

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 14, 2012
3:10 P.M.

Councilman Rico, Chairman, called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order with Councilpersons Ladd, Berz, Benson, Murphy, Scott, Robinson, and Gilbert present. Councilman McGary joined the meeting later. City Attorney Michael McMahan; Management Analyst Randy Burns; and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

Others present included Steve Leach, Bill Payne, Jerry Stewart, Dan Johnson, Richard Beeland, Larry Zehnder, Mark Keil, Tony Boyd, Greg Haynes, Lee Norris, Gary Hilbert, Jim Templeton, Dennis Malone, Jana Lowery, Jerod Windberry, Ulystein Oates, Alice Cannella, Ron Swafford, John Bridger, Lt. Carroll, Dickie Hutsell, Donna Kelley, Mayor Littlefield, Johnny Feagans, Danny Thornton, David Johnson, John Van Winkle, Daisy Madison, and Chief Parker.

On motion of Councilwoman Ladd, seconded by Councilwoman Robinson, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published.

Mr. Leach wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day. He began with **Resolution 7(b)** authorizing a Contract for the Moccasin Bend Wastewater Treatment Plant Odor Control Project to Haren Construction Co. in the amount of \$2,922,000 with a contingency amount of \$292,000, for an amount not to exceed \$3,214,000.00, subject to SFR Loan approval. He stated that this was a project we had been working on for several weeks now and that Mr. Stewart could tell us about the issues.

Mr. Stewart began by talking about a 2007 Odor Control Study at Moccasin Bend, which is the first of two projects that we have. He mentioned a scrubber process for gases with three elements to the Project—(1) Odor; (2) Corrosion Control; and (3) Employee Safety. He stated that we estimated that this would cost \$4.2 million, and it came in at \$3.2 million.

Councilwoman Scott noted that we had long had odor issues; that it was her understanding, based on what she had been told and studied, that the problems in the downtown area with odors tends to be more of a problem when it is dry and hot—that when traps dry up, you get sewer gases; that the Wastewater Treatment Plant treats this with gases. She stated that her concern with the Study done, presenting maps to each councilperson, that on the top is Moccasin Bend Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the complaints are for a 18-month period; that there were 172 calls over this period of time; that she investigated the calls to see where the problems were and 19 were determined to be related to the Moccasin Bend Treatment Plant itself, and the rest were in the downtown area—that most of these calls came out of the downtown area and the North Shore; that the engineers did an interesting thing—that they looked at the location of the calls and looked at the day and what the weather was and what direction the wind was blowing—that only four coincided with the wind blowing. She questioned if the Plant is the main problem, and the wind is not blowing, how the smell comes

across the river? She stated that based on the data, she understood how we needed to decrease the odor at the plant but thought it would be bad to give the public the impression that this will fix all of what “ails us” in the downtown system because she did not think this was so. She noted that the majority of the odor complaints are in the downtown area—the sewers and the stormwater runoff—that the downtown complaints are combined sewer problems, and she felt that the City should consider an evaluation of the combined sewers rather than thinking about this \$3.2 million for the plant—that this was not the panacea for downtown.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that she thought Councilwoman Scott had made a great point—that we had a “big, stinky problem”; that if we do due diligence and were very thorough, she felt comfortable that this problem will be addressed; that the technology is new; that Councilwoman Scott had emphasized addressing the combined sewer service downtown, and we needed to get on track.

Mr. Stewart explained that to separate the combined sewers would be very expensive—that there are additional issues downtown to be studied; that there was no major way of spending this much money to correct these issues; that we needed to remember that we are in the middle of a National Park, and we have to be good neighbors—that offsite was his problem; that there is an odor issue and also a corrosion issue, and we have to make sure our employees are safe.

Councilman Murphy asked if downtown, when roadwork is done, if we are not replacing basins, which are trap basins? He wanted to know how many trap basins we have. Mr. Stewart could not answer off the top of his head but would say that it would be less than 5% of what we do. Councilman Murphy felt that we should move in the direction of trap basins. Mr. Stewart explained that they had to pick the times to do this work—hot and dry days; that they were working on the problem. Councilman Murphy asked what it would cost to replace the basins? Mr. Stewart could not give an exact amount, but it was determined by Councilman Murphy that it would be less than separating the sewer and stormwater.

Councilwoman Scott asked since there were no marks on paper near the Moccasin Bend Health Facility, what was the basis of knowing we have a problem? Mr. Stewart responded that he was sometimes called out at night concerning issues near the bridge and the Southern Belle about odors nearby—that they had to deal with customers.

Councilman Benson noted that it had been quoted that it would cost \$400 million to separate the systems and asked where this Odor Control Program would be? Mr. Stewart responded at the Wastewater Plant. Councilman Benson asked if this would have any effect on downtown? Mr. Stewart responded “if the wind is blowing right”. Councilman Benson agreed that \$400 million dollars is another world and questioned where we should begin in the first place to spend this \$3 million dollars? Mr. Stewart responded “at the Wastewater Plant”.

Resolution© authorizes an agreement with Integrated Structural Services, Inc. for professional services, relative to Contract No. C-11-003-101, Design of Replacement Roofing System for the Paul Clark Building for an amount not to exceed \$30,110.00. Mr. Leach explained that we had two buildings with roof leaks—that it is old roofing, and we are protecting our assets.

