



Meeting Minutes - Amended WATER UTILITY BOARD

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

4:30 PM

119 E. Olin Ave.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Gregory Harrington called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m. He introduced Ald. Larry Palm, who was appointed to replace Ald. Schumacher. George Meyer had resigned from his position on the board.

Present: 7 -

Lauren Cnare; Dan Melton; Gregory W. Harrington; Thomas Schlenker; Bruce Mayer; Madeline B. Gotkowitz and Larry Palm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Cnare, seconded by Mayer, to Approve the Minutes of the January 26 and February 26 meetings. The motion passed by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jacki Lawton addressed the board. She was a member of the Citizen Advisory Panel (CAP) for the Near West Side Water Supply Augmentation Project. She said sufficient need had been shown for establishment of this project and submitted a report on the CAP's behalf (attached to agenda item 2). Lawton was asked for her opinion of the process. She said many things could be improved; it seems cumbersome and time-consuming. Cnare encouraged her to share suggestions for improvements with staff and/or the board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Agenda items 2-6 were taken out of order.

2. [14500](#) Resolution to Establish the Project: Near West Side Water Supply Augmentation

Attachments: [Recommendation of Citizen Advisory Panel.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Cnare, seconded by Gotkowitz, to Approve the Resolution to Establish the Project. The motion passed by voice vote.

Ayes: 4 -

Lauren Cnare; Bruce Mayer; Madeline B. Gotkowitz and Larry Palm

Noes: 1 -

Dan Melton

Non Voting: 1 -

Gregory W. Harrington and Thomas Schlenker

3. [17417](#) Authorizing the Mayor and the City Clerk to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Strand Associates Inc. for site analysis and selection and the preparation of drawings and specifications, permitting, bidding, and construction administration for the Utility's proposed Booster Pump Station No. 118 located in the Arbor Hills Neighborhood. (14th AD)

General Manager Tom Heikkinen said the February 26 action on this resolution was not valid because George Meyer was no longer a member of the board when he attended the teleconference and voted.

A motion was made by Cnare, seconded by Mayer, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER . The motion passed by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

4. [17528](#) Authorizing the execution of an Amendment of Licenses and related Escrow Agreements pertaining to existing licenses between the City and Airadigm Communications, Inc. for the location of telecommunication facilities on City water towers.

Don Marx from the Community and Economic Development Division was present to address the board. He said this change to the agreement allows Airadigm to have a \$5,000 escrow account instead of a \$5,000 surety bond for each tower.

A motion was made by Cnare, seconded by Palm, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BOARD OF ESTIMATES. The motion passed by voice vote.

5. [17831](#) Authorizing the execution of a Purchase and Sale Agreement with LT McGrath, LLC for the purchase of the former Water Utility Administration building located at 517 and 523 East Main Street.

Attachments: [7976 Location Map 1.pdf](#)

Don Marx said the offer of \$410,000 was a fair price for the use planned for the vacant property at 523 E. Main St. The developer plans to tear down the existing structure and construct a three-level, 21-unit apartment building. Proceeds from the sale would be credited toward the Water Utility's debt to the city. Appraisals for the property had been as high as \$1.1 million, and in 2009 the land was valued at \$420,000. A higher offer would likely mean a higher density planned for the development, which would not be acceptable to the neighborhood or the city. If the Utility kept the property there was also deferred maintenance to consider.

A motion was made by Melton, seconded by Cnare, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BOARD OF ESTIMATES. The motion passed by voice vote.

6. [17836](#) SUBSTITUTE Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign a contract with a consultant Clark Dietz Inc. not to exceed \$180,317 for consulting services for the procurement of an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Plan (City-wide).

Heikkinen said this was for the first step in the AMI process. AMI implementation would be in 2011 and 2012, with \$5.5 million budgeted for the project for each of those years. After the vendor selection, there would be 40 hours of consultant support but this is not the consultant who would manage the implementation of the project.

A motion was made by Cnare, seconded by Gotkowitz, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. The motion passed by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

1. [17152](#) General Manager's Report

Attachments: [March GM Report.pdf](#)

Heikkinen highlighted two items on the report: the May 8 Open House and the July 24 picnic at Hoyt Park.

Heikkinen was asked for clarification on the conditions at Sentinel Well 29. He said water from the upper aquifer entered the lower aquifer when the well was installed and it would take time before the conditions in the lower aquifer become representative of what was there before. There is also the possibility of a leak in the FLUTE.

Heikkinen was asked for clarification on the virus study. He said the Water Utility is providing a site for this study. It is a continuation of work done by the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey to test the hypothesis that viruses in the lower aquifer are from leaking sewers and to study the movement of those viruses. Harrington added that Jean Bahr is a UW professor and Chris Gellasch is a PhD student involved in the study.

Heikkinen was asked for an update on the 2009 finances. He said the close-out procedure would be final in the next week. It looked like expenses would be under budget. However, the conservative revenue projections were not conservative enough. Commercial sales were down 18%, industrial sales were down 22%, and residential sales were down 3.5%; total revenue was down 11%. Revenue had been projected to be the same as 2008, which was a low year, so the Utility will not break even for 2009.

7. [17859](#) Resolution Honoring Doug DeMaster for Outstanding Service to the Madison Water Utility

Attachments: [Resolution Honoring Doug DeMaster.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Cnare, seconded by Mayer, to Approve the resolution. The motion passed by voice vote.

8. [17860](#) Rescheduling the June 22 board meeting.

The June 22 meeting was rescheduled for June 29 at 4:30 p.m.

9. [14501](#) Introduction of Future Agenda Items

CORRESPONDENCE AND SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS

10. [17853](#) Letters to Legislators Requesting National Resource Council Review of Water Fluoridation

Attachments: [Letters to Legislators requesting NRC review of Fluoridation.pdf](#)

BOARD EDUCATION SESSION

The board took a ten-minute recess at 5:15 p.m.

11. [17848](#) Session One: Creating Board Process Policies

Attachments: [Board Education Session 1- Creating Board Process Policies.pdf](#)

A two-hour education session and discussion of board process policies was facilitated by A.B. Orlik and Don Percy.

The following changes to the Board Process Policies (Document 1.1) were suggested:

- Use bullet points for BP 1 (Core Board Process Policy).
- Include a policy for alder board members (to be drafted by Palm and Cnare).
- Add a policy to BP 3d (Board Members' Conduct) that encourages championing the Utility.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ald. Palm, seconded by Cnare, to Adjourn at 7:30 p.m. The motion passed by voice vote.