

## COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS

### Minutes of September 22, 2011, 2011

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Public Works was held on Thursday, September 22, 2011 at 10:00 a.m., in the Boardroom at 121 West Court Avenue.

#### **In attendance:**

Gene P. Hancock	Steve Reeves	Vickie Gorham	Bill Patrick
Michael G. Monaghan	Ken Barnett	Jeff Auman	Mark Warner
Henry O. Watts	Richard Gentry	Vicki Knott	David Tuck
	George Petersen	Jeff Meredith	Stacia May
	Jerry Smith	Jeff Chapman	Chris Lindley
	Denise Giannetti	Carlos Cometto	

I. Chairman Watts called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Ken Barnett.

II. Chairman Watts gave the statement of compliance with the notification provision of the Freedom of Information Act.

III. Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hancock to approve the minutes as received for the regular meetings of August 11, 2011, and August 25, 2011; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Monaghan, and unanimously approved.

IV. Financial Statement:

Commissioner Monaghan noted a timing difference shown in the variance report, and asked whether that meant that if it is not spent, it would be spent at some point. Ms. Giannetti responded that is what is meant. She explained that when budgeting, instead of looking at twelve equal parts, they look at history for the last three years and get an average. It appears that some items are being expensed differently this year than for the average of the other three years. They may be spending more or less the first eight months of the year than in the prior three years. Commissioner Monaghan asked about any reduction or increase in requirements; Ms. Giannetti responded that there were a few items in Department 97; some items were expensed that were not budgeted. Those items were not timing differences and were noted in the report. With no further questions, the financial statement was accepted as information.

V. Business:

- A. Chairman Watts presented a recommendation to approve renewal of annual maintenance of elevated storage tanks in the water department. He noted that this is the third year of a fourteen-year maintenance plan, with a cost of \$261,981 for the third year.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hancock, seconded by Commissioner Monaghan, and unanimously approved.

- B. Chairman Watts presented a recommendation to approve extending the weather service contract for a five-year period, at a cost of \$3,185 per year.

A motion was made by Commissioner Monaghan, seconded by Commissioner Hancock, and unanimously approved.

- C. Chairman Watts presented a recommendation to approve the low bids submitted by Equipment Controls for gas meters at \$69 per meter, and Itron ERT modules at \$50 per module.

A motion was made by Commissioner Monaghan, seconded by Commissioner Hancock, and unanimously approved.

- D. Chairman Watts presented a recommendation to approve the low bid from McCall-Thomas Engineering Company in the amount of \$21,205 to perform substation maintenance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hancock, seconded by Commissioner Monaghan, and unanimously approved.

- E. Chairman Watts presented a recommendation to approve the low bid in the amount of \$71,139 from Columbia Truck Center for a 2011 ten-ton dump truck.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hancock and seconded by Chairman Watts; the motion carried by a vote of two to one, with Commissioner Monaghan voting "no".

VI. Other Business:

1. Commissioners Monaghan and Hancock noted receiving complaints from customers about water taste. Mr. Tuck explained that blue-green algae is blooming this month in the lake; some of the off-taste comes from the chemical that is a byproduct of that growth. They are testing as best they can and treating with carbon. Mr. Chapman added that customers can call; they would then flush out the lines and check samples. Mr. Tuck noted a downward trend in the data, indicating that it has peaked and should be gone by the end of the month.
2. Mr. Warner reported on steady activity at the Economic Alliance with project flow still coming in. He noted some short-term impact would likely be seen from turnover within the Upstate Alliance business development function; they are covering tradeshows and missions trips already scheduled, but there may be some short downturn in activity from them. Mr. Warner noted a trade show the following week for advanced medical devices. Mr. Warner referred to an article in *The New York Times* about the big negative impact the economy has on Greenwood, and specifically impact of the textile industry decline. He continued that this was old news to this part of the country; the best indicator of hiring activity in Greenwood is that the Upper Savannah Council of Governments six-month job fair coming up at the Greenwood Mall has 71 employers from the region participating with positions they are looking to fill. He noted recent openings of TJ Maxx and Hobby Lobby, with Michael's opening around October 2.

VII. Executive Session:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hancock and seconded by Commissioner Monaghan to go into *Executive Session* for legal and contractual matters; the motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting returned to open session. Chairman Watts noted discussion of two water extension agreements during *Executive Session*. Mr. Patrick stated that during that time they had discussed the water extension agreements with Herbert Anderson, Jr. and a separate agreement with Charles and Susan Remski. The Anderson agreement had already been extended one time, but is due to be paid now; the Remski agreement is coming up shortly to be paid. He stated that it was the sense of the Commissioners to grant a twelve-month extension to each of these parties, provided that before the extension becomes effective, each party would pay 25% of the amount due and the remaining 75% would be continued for another twelve months with an appropriate interest rate.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hancock, seconded by Commissioner Monaghan, and unanimously approved.

VIII. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_, 2011

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Secretary