

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 9, 2020
8:30 AM

Present: Wade R. Fowler, Jr., Chairman
D. Ralph Huff, III, Vice Chairman
Darsweil L. Rogers, Secretary
Evelyn Shaw, Treasurer

Others Present: David W. Trego, CEO/General Manager
Telly Whitfield, Assistant City Manager
Christopher Davis, City Council Liaison
Melissa Adams, Hope Mills Town Manager/Liaison

Absent: Media

I. REGULAR BUSINESS

Chairman Wade Fowler called the meeting of Wednesday, December 9, 2020, to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Commissioner Huff, seconded by Commissioner Rogers, and unanimously approved, the agenda was amended to move Items VII and VIII to Items X and XI, and renumber subsequent items.

Upon motion by Commissioner Huff, seconded by Commissioner Rogers, the amended agenda was unanimously approved.

II. PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATION TO DAVID TREGO, RETIRING PWC CHAIRMAN

Chairman Fowler presented to David Trego a Service Award for service to the Fayetteville Public Works Commission. Commissioner Fowler, on behalf of the Commission thanked Mr. Trego for his leadership and dedication to the Commission.

Mr. Trego stated this has been a very rewarding part of his career, serving as the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager of PWC. He thanked the Commission for their support and commitment to the employees of PWC.

PRESENTATION TO FALLEN LINEMAN FOUNDATION

Presented by: Carolyn Justice-Hinson, Communications & Community Relations Officer

Ms. Justice Hinson presented to Mr. Kevin Dyson, President of the Fallen Lineman Foundation a check for \$1,100. Ms. Justice-Hinson stated in support of the foundation, PWC employees purchased 900 candy grams. She stated it was a great morale booster as well as a 'sweet' way to support this worthwhile and relevant foundation.

Mr. Dyson thanked PWC for the generous gift, and gave a detailed background of the foundation, its mission and support to fallen linemen throughout the state.

The following PWC employees have been instrumental in supporting the Fallen Linemen Foundation and were on-hand for the presentation: Britten O'Quinn, Bryan Owen, Philip Perry, Ray Lewis, and David Deschamps. Ms. Justice-Hinson also thanked Ms. Nicole Stiff as well as Ms. Katie Mehan for their hard-work in administering the candy gram initiative.

III. CONSENT ITEMS

Upon motion by Commissioner Shaw, seconded by Commissioner Rogers, Consent Items were unanimously approved.

A. Approve Minutes of meeting of November 11, 2020

B. Approve bid recommendation to award contract for chemicals, labor, materials and equipment necessary to provide Hydrogen Sulfide Control at PWC Lift Stations to Cape Fear Water Solutions, Inc., Dublin, NC, the lowest responsive, responsible bidder in the total amount of \$560,670.41 and forward to City Council for approval.

With the option to extend the contract for additional one (1) year periods, up to a maximum of five (5) years, upon mutual agreement of both parties,

The Hydrogen Sulfide Control Program is budgeted in the FY21 Wastewater Construction and Maintenance Operating Budget in the amount of \$560,670.41.

Bids were received on November 3, 2020, as follows:

<u>Bidders</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
NITRATE SOLUTION APPLIATION	
Cape Fear Water solutions, Inc., Dublin, NC	\$289,132.72
Pencco, Inc., San Felipe, TX	\$380,950.08
Source Technologies, LLC, Lexington, KY	\$348,323.15
Evoqua Water Technologies, Sarasota, FL (alternate bid)	\$349,756.58
Evoqua Water Technologies, Sarasota, FL	\$454,396.87
IRON SALT SOLUTION APPLICATION	
Cape Fear Water Solutions, Inc., Dublin, NC	\$271,537.69
Pencco, Inc., San Felipe, TX	\$352,724.00
Source Technologies LLC, Lexington, KY	\$394,387.50
Evoqua Water Technologies, Sarasota, FL (alternate bid)	\$482,164.00
Evoqua Water Technologies, Sarasota, FL	\$618,076.00

COMMENTS: Notice of the bid was advertised through our normal channels on October 12, 2020, with a bid opening date of November 3, 2020. Addendum No. 1 was issued on October 28, 2020, to respond to questions received from prospective bidders. Four (4) bids were received during the bid process. The previous contract price for the Nitrate Solution was \$2.1999 per gallon and Iron Salt Solution was \$1.1999; the current bid price per gallon for the Nitrate Solution is \$2.0459 and Iron Salt Solution is \$0.8559.

