

WATER COMMITTEE
AUGUST 22, 2012
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pete Frisina, Chairman
James K “Chip” Conner, Vice Chairman
Brian Cardoza
Jack Krakeel
Tony Parrott

NON-VOTING MEMBERS: David Jaeger
STAFF PRESENT: Russell Ray
GUEST: Stephen Hogan

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pete Frisina at 8:00 A.M.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON JULY 25, 2012.

Tony Parrott made the motion and Vice Chairman Chip Conner seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on July 25, 2012. There was no opposition.

II. LAKE MCINTOSH UPDATE.

David Jaeger updated the committee on the Lake McIntosh project. He referenced a photo taken in May that showed three quarters of the upper slab that was poured, the labyrinth walls were stubbed up rebar and the dam construction still remained. As of now, the spillway is complete, all the slab pours are done, and the labyrinth wall is complete as well. The wing walls were the last things to be poured. The contractor is now working on the abutment, backfilling of the wall, and that is coming along nicely.

Mr. Jaeger showed a photo showing the completion of the last east wing wall; from inside the labyrinth looking downstream you can see the impact blocks and the channel below. This photo shows the labyrinth wall at elevation 780, which sets the normal pool of the reservoir. The next photo Mr. Jaeger showed superimposes what the lake will look like once it is full. When the lake is full the upstream side of the labyrinth wall will be the lake level.

He went on to say that Monday of this week, the contractor installed the pedestrian bridge (the maintenance bridge). They brought in two three hundred ton cranes to move it. They assembled it in front of the spillway and then lifted it and moved it over; it was done within thirty minutes. This bridge will make it easier for the Water System to maintain both sides of the dam. Mr. Jaeger stated that a representative from the bridge manufacturer was on site during both the assembly and the installation.

Mr. Jaeger reported that the clearing is nearly completed. The contractor has just a little stretch close to the dam where they are clearing the remaining creek buffer.

The pump station job is moving along nicely, all of the interior piping and pumps now are installed, and bolted up. They also have been painted. He pointed out the two vertical turbine pumps of variable speed drive, which allows the Water System to modulate the amount of water coming out of the lake to meet the demand. One pump at a time will be running, the other will be a backup, alternating the pumps operation. During highest demand periods both pumps can be run together if needed. Mr. Jaeger then pointed out the discharge manifold that ties the discharge from the pumps together into common piping. He pointed out where it turns down through the slab and then comes out below the front door and down the access road to the water plant, which is almost a mile away.

Mr. Jaeger stated that the Lake McIntosh Park project has started up now. He showed the area on the photo where the earthwork has started, the contractor has also started on the walking trails. The boat ramp and dock area has not been started. He then showed the relationship of the park, the dam and the raw water pump station. He pointed out on the photo the location of the main entrance gate, which will regulate the public access to the park during daylight hours. He also showed the gate for county personnel only to access the dam. Another photo showed the earthwork starting up, the areas that have been cleared and GAB has been put down for the trail. Some storm drain piping will be done through the park; he showed a photo of the material that is stockpiled for that work.

Mr. Parrott explained that we wound up with a problem with the park; we had not anticipated having to do Stormwater BMP's to the level of which we are going to have to do. He said the cost for this was not included in the budget, and he needs to go before the Board of Commissioners and ask for a change order on this. The additional Stormwater measures will cost \$44,605.00. The parking lot is not good ground (unsuitable), there is plenty of dirt to dig out of the lake and put the unsuitables back. Bottom line, it is not that big a deal, other than we have gone through this project this long and this is the first change order we have had to do.

Mr. Jaeger stated that the dam project and the pump station project are both under the contract amounts; even with this, the total combined is still under the project. Mr. Parrott said funding is not a problem. Mr. Jaeger said that we had some contingency in the park project that shows up in the summary in the \$25,000.00, but what we ran into with the requirements for the Stormwater quality and the amount of unsuitables exceeded that. This is between the parking area and the lake.

Mr. Jaeger said that he believes we will be ready to approach Safe Dams in a month to get them to come out and do their inspection. Then the Corp of Engineers also has to say ok, based on the mitigation fulfillments. The concrete work on the dam is basically done; they are building the rest of the dam, backfilling the walls and then they will have to spread top soil and put down sod.

