

City of Sheboygan  
2020-09-21

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BOARD OF WATERWORKS COMMISSIONERS - 3: 30 PM - (Monday, September 21, 2020)Generated by Joe Trueblood on Friday, September 25, 2020

Members present:

Gerald Van De Kreeke, President;

Mark Smith, Secretary;

Tom Howe, Member

Staff present:

Joe Trueblood, Superintendent

#### 1. OPENING OF MEETING

1.1 Pledge of AllegianceAll present honored the flag.

#### 2. MINUTES

2.1 Approval of minutes from the August 17, 2020 meetingCommissioner Smith made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to approve the minutes from the August 17, 2020 meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

#### 3. REPORTS

3.1 Financial reportsSuperintendent reviewed the financial reports prepared by Utility Accountant Gottsacker.

Commissioner Smith made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to accept the financial reports as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

3.2 Superintendent's report including operations, construction-maintenance, and customer relations/fiscalSuperintendent reviewed the reports submitted by the departmental supervisors, noting that water production was up by 2 % in August compared to August 2019.

Commissioner Smith made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to accept the report as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

#### 4. ITEMS PREVIOUSLY HELD OVER FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

4.1 Raw Water Improvements project Superintendent advised that CDM Smith is nearing

completion of preliminary engineering work.

The probable opinion of construction cost determination came in significantly higher than the initial project construction target of \$29 M, and so a number of cost-reduction items are now under consideration.

This will likely include elimination of the emergency backup intake, reduction of the building footprint by eliminating chem feed and rest room, shifting from a circular to rectangular shore well, movement of the building location to avoid hill and storm sewer disruption, and various other considerations.

Superintendent reviewed the process as a matter of filtering out what we can afford from what we would like to have in the facility.

The key aspect is to provide a new, primary water intake pipeline and pumping station to the community.

This pipeline should supply ample water and be less susceptible to winter ice buildup.

The station should also accommodate pumping raw water to a remote plant location in the future.

With all of the considerations in mind, maintenance of the existing two intake pipelines and low lift pumping stations becomes a critical part of the planning.

The two current intakes would serve as the backup to the new primary intake, and these would also require maintenance of all or a large part of the existing low lift station.

Superintendent stated that the emergency intake could be included as an alternate item to review if bids were to be extremely favorable.

However, the existing 1959 intake does have some working lifetime left, and the old shorewell and the 1919 intake remain serviceable for the short term of something like 10 - 20 years, at which time a second intake pipeline could be constructed.

Superintendent indicated that an update meeting will take place soon with City park officials to review the plan and discuss impacts to the small area of Vollrath Park affected by the existing easement for the facility.

After that meeting, Superintendent anticipates CDM Smith would make a presentation to the Board.

Meanwhile Utility staff have been reviewing possible FEMA BRIC funding with WDNR and others as regards \$1 - \$3 M in shoreline protection costs for the project.

In addition, staff continues working to complete the WDNR ITA/PERF submittal ahead of the Oct. 31, 2020 deadline.

Staff also participated in a meeting with WI DOA, WI PSC, and WI DNR regarding the possibility of a 30 year Safe Drinking Water loan.

Initial indications are that, due to the 100 year lifetime of the raw water project, state staff would support a longer term SDWL of 30 years.

This would help in spreading cost over more years and should somewhat reduce rate impact.

Nonetheless, major infrastructure replacement is costly and will impact rates going into the future.

## 5. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

5.1 Review and grant authority to Superintendent to execute Stonebrook Crossing development agreement Superintendent distributed a copy of the Agreement to the Board members;

it had been provided by City Attorney Adams.

Superintendent reviewed the key elements related to the Water Utility which include the developer paying directly for water infrastructure rather than using the assessment process, an upcharge if the Utility determines water mains larger than 8 " are needed, and

a corner lot that is too small for assessments.

The Commissioners reviewed the location of the development and felt the Agreement was in the best interests of the Utility.

Commissioner Van De Kreeke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to grant authority as stated to the Superintendent.

Motion carried unanimously.

5.2 Request approval of annual intake diving and cleaning proposal  
Superintendent reviewed three proposals for the Utility's annual intake inspection and cleaning services.

Underwater Construction Corp proposed at \$8,890.00 ;

Northern Diving USA at \$21,200.00 ;

and Midco Diving at \$23,385.00.

Superintendent stated that UCC has done outstanding work recently for the Utility.

Commissioner Smith made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Van De Kreeke, to accept the low cost proposal from UCC at \$8,890.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

5.3 Request approval to purchase water meters  
Superintendent reviewed quotes from Badger meter for a large 8 " fire meter for the new hospital (second connection) at \$14,161.95, along with various 3 " meters for stock, at a total of \$31,331.56 including the 8 " meter.

Commissioner Van De Kreeke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve the purchase.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. PERSONNEL  
Superintendent noted that a number of staff members have had contact with someone who tested positive for covid, and this is considered an immediate or primary contact.

In some cases, there has been a secondary contact involving a family who had been in contact with someone who tested positive.

In the first case, the Utility is maintaining the need to quarantine for 14 days following the contact point.

In the second case, more consideration is given to the details of the contact.

Superintendent reiterated that some staff remain on alternating remote work as feasible, and the Utility remains committed to providing a safe work environment to all staff throughout the pandemic.

An in-house flu clinic by Aurora will be offered in early October.

#### 7. NEXT MEETING

7.1 Next meeting will take place on Monday, October 19, 2020, at 3: 30 PM.

#### 8. ADJOURN

8.1 Motion to Adjourn Commissioner Smith made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to adjourn the meeting at 4: 10 PM.

Motion carried unanimously.