END OF CONSENT

IV. OUTAGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (OMS) DEMONSTRATION *(See Tab 2)*

Presented by: Susan Fritzen, Chief Corporate Services Officer and
Andre Couture, Project Manager

Ms. Fritzen updated the Commission on the functionalities of the new OMS on the customer e-portal. She noted customers must sign up for the service, once they sign in. Mr. Couture provided a demonstration of the new OMS. He created an outage to demonstrate how the process works, what the dispatchers see, and the updates the customer sees once the outage has been verified and when it has been resolved.

There is also a customer facing map in the Outage Management System. Customers can view the map to see where outages are within the PWC coverage area. It was stressed customers will only see outages for services provided by PWC. Ms. Fritzen stated it took approximately 1 ½ years to implement this system once it was selected. Staff responded to questions and comments from Commissioners.

V. FAYETTEVILLE CUMBERLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP. (FCEDC) UPDATE

Presented by: Robert Van Geons, FCEDC President/CEO

Mr. Robert Van Geons provided an update on Community Branding. He introduced a common brand for the Cumberland County Area. He stated as a result of a process that took about two years, they landed on four pillars, which were: We Find a Way; We Care for One Another; We Protect the World; and We Always Go Further.

He stated together we can tell the community's story effectively. The new branding is beginning to be seen around town. He stated we are just beginning this process so we can effectively tell our story.

Commissioner Huff stated he is excited about the new branding. And he wants PWC to be a part of this new branding. He stated the more people see it, the more they will believe it and the more often they will adopt it.

Council Member Davis stated the City is in alignment and is doing what it takes to make it happen. Mr. Van Geons stated this effort is not a sprint, but it is a marathon. Discussion ensued.

He stated our story has not been told on a national level, so DCI has been engaged to help to get our story out on a national and international level. Mr. Van Geons stated the Fayetteville/Cumberland County story has now been featured on several major platforms.

Mr. Van Geons discussed the Launch of Global SOF Communities of Excellence (GSCX); the Airport Economic Development Strategy; and the SEEN Entrepreneurial Network.

He also provided an economic update and discussed the unemployment claims in our community. In Cumberland County the Black/African American community as well as the youth have been heavily impacted. In April the employment in Cumberland County was down to approximately 101,000. It increased to 113,000 in September.

Mr. Van Geons discussed workforce challenges which include, childcare accessibility; Balancing virtual schooling; difficulty transitioning from COVID 19 impacted industries; availability and affordability of broadband access.

On the other hand, he stated as our regional economy emerges from the Coronavirus shutdown, Cumberland County's diversified industry base is poised for growth. He stated more than 1,000 quality job opportunities were announced within our community's premier employers.

2020 Major Milestones

- Collaborative Branding
- DCI PR Initiative
- 10 Point Recovery Plan
- SEEN Network / Core Center
- Airport Development Strategy
- Opportunity Zone Prospectus
- 4 Projects Set to Announce
- We Pack
- Danson's
- GCSX Int. Network
- New Spec Building
- \$2m Sewer Line Grant
- Business Advisory Council

Mr. Van Geons discussed the Office Market, the Industry Market as well as the Vacancy Rate in Fayetteville/Cumberland County.

He discussed Public Policy Partnership (PPP),

- Regional Dialogue with Municipalities, Utility Providers & Core Stakeholders
- Coordinated Federal & State Legislative Agendas
- Explore opportunities to leverage grant funding to achieve PWC infrastructure goals
- Coordinate and integrate responses to new business recruitment and expansion projects.

Mr. Van Geons discussed ways in which PWC and FCEDC can work together.

VI. CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTES 143-318.11(A)(4) TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

Commissioner Rogers motioned to go into closed session pursuant to NC General Statutes 143.318.11(A)(4) to discuss Economic Development Matters. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Huff, and unanimously approved at 9:44 a.m.

