

Joint Water, Sewer & Storm Drain and Gas Committee – April 24, 2018

A Joint Water, Sewer & Storm Drain and Gas Committee meeting of the City of Aledo met in Open Session in the Council Chambers of the City Hall building on April 24, 2018. Water, Sewer, & Storm Drain Chairman JIM HOLMES called the Committee meeting to order at 6:15 P.M. The roll was called, whereupon the following committee members answered present:

Aldermen ILA BERTRAND, TERRY BEWLEY, BARRY COOPER, JAY DOHERTY, JIM HOLMES, and CHRIS KOPP. Mayor CHRIS HAGLOCH. Alderman RANDY SLATER was absent.

Also present MICHAEL CHAUSSE, Alderman, ERIN KNACKSTEDT, City Administrator, JUSTIN BLASER, Director of Public Works & Utilities, and JAROD DALE, City Clerk.

The following was discussed:

**Approval of Committee Minutes:** Motion was made by ALD. Bertrand and seconded by ALD. Bewley to approve the meeting minutes of the Water, Sewer & Storm Drain Committee meeting held on April 10, 2018 as presented. A Unanimous voice vote followed in agreement.

***Old Business:*** *No Report.*

***New Business:***

*A Discussion regarding Replacement of the Water Salesman and Increasing the Rate:* ADMINISTRATOR Knackstedt reported the City has a water salesman which allows non-residents and residents to purchase 60 gallons of water for \$.25. The water salesman equipment is in need of repair and only accepts quarters. The estimated costs of the repairs are quoted at \$4,360 and the new machine will accept \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, and \$25.

Many of the uses of the salesman are for non-residents and commercial customers and they are currently paying less than even our residential customers. The current resident customer rate for 60 gallons is approximately \$1.39. The new device includes a key switch override for the City and Fire personnel use.

The Committee made a recommendation to replace the current equipment and to make the rate equivalent to what the out-of-town customers would be paying.

*A Discussion regarding Increasing the Out of Town Rate for Gas and Sewer Customers:* Currently, the City charges 200% for out-of-town water customers. It was proposed by ADMINISTRATOR Knackstedt to create the same percentage (%) charge for sewer and gas customers as well. It was also suggested to consider having a surcharge applied to City utilities to offset the administrative and maintenance costs associated with delivery of these services.

ADMINISTRATOR noted those gas residents could also enter into an agreement for city services and once the property was contiguous with city limits, they would be annexed into Aledo. A letter notifying all non-resident customers regarding the rate increase would be drafted and if they would prefer to annex into Aledo to contact City Hall. The current gas rates were last issued January 1, 2011 at a rate of \$6.90 per 1,000 cubic feet of gas.

A letter was also sent to NPGA terminating the City's current gas contract which will expire in 2019. The Committee to receive additional information of what the cost of gas would be and to provide a draft letter for committee review.

*A Discussion regarding Expanding the Current Water / Sewer Lateral Replacement Program to Commercial Customers:* ADMINISTRATOR Knackstedt reported Ald. Bewley requested the item be discussed and commercial properties be potentially allowed to be on the program. ALD. Bewley reported commercial properties along IL. Route 17 requires state specifications for laterals that is more expanded than what the City would require. This would result in additional costs for those commercial properties.

ALD. Doherty suggested research be completed by City Staff on what would be an appropriate charge for a lateral repair and to report back to the Committee. Consensus by the Committee for City Staff to retrieve additional information and report back at a later date.

*A Discussion on Cleaning and Inspection of the City Water Towers:* DPW Blaser reported staff has discussed the need to inspect the inside of both water towers, and the need to pressure wash the outside of the water towers. The tower located in the Industrial Park area was placed into service in 2007 and the tower located at SW 5<sup>th</sup> ST & 6<sup>th</sup> AVE was rehabilitated the same year. DPW suggested the towers be inspected and cleaned every five (5) to ten (10) years.

Two (2) proposals were obtained to robotically inspect the inside of each tower. The low proposal is from Utility Service Co., Inc. in the amount of \$1,290 per tower for a total of \$2,580. A second proposal was obtained to wash and clean the exterior of each tower. The low proposal is from National Wash Authority, LLC. In the amount of \$5,400 per tower for a total of \$10,800. The second proposal regarding wash and clean of towers was listed in the amount of \$33,210.

The Committee also requested City Staff address the turkey vultures that have set-up residence on the tower at SW 5<sup>th</sup> ST & 6<sup>th</sup> AVE.

Committee recommended the proposals be forwarded to City Council for final approval.

*A Discussion on S.W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street Water Main Replacement Project:* DPW Blaser reported in the F/Y 2018 CIP budget, the City Council approved the SW 9<sup>th</sup> Street Water Main Replacement Design project in the amount of \$25,000. The purpose for the project is to replace existing 6" transite (fiberglass) water main due to its age and condition.

Two (2) proposals were received and are as follows:

- Klinger & Associates, Inc. - \$16,500
- Hutchison Engineering - \$38,200

Motion was made by ALD. Doherty and seconded by ALD. Cooper to approve the Klinger & Associates, Inc. proposal in the amount of \$16,500 and to forward to the City Council for final approval. A Unanimous voice vote followed in agreement.

*A Discussion on the Proposal for Analytical Sludge Profile / North and South Lagoons:* DPW Blaser reported as part of the F/Y 2018 Capital Improvement budget, the City Council approved the South Lagoon Aeration Upgrades project in the amount of \$40,000. The purpose of the project is to start the addition of floating aerators to start the reduction of sludge accumulation and to maintain appropriate levels of dissolved oxygen to meet IEPA requirements.

To begin the process, an Analytical Sludge Profile should be completed to identify the amount of sludge build-up on the floor of the lagoons. Once this is completed, City Staff can identify how to proceed with the installation of the floating aerators.

City Staff obtained a proposal from Axton Environmental to perform this work at both lagoons in the amount of \$6,000. The scope of work included on the proposal and provided for Committee review.

Motion was made by ALD. Holmes and seconded by ALD. Doherty to approve the proposal submitted by Axton Environmental to perform work on both lagoons in the amount of \$6,000 and to send to City Council for final approval. A Unanimous voice vote followed in agreement.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, motion was made by ALDERMAN DOHERTY and seconded by ALDERMAN COOPER that the meeting be adjourned. Unanimous voice vote followed in agreement. Meeting was adjourned at 7:22 P.M.

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Jarod Dale, City Clerk