

WATER COMMITTEE
JANUARY 23, 2002
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chuck Watkins, Chairman
 Dr. George Patton, Vice Chairman
 Chris Cofty
 Tony Parrott
 Chris Venice

NON-VOTING MEMBERS: Bill McNally
 Jim Mallett

STAFF PRESENT: Russell Ray

GUESTS: Larry Turner, PTC WASA

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chuck Watkins at 8:00 A.M.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON JANUARY 23, 2002.

Vice Chairman Dr. George Patton made the motion and Tony Parrott seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on January 23, 2002. There was no opposition.

II. SECURITY.

Mr. Parrott reported the Water Committee recommendation is on the Board's agenda for tomorrow night. He is reviewing additional lab equipment for water testing. Technology continues to increase and we may want to purchase this additional equipment. Some tests that are now being done by the State can now be run on a daily basis on site, at very little cost. Last week we had some problems with the water and hand delivered samples to the State lab on Wednesday for testing. We received the results yesterday. Mr. Parrott remarked he would like to shorten the time for the results on some substances. He will be asking the Board to approve these purchases.

Clayton County Water Authority has a testing unit for testing TOC (Total Organic Compounds), this would give us a wide range of tests for substances in raw water. The problem we had Tuesday would have shown up. We could not have tested for ethylene glycol, but we could have run a test on Total Organic Compounds, which would have shown an increase.

Mr. Parrott went on to say that he closed the South Fayette Treatment Plant. It appears that the people who called about the taste in the water were all served by that plant. We shut this plant down, and provided customers with water from the Crosstown Water Plant. The only reason we could do this, is because of the time of year it is.

The committee discussed where the problem came from. Mr. Parrott explained that it appears there was a spill at the airport while de-icing the airplanes on January 3. The customers complained of a sweet taste. We have never had a sweet taste as an odor problem before. This is what was unusual. The Food and Drug Administration classify propylene glycol as generally recognized as safe. The Drinking Water guidelines for ethylene glycol are 7,000 micrograms per liter.

The committee discussed at length the health advisory levels and the safety of the water. The trace amount found in one sample was well below the health advisory levels. Samples have been collected from Clayton County, Fayette County and City of Griffin.

Mr. Parrott explained the water was being pumped from the Flint River into the holding pond at the South Fayette Treatment Plant. The piping has been changed to now pump the water from the Flint into Horton Creek Reservoir for more dilution. Since last Tuesday we have been pumping with water from Lake Horton through the holding pond back into Lake Horton without adding more water to the plant. We also drained the basins at the water plant, refilled the basins, backwashed the water out of the clearwell, and pumped it down. Then we started the plant back up yesterday and started refilling the clearwell in order to put the water plant back on line. Samples were taken at the Crosstown Water Plant, 140 Brechin Drive, South Fayette Water Plant and the Flint River.

Discussion followed about the cost being more to pump the water to Lake Horton first rather than the holding pond, taking samples to be tested by the State or a private lab, doing everything necessary to keep the drinking water safe, cost of lab equipment, and certification of the private lab to do the testing. The committee agreed that testing would be necessary for the next several weeks.

III. CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE SEWER BILLING.

Lisa Gillis reported there are approximately 500 customers that we will begin the billing for sewer the middle of February. They are entered in the system and we are ready to begin billing for the City of Fayetteville.

Mr. Parrott commented we will also pick up the customers on Redwine Road, (Lakeside on Redwine.) We will pick up these water customers and also do their sewer billing. There are about 64 customers.

Mr. McNally reported the county is being reimbursed for tap fees by a combination of the City of Fayetteville and John Wieland Homes. Four homes would require extensive digging, therefore they were left as part of the Fayetteville system. Asbuilt plans will be give to Mr. Parrott for review.

IV. PEACHTREE CITY WATER AND SEWERAGE AUTHORITY RATE CHANGE.

Mr. Turner explained they are proposing a plant expansion and will have a bond sale and a rate increase. He requested permission to include a stuffer in the March billing to explain the rate increase to the customers.

Mr. Parrott exited the meeting.

Mr. Turner went on to say that his Board will meet on February 4 and will take action at that time. The rate increase will be effective on all bills issued after March 1.

Chairman Watkins made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to do this insert. Vice Chairman Patton seconded and there was no opposition.

Mr. Parrott reentered the meeting.