Upon motion by Commissioner Shaw, seconded by Commissioner Rogers, and unanimously approved, the meeting returned to open session at 10:09 a.m.

VII. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

COVID-19

Mr. Trego stated the governor instituted additional restrictions because of COVID. Mr. Trego stated since we had the first quarantine/case here at PWC, we have had 103 people who have contracted the virus or was quarantined. There have been 33 employees who have tested positive. But no one has

contracted the virus from another employee. As of now, we have 23 employees who are in quarantine, and 4 positive cases; five are waiting for test results; and 14 are in quarantine because they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive.

Commissioner Rogers stated employees need to wear their masks. Mr. Trego stated he and Ms. Ball have been reinforcing the requirement to wear them, and it appears employees are taking heed. He stated as he came in today, he passed three PWC vehicles, and they were all wearing masks.

HOPE PROGRAM

The State of NC has a program to assist residents of the State with rent, mortgage, and/or utility bill payments. Over 1,700 PWC customers have applied for it. We are in-line to receive \$1.5M from the program. More importantly, it will allow our customer to not be disconnected. We have entered into a data sharing agreement with the State, and if they open the program again, it will benefit more PWC customers. Discussion ensued.

UNITED WAY UPDATE

Ms. Justice-Hinson stated we have raised over \$150,000, which is more than last year. We maintained our marquee membership at approximately 50. We have 90% participation. It has been a very successful campaign with David and Elaina's 'Piggy Bank' Challenge; Elaina's 'Ask the CEO' Challenge; and David's 'Marquee Membership' Challenge. Mr. Trego stated we reached our goal and exceeded last year.

TRANSITION

Mrs. Ball thanked Mr. Trego for his kindness and graciousness during the transition. He has been very helpful.

She stated she has begun to meet with community leaders and the leadership at PWC. She is reviewing the Strategic Plan and would like to have a discussion with the Commission regarding it. We have a good start, and she would like to discuss some aspects.

She also stated there is a lot of opportunity for local supply chain improvements. Beginning tomorrow they have a team meeting to charter this effort. She has requested help from the Chairman regarding a legislative matter to afford us the opportunity to do more, as the City and others.

Elaina Ball stated she is thrilled to be here; thank you for having her; and she is very proud of the team for their generosity.

VIII. COMMISSIONER/LIAISON COMMENTS

No Comments

IX. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

- A. Monthly Cash Flow Report – October 2020
- B. Payment Analysis – thru November 2020

- C. Recap of Uncollectible Accounts – October 2020
- D. Investment Report – October 2020
- E. Purchase Orders – October 2020
- F. Monthly Safety Report – October 2020
- G. Personnel Report – November 2020
- H. FY2021 - 1st Quarter Financial Presentation
- I. Position Vacancies
- J. Financial Statement Recaps
 - Electric – October 2020
 - Water/Wastewater – October 2020
- K. Actions by City Council during the meeting of November 9, 2020, related to PWC:
 - Approved Bid Recommendation – Two 67kV Delta Primary Voltage Power Transformers for Black & Decker & PO Hoffer Substation Rebuild Projects
 - Approved Bid Recommendation – Two 67kV Delta Primary Voltage Power Transformers

X. CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTES 143-318.11 (A)(3) TO CONSULT WITH AN ATTORNEY

Commissioner Darsweil Rogers motioned to go into Closed Session Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) to Consult with an Attorney. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Shaw and unanimously approved at 10:18 a.m.

There being no more discussion, upon motion by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Shaw and unanimously approved, the meeting returned to open session at 11:04 a.m.

XI. CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTES 143-318.11(A)(6) FOR PERSONNEL MATTERS

Commissioner Rogers motioned to go into Closed Session Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) for Personnel Matters. Motion was seconded by Huff and unanimously approved at 11:04 a.m.

There being no more discussion, upon motion by Commissioner Rogers and seconded by Commissioner Huff and unanimously approved, the meeting returned to open session at 11:23 a.m.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, upon motion by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Huff, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.