

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2016
8:30 A.M.

Present: Darsweil L. Rogers, Chairman
Wade R. Fowler, Jr., Vice Chairman
Michael G. Lallier, Secretary
Evelyn O. Shaw, Treasurer

Others Present: David Trego, CEO/General Manager
Jeff Bradford, Assistant City Attorney
Jay Reinstein, Assistant City Manager
John Ellis, Hope Mills Liaison
PWC Staff

Absent: Karen McDonald, City Attorney
Jim Arp, City Council Liaison
Kenneth Edge, County Liaison
Media

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rogers called the meeting of Wednesday, August 24, 2016, to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Commissioner Fowler and seconded by Commissioner Shaw, the agenda was unanimously approved.

CONSENT ITEMS

Upon motion by Commissioner Lallier and seconded by Commissioner Fowler, Consent Items were unanimously approved.

A. Approve Minutes of meeting of August 10, 2016.

UPDATE ON COMMUNITY SOLAR

Presented by: Mark Brown, Senior Customer Programs Officer

Mark Brown, Senior Customer Programs Officer provided an update on the Community Solar Project. Mr. Brown stated staff completed a presentation to the Commission in October 2015.

Staff was tasked to identify best practices; develop cost/benefit analysis; develop proposed customer model; and provide a detailed analysis as part of a 5 year budget development process. Mr. Brown stated the current budget is \$400,000 in FY2017 for engineering and \$2,000,000 in FY2018 for construction.

Mark Brown stated the Texfi site was considered however ongoing efforts to rehabilitate the site proved it to not be feasible for construction in FY2018. This site may be a possible alternative for future projects depending on the outcome of the rehabilitation and staff has communicated with City staff.

The Butler Warner site has been confirmed. There is ample space available at the site. There is also easy access to the substation which is a secure location and it is staffed 24/7. Staff plans to install security cameras for added security.

Staff has engaged the NC State Clean Technology Center to evaluate possible solar technologies; provide community solar case studies from other utilities (best practices) to evaluate customer participation models; develop customer engagement strategies (working with Carolyn Hinson); to optimize the value of storage; and develop a recommendation.

Mr. Brown stated staff plans to return with a presentation to the Commission in late 2016. Discussion ensued.

Staff stated the plan is to install a 500kW solar array. The average household is 5 kW, if customers bought-in 100%, 100 homes would be served. Mr. Trego stated, based on the research, most homes will not buy in at the maximum 5kW and numerous customers can possibly be served. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Lallier confirmed staff will have a cost/pay back financial analysis when the presentation is provided later in the fiscal year. Additional discussion ensued.

Commissioner Fowler asked if staff has looked into the fuel cell technology. Staff responded, staff has considered the technology, but the costs were astronomical. If the costs come down, it may make sense in the future. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Rogers thanked Mr. Brown for the presentation.

FINANCIAL ITEMS DISCUSSION

Presented by: Dwight Miller, Chief Finance Officer

Dwight Miller, Chief Finance Officer, outlined the requests before the Commission.

- A. Loan Agreement between the Electric General Fund and the Water General Fund
- B. General Funds FY2017 Budget Amendment #2
- C. Water Rate Stabilization Fund Budget Amendment #16

Staff requests for the Commission to approve a loan agreement between the Electric General Fund and the Water General Fund. Mr. Miller noted there was an adjustment to the loan document after it was originally sent out in the agenda package.

Staff also requests for Commission to approve General Funds Budget Amendment #2 which moves monies from the Electric Fund to the Water Fund, and also moving 4.9 Million from the Water/Wastewater Stabilization Fund into the Water General Fund.

Commissioner Shaw motioned to accept staff's recommendation on items A, B and C. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fowler and unanimously approved.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

MANGO CIRCLE

David Trego, CEO/General Manager, updated the Commission on the previous water main breaks on Mango Circle. Construction has begun and the customers are on now on by-pass water.

SUSTAINABLE SANDHILLS

Mr. Trego stated since 2009, PWC has been recognized as a Certified Green Business by Sustainable Sandhills. Last week we were recertified by Sustainable Sandhills. In order to be certified, businesses must meet requirements in 10 areas: green purchasing; pest management; transportation; air quality; waste reduction and energy and water efficiency. This is a two certification that is good through August 2018.

SUCCESSION PROGRAM

Staff is undertaking an annual review of our Succession Planning program. We kicked it off last week. We are including all supervisory positions as well as other key positions which are not supervisory.