Resolution (d) authorizes an agreement with the Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. for professional services and Planning and Design of Water Use and Reuse Practices for Moccasin Bend Wastewater Treatment Plant for an amount not to exceed \$198,608.00. It was explained that we are spending a lot of money for potable water from Tennessee American Water Co.; that we are trying to determine how not to spend this much money.

Mr. Stewart stated that we were using 8 to 10 million gallons of water, and it was costing us \$235,000 a year for water over the past year; that there were inquiries from other people and the golf courses; that we were purchasing land for storage boxes to cover peak areas; that Moccasin Bend Gateway may need water; that first, we were trying to conserve and reduce potable water and secondly recycle effluent rather than using the water.

Councilwoman Scott asked if potable water was drinkable and was told “yes”. She wanted to know if we were becoming a water supplier? Mr. Stewart responded that we were not making drinking water—that we were not becoming a potable water plant—that Tennessee American Water Co. furnishes this.

Resolutions (e) thru (j) are road name changes, and it was noted that Dennis Malone is the point of contact. Mr. Leach went over the various name changes. Concerning the change in District 6 of Westview Drive to Cloudland Trail (Resolution f), Councilwoman Berz asked if neighbors had received a copy concerning this—that she had heard nothing from her constituents and wanted to know if they were satisfied and happy and if they would be at the meeting tonight? She wanted to know of any problems. Mr. Leach responded that there would be problems if we don’t change the name. Mr. Payne assured that the affected residents had been polled, but he had no way of knowing if folks would be here tonight. She stated that she was just asking.

In regards to **Resolution (h)** changing the right-of-way name from Bragg Street to Curtis St., Councilman Murphy asked if the affected property is a Fire Hall? He noted that Chief Parker was in agreement.

Resolution (i) authorizing the Mayor to apply for a TIGER IV grant relative to the Wilcox Tunnel Project in the amount of \$25 million was added with the permission of Chairwoman Ladd. Mr. Leach stated that this puts us in the hopper for an additional grant, and we are hopeful we will get assistance. Councilman Gilbert noted that the first one was a good grant. Adm. Leach noted that there was a lot of competition for a little bit of money.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 21, 2012

Resolution 7(a) authorizes necessary documents to provide land for the construction of the Volkswagen Welcome Center and to TVA for transmission lines. Adm. Leach asked if we wanted to do this now or wait until Legal and Legislative Committee. Councilman Murphy took the chair and heard this matter at this time.

Mr. Leach explained that we had been working on this for three years—that the use of the property was to accommodate the Volkswagen Welcome Center; that it was part of the MOU agreement and was a 15-acre site, which was originally designed for Parks and Recreation, and we swapped it. He noted that part of the land swapping is a restricted area and part of the original industrial; that this was two different properties, and he was here to answer questions—that it was tricky but was an agreement we did with Volkswagen

Councilwoman Scott asked what was the net acreage gained? Mr. Payne responded 15.6 acres. She asked if this was in addition to 13.5 acres and was told “yes”.

Adm. Leach added that the Nature Park does gain property—that this is good for the Park, also.

Adm. Leach proceeded with Public Works’ items. **Resolution ©** authorizes Jackie Born as a Special Police Officer (unarmed) for Public Works Department Land Development Office. This is one of the Mechanical Inspectors.

Resolution (e) authorizes Change Order No. 2 for Material Matters, Inc. relative to the provision of Biosolids Data Management System support and services in conjunction with the use of the Material Matters, Inc. database in the amount of \$20,000, for a revised contract amount not to exceed \$74,500.00. It was noted that Biosolids end up being soil additives. Ms. Cannella explained that this was the annual contract of 2007—that we keep all our information here concerning land applications; that the contract came up, and they forgot about the expiration—that they were unaware of the expiration date, and this got them up to date.

Councilwoman Scott stated that she understood the reasoning of why we keep track of this for EPA purposes. She asked Ms. Cannella to tell us where we are in being able to dump biosolids on fields without regulation. She wanted to know when we will be able to put (a) where (a) can legally go? She questioned why go to this expense and record keeping to put (a) and (b) on the same fields and wanted to know about the future?

Ms. Cannella explained that we were not classified as “a”; that Material Matters, Inc. is helping us—that our goal is to apply for Class “A” but management will have to make that decision. Mr. Stewart added that we have 20,000 less wet tons, which amounts to \$400,000 that we do not have to pay.

Councilwoman Scott asked if we did not ship out of town if we would save more? Mr. Stewart noted that it is only a 50-mile radius. She asked if we could use it here if it were “a”? Mr. Stewart noted that it would take more processing; that since June of 2005, biosolids leave every day. She asked if we were within a year of being at our goal and “a” could be applied on an “a” site? Mr. Stewart explained that “a” is similar to “b” with some restrictions on “a”—that it all has to be documented.

Resolution (f) authorizes a Partnership Agreement with Jedco, LLC relative to the Cowart Street Streetscape Improvements and receipt of a donation in the amount of \$8,000 for project related costs.

Resolution (g) authorizes a contract for the Citywide Services Tool Building Roof Replacement to J. D. Helton Roofing Company, Inc. in the amount of \$156,381 with a contingency amount of \$15,000 for an amount not to exceed \$171,381.00. Adm. Leach explained that this is an older building used for storage, and we have a problem with the roof and need to secure it.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 P.M.