mark Dossett.

Approval of Minutes for 2/07/06 Meeting:

Motion to accept made by: Gene Baker
Seconded by: Larry Goddard

Vote: Baker- yea, Goddard- yea, Wagner- yea*

*Mr. Baker abstained from voting since he was not at the meeting on 2/07/06.

Old Business:

Update from lawyer on action taken to procure documents from ESI:

Only change since last time was the hearing a week ago last Friday. We are waiting to hear from the judge to see if we can intervene. Mick Wagner asked for an update on what USI has had to recreate that ESI was paid by the City of Tontitown to provide. USI stated that right now it is at about \$70,000. This amount is broken down to \$32,000 for plans, \$21,000 for surveys and \$17,000 for easements and revisions to ESI documents and the preparation of new easements to go with the route. USI was asked, for the benefit of Alderman Piazza, to provide an explanation of why more money was being spent on items that ESI was paid to provide. USI stated that the lack of control points was the reason that there was no way to take their plans out into the field and lay it out on the ground. There isn't any way to write an easement or acquire an easement for a contractor to go out, stake out a line and start building. No control points, no coordinates, no survey information. The City paid for the plans and the plans were supposed to have those control points. At this point in construction we are at least 90-120 days behind where we could be. USI confirmed that it was at least that.

Motion to move forward to in pursuing litigation with ESI by: Bill Brandt

Seconded by Gene Baker

Vote: Gene Baker –yea, Bill Brandt –yea, Larry Goddard-yea, Mick Wagner -yea

Progress report 412/112 water line Phase I:

USI is sending weekly progress reports to the Chairman each week by e-mail. The line is completed now and they are doing the testing on it. It is down to Kelly and has made the turn back East. The next contract will now take over. Within the next 30 days we should have final inspect on Phase I. As soon as the tests pass the Bacti from the Health Department, they can turn the line on. GPS Coordinates have been shot for all hydrants in our system. Our GIS system is up and going and the waterlines have been spotted. With the GIS we will be able to start inventorying our lines.

We took bids on Feb 28 and received 6 bids. S& J Construction the company that was doing Phase I came in 2nd. GN Contractors was the low bidder and they are located in Springdale. Their bid was \$562,720 as the low bid. USI recommends that the Commission reward the contract to GN Contractors. They are ready to go to work as soon as they can get USI their bonds and insurance.

Motion to accept GN Contractors as low bid for Phase II of the 412 Water loop by: Gene Baker

Second by: Bill Brandt

Vote: Brandt –yea, Baker –yea, Goddard -yea

Update on Sewer project:

There was a concern by Mrs. Blackston that we were basically going down the gut of her property, in this case it is gravity sewer system. This is down a creek that runs through her property. She had aspirations of building up that flood plane. USI states that it is not a studied stream or FEMA has not done a detailed study of it or established a base flood elevation. They would draw contours and say this is what the elevation is. They just created an envelope saying that the hundred year flood plane is from here to here. This stream goes right down the middle of that and so does the sewer line. That is why they paralleled the storm drains. FEMA does allow you to build in a flood plane. You can build in a flood plane but you can't close it off. The disadvantage is that it does run down the middle of her property but there will be a benefit of being able to connect onto a gravity sewer system on both sides.

New Business:

Review bids and award Phase II of 412 loops:

This was discussed under Old Business.

Review GIS system for suggestions:

We are trying to put as much information on it as fast as we can get it. The GIS system so far has been funded solely by the Water budget. The City and Planning Department sees that they will have a need for it also. Right now it is being used for the master street plan proposed by the Planning Commission. Mick Wagner asked the Commissioners what they thought needed to be added to the GIS system as a priority. Gene Baker said that the GIS system is going to help the Fire Department more than anything to improve the ISO rates. Hopefully within 2 weeks we will be able to identify our fire hydrants. As soon as we get the digitals laid in for the present route that we are going in. We were one point away from being rated a 5 vs. 6. The GIS is enough to get us that now. We would like to get it to go to a 4. Gene Baker thinks that we could get at least 2 points better being that the Fire Department has better trucks and equipment than they had at the last rating. Fire personnel will be able to locate from their trucks, when there is a fire, by typing in the location of the fire, all of the hydrants and valves around the area.

Discuss connections for Fulton & Highfill:

We already have all of the easements that we need for the water line extension except for Mr. Hathorn still hasn't given one but it isn't a big issue because they can use the road right-of-way there. We like one easement from DDP Holdings. We have every other easement that it requires to make the completion on that. We have citizens, Mrs. Dick Fulton and Bobby Highfill who are just south of Taldo Loop. Both have contacted the Chairman and asked if there was anyway that they would be able to connect to this new line. The Chairman told them that this is what he thought the whole goal of putting this line in was. Mrs. Fulton said that she would give an easement for the South side if it was a benefit. We already have an easement from Mr. Taldo on the North side. USI looked at this and thinks that it would be better to stay where they are. This doesn't mean that they can't run a line out there to them. It was thought that Mrs. Fulton was going to sell the property for development and if that is the case, the line would have to be a 6 or 8 inch because of the need for fire protection.

Review SOP 30.2 waterline extension requests:

The Water Department will assist in the cost of contributions of new water line extensions in or outside the City Limits of the City of Tontitown. Procedure is as follows:

- (A) Footage and cost to be figured by the Tontitown Water Department.
- (B) This cost to be put up by customer(s), together with tapping fees in the office of the Water Department.
- (C) At the end of construction, and water is available, customer would have thirty days to connect and start using water.
- (D) At the end of thirty days, each customer that has connected and is using water, will be reimbursed \$500.00.

This policy was discussed in connection with the above matter for the water line connection for Fulton & Highfill. USI was asked to get together different cost scenarios for what the cost would be to connect Fulton & Highfill.

Discuss SOP 68 cross connection testing procedure:

Back in October the city council adopted an ordinance for cross connection or RPZ's. This is one of the things that the Health Department had written us up on last year because of noncompliance on Tontitowns' behalf of the Health Department standard for lack of proof that we ever checked for cross contamination and to see if it was still functioning properly. The down side to this is back siphoning from a sprinkler system and contaminating the water supply. The Water Department put out a letter saying that they had 30 days to get their RPZ tested. This SOP was updated to give until April 1 versus the March 1 due date for this testing because of winterizations.

Motion to adopt SOP 68 with the typo errors corrected by: Bill Brandt
Seconded by: Larry Goddard

Vote: Goddard –yea, Brandt –yea, Baker –yea

Comments from Commissioners:

Bill Brandt told Mick Wagner that he thought that he was doing a good job as Chairman. Teresa and Millsap wanted a water line and Chuck with USI was asked to look at the cost of that. Mr. Lindley on the North side of Kelley talked about getting a fire plug across the road from his home.

Motion to adjourn by: Bill Brandt
Seconded by: Gene Baker

Vote: Brandt –yea, Baker –yea, Goddard -yea

Adjourn