Mr. Parrott stated that our mitigation credits should be released from Magnolia Swamp next week. The Corp will not allow us to close the gate until that is out of

the way. Even though we have had delays with the weather and other things have slowed the project; we could not do anything without the mitigation requirement being fulfilled. He said he checked with Laura Benz with Tommy Craig's office and she is as sure as she can be that we will have the release soon.

III. LAKE PEACHTREE DREDGING.

Mr. Jaeger stated that the last time we talked about this; he had offered to the Water Committee that the way this project will proceed is to provide a pre-construction notification to the Corp of Engineers with a basic evaluation from an environmental standpoint of what the project is and what impacts there may be. They will review that and determine if there is the need for an individual permit or whether the project is exempt from further analysis. He said that the environmental consultant has provided a proposal, basically stating each of the work items. To do the initial evaluation and the pre-construction notification their fee is \$9,156.03. If we have to go to the next step, which is the individual permit, there will be an additional \$10,476.30. There is also a contingency item, which it is unclear at this point whether the Corp will require it, but if the Corp requires a protected mussel survey at two locations in Flat Creek and two major tributaries entering the lake, then that would be an additional \$3,995.00, which is just shown as a contingency based on whether the Corp requires it. If everything is required, the total fee would be \$23,627.32. If Peachtree City wants us to include the streams and fingers of the lake, along with the lake body, that price would go up 10%.

Mr. Jaeger went on to say that there is a range of what this would cost as low as \$9,156.00 and as high as \$23,627.00 depending on what is required by the Corp. Mr. Parrott stated that all of this is additional requirements. He said that he needs to get the Board of Commissioners to approve doing the environmental 404 study. This is beyond what he can approve.

Mr. Parrott made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to use Kennedy Engineering & Associates Group for the environmental 404 study for the dredging project at Lake Peachtree at an estimated cost of \$23,627.32. Vice Chairman Chip Conner seconded and there was no opposition.

Mr. Jaeger stated that Kennedy Engineering has worked on a lot of county projects; this project has not required environmental in the past, so we don't have a record with them consulting as far as Lake Peachtree goes. Mr. Parrott stated that the Water System has funds available in the Lake Peachtree Dredging fund for this much of the project; depending on the final project costs, we won't have enough money, but right now we have funds available to do the engineering and environmental study. Mr. Parrott went on to say, that because of their knowledge Kennedy Engineering gave us a price for the mussels, even though if we had asked others, they would have said we did not need it. Then, later on, we would have found out we would have to do a mussel survey. Because of their knowledge and expertise, Kennedy Engineering gave us a price if we have to do it.

IV. PEACHTREE CITY WATER AND SEWERAGE AUTHORITY WATER BILL INSERT REQUEST.

Stephen Hogan explained that the Water and Sewerage Authority would like to do an insert just like they did last year. They are pursuing their public relations program and requesting for October 2012 and March 2013. He said that he does not know what the draft will be for March, but it will be very similar to what was done last year. A copy of the draft for the October insert was provided to the Committee for review. He commented that this is to capitalize on the mailers for Peachtree City.

Vice Chairman Conner made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the water bill insert from Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority; the insert would be mailed in the October 2012 and March 2013 bills. Chairman Frisina seconded and there was no opposition.

V. ROAD WIDENING OF MCDONOUGH ROAD.

Mr. Parrott explained that the DOT is going to four-lane McDonough Road; there will be a median, right in, right out in front of the building. All the additional work will be done on this side of the road; they are not going on the park side where there is no building. This will put the right of way 28 feet from the building. We will have to have parallel parking in the front. The waterline and the power line are on this side of the road, and will have to be relocated. We will have to relocate the waterline the entire distance. Mr. Parrott commented that that cost will be approximately one half a million dollars. We will also have to put additional parking in the back of the building; we will have to take out the bank that is behind the building for the parking. They will connect 911, this building, the parking lot and the soccer field and then down to Champion Way; they will build an access road so we don't have to go up and turn around to go back out.

Chairman Frisina commented that the plans show that there are two drives; one for the front parking at the Water System and a second entrance is where Building & Grounds is located. Those are the only two places there will be median cuts. Phil Mallon has been looking at it and he is going to go back to the DOT and ask about coming to the middle and putting in new entrances to both sides and try to get one median cut and a signal.

Mr. Parrott commented that we have always been challenged with our septic system for this building. The septic tank is located on the end of the building and we will have to make sure that our road access is south of our septic system. We do not have a backup drain field because of the year the building was built.

