

Board of Works Meeting  
November 6, 2000  
Time: 9:00 A.M.

Present: Mayor Gary M Bailey, Bob Bostic, and John Pratt

Minutes were approved with a correction.

Darren Burkhart reported on the Main Street Sewer Replacement project. In his progress report he stated that all work was being completed upon or before the originally scheduled date. All work is scheduled to be completed and the road may be reopened before the end of next week, weather permitting. Darren stated that part of his responsibility is to make sure that the street is safe to reopen and so far everything is looking good. He will be looking for low spots or spots where water gathers. The anticipated reopening of Main Street is November 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup>. After the street is opened, the contractor will come in and remove barricades and detour signs. The board members complimented the contractors on their work thus far, as well as the city's own departments during this construction phase. Discussion ended with the issue of paving Main Street. Darren stated that the state was originally going to pave the road this year, however the date was pushed back until next summer due to the construction.

Darren discussed the Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion project. As soon as IDEM sends authorization, the bidding process will begin. The city has two options: one being advertising bids by the end of this week and awarding the bids before the end of this year, and option two being that advertisement take place in two to three weeks with the bids being awarded the first week of January. Darren's recommendation is that the city follow option two due to the fact that construction will not begin until the first of March or after. Darren also pointed out that state law limits the bid period to be no longer than six weeks. John Pratt suggested that the bids be opened at the February meeting; Darren said that this date would be fine, but to push the meeting time back to 10:00 a.m. There will also be a pre-bid conference during the midpoint of the bid period. This gives contractors a chance to ask questions concerning specs. Mayor Bailey told Darren to go ahead and plan to have the information at the January meeting.

Darren stated that the inspector will most likely be Larry Hendrid during the 22 ½ months that the project will take. The inspector will be provided for 40 hours per week for the duration of the project. Darren spoke of the compensation for this project. The board has requested, if possible, that a breakdown of the cost be provided for their review. Darren said that he would check into getting them a breakdown. The Mayor tabled this issue until the board can review the breakdown from HNTB.

Ralph Land stated that the gas tanks at the Street department are starting to rust, which is causing rust flakes in the gas. He requested that the board allow him to get quotes on a new 1500 gallon tank. The one verbal quote that he has received is around \$8,000. **The board approved Ralph's request to get quotes.**

Donna Lecher, Water Office Manager discussed the issue of hand-held meter reading devices. Currently the meter readers manually read the meters and the charges are hand figured, all of which takes around 20 days now. The hand-held devices are more accurate and they allow the capability to download and upload information. Donna requested a 5-year plan for the radio reads, as this system will have to be developed over a few years. She also requested that the Wastewater pay for some of the meter cost, as the meters could run anywhere from \$90- \$130 per meter. The board is interested in seeing a demonstration during evening hours. **The board approved Donna's request to begin to get quotes.**

Four water bill adjustments were brought before the board. The adjustments were on accounts 100995, 100265, 102973, and 101059. **Motion made by John and seconded by Bob to approve adjustments on accounts 100995 and 100265 and to disapprove accounts 102973 and 101059.**

An abundance of advertising signs are appearing on utility poles, which has become a problem. An ordinance is already in effect against signs on utility poles. The board settled on campaigning against these signs. First by making the public aware of the existing ordinance through the media and by employees taking down signs when possible.

Dan Manus, Fire Chief, reported on a Life Safety Achievement Award that the fire department received this past week. This award is given to departments that had no fire misses last year. The board complimented and extended their gratitude to the fire department for their achievement and recognition.

Washington Township is advertising specs this Friday concerning a new fire truck that they are purchasing for the fire department. This truck will also be used in the city. The truck is estimated to cost around \$250,000.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Presiding Officer: Mary M. Bailey

Robert L. V. Boston  
Board of Works Member

John W. Pratt  
Board of Works Member

Attest:

Dewan R. Lutner, Deputy  
Clerk-Treasurer

*Note: Minutes were taken by Deputy Clerk-Treasurer in Clerk-Treasurer's absence.*