V. HIGHWAY 54 PEACHTREE CITY DOT FOUR LANE PROJECT.

Mr. Parrott reported that the DOT would like the Water System to move the water line out of the current right-of-way into the new right-of-way of the four lane project. The area involved is from the intersection of Highway 54/74 to the Coweta County line. The railroad bridge will be redone. We have an existing eight inch cast iron water line that needs to be moved. Mr. Parrott estimated the cost at \$200,000.00. When Cedercroft subdivision and McDuff Parkway were approved, we paid for a larger line under the railroad on the backside of Cedercroft. We will be able to provide water from that direction during construction, so that construction will not impact our customers as much as it would have.

Mr. Parrott made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to move the water line on Highway 54 in Peachtree City to do the DOT four lane project down to the County line. Vice Chairman Dr. Patton seconded and there was no opposition.

Mr. Parrott added that we will install a twelve inch line.

VI. REVIEW OF HIGHWAY 92 TANK PROJECT.

Mr. Parrott reported that the two million gallon tank is nearly finished. They are

putting the final coat of paint on the tank. They expect to begin sterilizing the tank by the end of next week. Mr. Mallett commented that the contractor has asked for permission to take down the other tank. Taking the tank down is part of the contract.

Chairman Watkins commented that he would like to ask the Board to let the tank stand until it needs a major overhaul. Not long ago, we spent a good bit of money to upgrade the tank. Vice Chairman Dr. Patton commented that he feels the tank should be left there permanently. Discussion followed about the value of the tank and why it should not be taken down.

Chairman Watkins made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to keep the existing 92 tank for several reasons : replacement cost will be approximately ½ million dollars; it is valued as an asset on our books at \$186,000; it is in good shape and we need to keep it in service. For these reasons he is requesting the Commissioners waive the part of the contract that says to take it down. Vice Chairman Dr. Patton seconded and there was no opposition.

SANITARY SURVEY OF THE WATER SYSTEM

Mr. Parrott reported on the Sanitary Survey of the Water System done by the Department of Natural Resources. The State spent the better part of three days with us. The survey of the Water System performed between the 18th and the 20th of December was found acceptable to their office. He distributed a copy of the letter with a list of items they want done. Items 1 -5 are considered highest priority. At the Crosstown Plant, the lime silo gasket needs to be replaced and has been ordered. There is a crack in the southwest corner of the clearwell. This is just a concrete crack, David Jaegar has already talked to someone about taking care of it. We have already ordered the continuous chlorine residual analyzer that the State wants at the Crosstown Plant. Mr. Parrott went on to say that the Backflow Prevention Program needs to be implemented for all size connections. We do not test 3/4" backflow preventors. They also want a designated Class I Operator to be in responsible charge of the South Fayette Plant. He commented that this operator must spend the majority of his time on location at the plant. We have been trying to hire someone for this position since August and have not had any luck. The position is still being advertised, and when someone who qualifies applies for the position, he will interview them.

Mr. Parrott went on to discuss other items that were highly recommended. The State wants the ½ million gallon Peachtree City tank painting finished. Mr. Mallett updated the committee on this tank. He commented that we had hoped to not have to sand blast the tank down to bare metal, because of the problem it creates with the neighborhood. We hired an expert on tank painting to look at it. We have two options. If we don't want to blast it to the metal, the other option is to rough it up, and then put different kinds of paints on different sections of the tank, and watch it for about a year. See which one does the best, then proceed along those lines. The other option is to blast it down to paint it.

The prime coat that is on the tank now was exposed to ultra violet light. The particular kind of paint that Tnemec provided for us glazed over and no paint will adhere to it. It was not known at the time that this would happen.

Mr. Mallett went on to say, that he would like to recommend that if we go forward with the blasting, to shroud that tank. It would cost approximately \$50,000.00 more to do it that way. During the blasting operation, they pull the shroud up, there is a vacuum and it sucks the particles out. Two years ago we were within a week of finishing this job and had to shut down.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Tony Parrott made a motion and Vice Chairman Dr. Patton seconded to adjourn to executive session for discussion of one legal item.

Attorney McNally advised the committee on one legal item. No action was taken.

There being no further business, Chairman Chuck Watkins adjourned the meeting at 9:35 A.M.

Chuck Watkins

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 13th day of February, 2002.

Lisa Gillis