

WATER COMMITTEE
AUGUST 25, 2004
MINUTES

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

NON-VOTING MEMBERS: **Bill McNally**

STAFF PRESENT: **David Jaeger**
 Russell Ray

ABSENT: **Chris Cofty**
 Jim Mallett

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

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON JULY 28, 2004

Tony Parrott made the motion and Vice Chairman Dr. George Patton seconded, to approve the minutes from the meeting on July 28, 2004. There was no opposition.

II. DISCUSSION ABOUT PAINTING PEACHTREE CITY WATER TANK.

Mr. Parrott explained the Water Committee wanted an adhesion test made of the coatings on the Peachtree City tank. He presented the report. David Jaeger discussed the report.

Mr. Jaeger commented that as part of one of their recent re-painting projects they did an adhesion test on the smaller of the two tanks in Peachtree City (the one that had not been recoated). The goal of that test was to test the adhesion of a new top coat with the existing primer coat. They tested two areas on the tank, on the lower legs and up on the top area with two different manufacturers of paint. They were five foot by five foot square test patches. The inspectors came back a year later and tested all the areas. They all passed with excellent adhesion. There is the opportunity to re-paint that tank without having to strip the whole tank down to metal based on this test. There are some areas on the tank that have rust that has shown up. Those areas would have to be taken down to metal. Either way, whether it is taken down to metal or taken down to the primer, it will require blasting. Because of the proximity of the businesses and the problems we had in the past, the project would require containment. This would increase the cost of the project.

Chairman Watkins asked if there was no time we could paint it without the containment. Mr. Jaeger stated he would not recommend that we do it without containment. The last

job we did out there, the contractor worked every angle to try to keep the neighbors happy, including doing most of the work at night. There is enough drift with the proximity of some auto body shops with cars that are outside of the shop right next to this property created some problems. He stated he thinks it would be wise to plan on shrouding the tank on the project we do here. At the time of the last project The Avenues shopping center was under construction. Now it is complete and operational. We have that factor as well.

Mr. Parrott commented the Water System gets an inspection by DNR every three years. They were beginning to question the small tank, because of the spots. He explained the inside had been painted, the outside was aesthetics.

Chairman Watkins asked about the usefulness of the tank. Mr. Jaeger replied there is nothing structurally wrong with the tank. Chairman Watkins asked if it is functional where it is, if the height is good. Mr. Jaeger replied yes. It will continue to give good service.

Tony Parrott made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners painting the 250,000 gallon water tank in Peachtree City using a shroud to do the work. Vice Chairman Dr. George Patton seconded and there was no opposition.

III. DISCUSSION ABOUT HIGHWAY 85 AT MORNING CREEK BRIDGE WATERLINE RELOCATION.

Mr. Parrott explained the DOT is going to raise the bridge at Morning Creek on Highway 85 North. We have an existing waterline on the southbound bridge. The DOT will raise the bridge two feet. The waterline will not fit under the bridge, because they will not let us do anything to the approach slab. He recommended getting an easement outside the DOT right-of-way, and install a pier crossing on that side. On the east side, the 20" waterline is already in an easement. That was the Loop line and it is outside the right-of-way. The 10" waterline under the southbound bridge was installed in 1979 and still serves the west side of the corridor. Mr. Parrott went on to say we can take it out of service during the construction to put in the pier crossing, but we need to put it back in to serve that commercial area.

Mr. Parrott made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to get an easement to relocate the 10" waterline on the southbound Morning Creek bridge on Highway 85. Chris Venice seconded and there was no opposition.

Chairman Watkins asked if we attempt to place the waterlines out of the DOT easements? Mr. Parrott replied that we did for awhile, then we had a problem on South 74 where the DOT tied the road work into the fact that the Board of Commissioners are still going to have to move all the utilities whether they are in an easement or not. It made it a moot point. DOT will request that the Board of Commissioners pay for the utility location

whether they were in the right-of-way or an easement that was acquired. This was included as part of the funding for the project. In order to get the road funding, you have to spend the money for the utility location.

IV. BID OPENING FOR ANNUAL CONTRACT FOR WATERLINE.

David Jaeger reported the bid opening for the 2004/2005 Annual Waterline Contract was held and there was a single bidder. Shockley Plumbing has been the contractor for the past few years on this same project. The major item of note in their bid is there has been an industry wide increase in cost for materials, ductile iron pipe as well as PVC pipe. He stated he has been hearing this for quite some time now, from other parts of the industry, not just waterline work. The cost of steel has gone up considerably as well as the cost of oil, which contributes to the cost of the PVC pipe. Some of Shockley's unit cost have raised from previous years, but Mr. Jaeger stated he feels this is just reflecting the cost of the materials. The other costs not related to material are fairly consistent with slight increases due to inflation. He does not feel there would be any benefit to re-bid this project. He feels Mr. Shockley has submitted a competitive bid. He has been valuable to the County in the past few annual waterline contracts. He has had the ability to respond quickly in the case of main breaks. Based on this information Mr. Jaeger recommended awarding the contract to Shockly Plumbing for the year 2004/2005.

Chairman Chuck Watkins made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners awarding the Annual Waterline Contract to Shockley Plumbing, Inc. Mr. Parrott seconded and there was no opposition.

Chairman Watkins questioned the 80 hours on the trackhoe. Mr. Jaeger replied he adjusted this unit to reflect what was done this past year. That bid item is separate from items for the waterline extension work that we have planned. The hourly units are if the Water System has an emergency repair that is necessary, where there is no extension, no product involved, no material involved. The contractor would just bill by the hour for his equipment and labor. The Water System normally would supply things like repair couplings.

DUCTILE IRON PIPE

Chairman Watkins asked where we are on the ductile iron pipe. Mr. Parrott replied he made a request but does not have the information.

Chairman Watkins made an observation that when the Water Committee was formed years ago, it was to save the Commission time. In 1986 when we ran out of water, we had a lot of other problems. We really needed to dedicate some time to water issues only. The whole Commission did not have time to do it. He thought everything the Water Committee did was directly a recommendation to the Board. He asked why did something this committee recommended to the Board go to another department for review?

DNR WATER RESTRICTIONS

Mr. Parrott reported the Board adopted the new DNR water restrictions. He presented a chart for the first fifteen days of August. The 6th and the 13th were both Fridays, and the chart shows both days were a decrease from the day before. This shows customers are complying with the restrictions for watering.

GRASS CARP FOR LAKE PEACHTREE

Ms. McElwaney reported the grass carp would be delivered to Lake Peachtree next Tuesday or Wednesday.

LAKE HORTON

Vice Chairman Dr. George Patton commented he went to Lake Horton last Sunday. He stated it is a beautiful area and he complimented the work that has been done there. They did a fine job down there.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Parrott made a motion to adjourn to executive session for 1 legal item and 1 real estate acquisition item. Chairman Chuck Watkins seconded and the committee adjourned to executive session. Attorney McNally advised the committee on these two items. No action was taken.

OPEN SESSION:

Chairman Watkins made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that we have Mallett Consulting, Inc. to be our engineering, survey, project management team for the Lake McIntosh project (for any engineering that needs to be done on this project), with Bill McNally putting a contract together for the Water Committee to review at the next meeting. Vice Chairman Dr. George Patton seconded and there was no opposition.

There being no further business, Chairman Chuck Watkins adjourned the meeting at 8:30 A.M.

Chuck Watkins

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 22nd day of September, 2004.

Lisa McElwaney