LEARNING FOR LEADERS

We completed our 10th Learning for Leaders class. This brings our total to 150 employees who have completed this class. It encompasses all areas of the organization at all levels (front line supervisors, line workers and employees in the water/waste water construction areas). This program teaches its participants interpersonal skills, listening skills, etc. Mr. Trego stated the COF Organizational Development Manager also participated in the last class to see if it could fit or benefit the City.

There is also Learning for Leaders II which is a more advanced class that is geared for front line supervisors or employees who potentially may go into supervision.

Assistant City Manager Jay Reinstein stated the City has an entry level supervisory training program and they are also working on a mid-level manager/supervisory leadership program.

He stated working with HR (Bobby Russell) provides the opportunity to pull resources together and collaborate together.

TEXFI

Mr. Trego asked Mr. Noland to update the Commission on the TEXFI site. The Commission approved for PWC to try a new form of remediation at the site (pilot study). PWC and the City are splitting the costs. PWC also received a DEED grant through APPA to use solar technology to power the new process.

The plan is to identify which remediation treatment process will work best and the cost; then collectively communicate with the community and the legislature.

Commissioner Lallier asked how far is the plume from the Clearwell. Mr. Noland stated the contaminates are right at the Clearwell, though it has not been contaminated. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Fowler

Commissioner Fowler acknowledged the presence of Jay Reinstein. He stated he is looking forward to working with him.

Commissioner Lallier

Commissioner Lallier thanked PWC Staff for work they are doing on the Raeford Road Median Project. He has met along with representative of the four franchise dealers to try to understand what the effects will be. The work that Mark, Mick, Reggie and their groups have completed in advance of the project has been notable. (Mark Brown noted the City personnel have assisted in their efforts). Staff is planning to put together an information night for all affected businesses and tenants.

Mr. Lallier also stated Chief Medlock announced his retirement on yesterday and asked for the Commission to send a letter to him to acknowledge his service to the Community.

Commissioner Shaw

Commissioner Shaw attended the Real Talk Session, sponsored by the City Council, spearheaded by Mayor Pro-tem Mitch Colvin. It was held at Kingdom Impact. Commissioner Shaw stated that it was very well attended by approximately 200 individuals. The City Council, County Commissioners and other elected officials were in attendance. It was an open forum.

REPORTS AND INFORMATION

Commission acknowledges receipt of the following reports and information.

- A. Monthly Cash Flow Report for July 2016
- B. Recap of Uncollectible Accounts
- C. Investment Report for July 2016
- D. Purchase Orders
 - June 2016
 - July 2016
- E. Position Vacancies
- F. Approved N.C. Department of Transportation Encroachment Agreement(s):
 - Encr. #18260 – 12” C900 PVC water main on NC HWY 59 (N. Main Str.) for Lowe’s of Hope Mills
 - Encr. #18261 – RJDI fire line on US Hwy 401 Bypass (Skibo Road) for Old Chicago Pizza
 - Encr. #18262 – 8” PVC/DIP/RJDI water main and 8” PWC/DIP sewer main and 4’ diameter manhole for SDR-26 on Bridgewood Drive (Bridgewood Drive Extension)
 - Encr. #18267 – installation of 3 HDPE Conduits of varying sizes, containing 3-750 MCM Aluminum Primary Cables – NC HWY 24 (Grove St.) near SR2311 (Ramsey St.)
- G. Approved Utility Extension Agreement(s):
 - Rogers & Breece, Inc. – water and/or sewer utility extension to serve Bridgewood
- H. Actions by City Council during meeting of August 8, 2016, related to PWC:
 - Approved Gateway Committee Request to PWC – Irrigation for Median Projects
 - Approved Bid Recommendation – Structures and Equipment for the Butler-Warner Generation Plant POD No. 2 Upgrade (Re-Bid)
 - Approved Bid Recommendation – Installation of the Butler Warner Generation Plant POD No. 2 Upgrade
 - Approved Bid Recommendation – Rockfish Creek Water Reclamation Facility Aeration Improvements, Phase 2 – Residuals Handling
 - Approved Bid Recommendation – Coley Drive Water Main Replacement
 - Approved Bid Recommendation – One (1) 35,000 GVWR Cab and Chassis with 6 Cubic Yard Dump Body
 - Approved Bid Recommendation – One (1) 15’ Four-Wheel Drive Backhoe Loader

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, upon motion by Commissioner Fowler and seconded by Commissioner Lallier and unanimously approved the meeting was adjourned at 9:14 a.m.