Chairman Frisina stated this construction will be in 2014.

VI. WATERLINE EXTENSION AT STRATHMORE SUBDIVISION.

Mr. Parrott explained that we have a subdivision of eight lots that is on Ebenezer Road, right outside of Peachtree City. We serve this subdivision off of our

pressure line that we pump to the 92 tank, so, it has a pressure reducing valve station out there for these eight lots. We have paralleled this waterline over the years coming south on Quarters Road to the point where we are within 1,100 feet of this subdivision. Mr. Parrott said that we can do a 1,100 foot waterline extension and then take out this PRV that constantly gives trouble. When it gives trouble, it puts pressure, not exceeding what our pipe will take, but more than what he is comfortable with. It will fluctuate to 130, 140 pounds of pressure. It can work today, and then tomorrow it doesn't work. Then you have to fix it, and then wait until it doesn't work again. There is no way to do any kind of maintenance on a PRV that will give you any kind of assurance that it is going to work the next day anyway. The pressure reducing valve, because of the way it modulates is not the most reliable piece of equipment. The customers have pressure reducing valves on their houses, which offsets our problem, but we are constantly hammering that pipe out there with pressure more than what he wants. He said that he wants to recommend this to the Board of Commissioners to have this 1,100 feet of pipe put in by our contractor that we use for our annual contract. Mr. Parrott estimated the cost would be \$60,000 to \$70,000. It more than offsets what we are doing to the system out there.

Mr. Parrott made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to install 1,100 feet of waterline at Strathmore Subdivision to alleviate a pressure reducer valve problem; and to use the Annual Waterline Contractor Shockley Plumbing for the project. Vice Chairman Chip Conner seconded and there was no opposition.

VII. WATERLINE EXTENSION TO SOUTHMILL SUBDIVISION.

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

VIII. STATUS OF RESERVOIRS.

Russell Ray reported that Lake Horton is 12 feet down and Lake Kedron is 4.5 feet down. Lake Horton is at 34% capacity, but it still has just over a billion gallons of water in it, which is approximately 180 days of supply. Lake Kedron is 1.5 billion gallons and has around 300 days of supply. Mr. Ray went on to say that 12 feet down is a new low for Lake Horton since it was built. Last year, on December 1, we were at 11.75 feet down. We can anticipate, under these conditions that Lake Horton will drop another 2 feet at least.

Mr. Parrott commented that we are using almost a million gallons a day for August, less than what we were doing last year. With the showers we have been getting, people are not irrigating as much. Starting next month the demand will be down; traditionally after the Labor Day weekend parties, we see a drop because that is the last big event people have in their yards.

LAKE MCINTOSH WITHDRAWAL

Jack Krakeel asked about the time line for beginning withdrawal out of Lake McIntosh, out of Line Creek. Mr. Jaeger stated that he is projecting within thirty days we will be ready to have Safe Dams come do an inspection. Then, we also have

to have the Corp ok us closing the gate. He said that he hopes within 60 to 90 days (we can't predict how long it will take to get authorization to actually close the gate), we would begin impounding water. By next spring to summer he said that he thinks we would be at the point where we could start withdrawing, even though the lake would not be full. It is just a matter of getting the water level up high enough that we have submergence for the pumps and then we can start pulling water out even though the lake is not full.

Mr. Parrott commented that we started pumping out of Lake Horton before it filled up, also. He said our permit to withdraw water out of Line Creek is 2 MGD and he would assume with the flow of the stream we could pump 2 million, if the water is available. Currently there is not sufficient flow to withdraw water from Line Creek, which is typical in the summer. Mr. Hogan commented that their permit restricts them from discharging into Line Creek when the flow is that low.

Mr. Krakeel then asked if we have a dry winter, what happens. Mr. Parrott stated that we would start off in the spring with water restrictions. We can easily make a decision by March what the water restrictions ought to be. He said that it should not be a problem to get Lake Kedron full, it could be a problem to get Lake Horton full; and we will have the opportunity to pump some from Lake McIntosh. Come March, we would have to make a decision on how stringent we need to be on water restrictions. With the Governors Water Stewardship Act, we would have to get their permission to have anything different. He said that he does not know how long a process that is.

There being no further business, Chairman Pete Frisina adjourned the meeting at 8:35 A.M.

Peter A. Frisina

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 12th day of September, 2012.

Lisa Speegle