

COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS
Minutes of January 8, 2015

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Public Works was held on Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 10:00 a.m., in the Boardroom at 121 West Court Avenue.

In attendance:

Arthur C. Bush	Steve D. Reeves, Jr.	Jerry Smith	Bill Patrick
Michael G. Monaghan	Teresa Lake	Jeff Auman	Stacia May
Henry O. Watts	Eduardo Noriega	Jeff Chapman	Colin Riddle
	Carlos Cometto	Wayne Bartley	Julie Minor
	Jeff Meredith	George Petersen	
	Chris Lindley		

- I. Chairman Monaghan called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Commissioner Bush.
- II. Chairman Monaghan gave the statement of compliance with the notification provision of the Freedom of Information Act.
- III. Business:
 - A. Ms. Julie Minor, with the Partnership Alliance, reported on an upcoming third reading for Project Pine on January 20. She stated that Café, aka Project Dixie, continues to move along after meeting with the County and Metro before the holidays. Ms. Minor concluded by noting twenty active projects in the pipeline.
 - B. Manager Reeves recommended the low bid from Carolina Tap & Bore, in the amount of \$1,211,480, for the 2014 CDBG project to replace a number of galvanized water lines. He stated that the project was inclusive of \$487,700 of grant money and bond funds. Manager Reeves noted that the project would include Alma Street, Ashwood Street, Cottonwood Street, Glendale Avenue, Keasler Drive, Orchard Drive, Redwood Street, West Cambridge Avenue, West Sproles Avenue, Wright Avenue, Colston Street, Holloway Avenue, Lynn Street, Truett Avenue, and West Creswell.

A motion was made by Commissioner Watts to award the bid, in the amount of \$1,211,480, to the low bidder, Carolina Tap & Bore; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Bush, and unanimously approved.
 - C. Manager Reeves presented revisions to the Natural Gas Incentive Policy to the Board for consideration, explaining that the policy had been in effect for

some time, and was initially instituted when gas prices had risen so high and had become non-competitive with electrical heat. Most new homes and conversions were going to heat pumps and electric water heating at that time; therefore, the Board instituted a Natural Gas Incentive Policy to attract new customers and conversions back to the natural gas arena. He continued by commenting on the success of the program. However, now that gas prices are significantly lower than in past years, it is not as appropriate for everyone to benefit from the incentive program, and especially those converting from natural gas to natural gas. Manager Reeves stated that the revisions to the policy would remain in effect for new constructions and for those converting to natural gas from another fuel source, such as electric, fuel oil, or propane. He recommended approval of the revisions, with an effective date of March 1, 2015. Commissioner Watts asked about the amount spent on incentives over the years; Ms. Lake responded that \$1,911,002 had been spent since 2006 through November 2014.

A motion to approve the revisions to the Gas Incentive Policy was made by Commissioner Watts, and seconded by Commissioner Bush. Mr. Patrick suggested a few minor changes to the policy to make it clearer that it is intended for residential and not commercial customers. Chairman Monaghan asked if March 1 would be a sufficient period of time to inform the public, and suggested April 1, 2015. After Manager Reeves explained that an ad would be in *The Index Journal*, as well as a notice in the bills, the Commissioners agreed to proceed with an effective date of March 1, 2015. With no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

- D. Manager Reeves recalled sponsorships for the past four to five years of the lion topiary during the Festival of Flowers. He presented a request to continue in 2015, at a cost of \$2,625.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bush, seconded by Commissioner Watts, and unanimously approved.

IV. Other Business:

1. Manager Reeves reported on the CPW Cares Program which allows customers to donate money to assist those who cannot pay their winter utility bills, with CPW matching those funds. He noted only \$1,500 received so far from the public. Manager Reeves recalled that nowhere near the budgeted amount of \$20,000 has ever been received, and that full-fledged donations have been made to Greenwood United Ministries in the past. Manager Reeves recommended sending a check at the end of January, in the amount of

\$10,000, that would include the amount already committed, and to then send the remaining \$10,000 at the end of February. He added that given the cold weather, the funds would then be available for distribution at United Ministries.

A motion was made by Commissioner Watts, seconded by Commissioner Bush, and unanimously approved.

V. Executive Session:

A motion was made by Commissioner Bush and seconded by Commissioner Watts to go into *Executive Session* for a personnel matter; the motion was unanimously approved.

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

Approved: _____, 2015

Secretary