

WATER BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 16, 2010
6:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chuck Storie, Board President.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PRESENT: Board President Chuck Storie, Board Members; Robin Meyer, John Wall, Tony Higginbotham; Rick Denney, Plant Superintendent, Terry Coriden and Bryce Wagner from Coriden Law Office, and Donna Lecher, Utilities Office Manager. Frank Massey was absent.

The Minutes of the January 19th Water Board, as well as the Joint Water Board/Board of Works Meeting which followed the same day, were approved.

The 1st item on the agenda was a **DATE FOR BID OPENINGS**. A special Water Board Meeting will be held February 26th, 2010 at 3:00 pm to open the bids for the new 24" Raw Water Line. The advertisement stated to turn all bids in to City Hall. (It was reported in the meeting that the bids did not have to be opened at a public meeting, but after doing research immediately following the meeting it was decided the bids had to be opened at a Special Water Board Meeting.)

The 2nd item on the agenda was the **HOLLAND LAND LEASE AGREEMENT**. Rick presented the new Lease to the Board. The Utility has been leasing this property to the Holland family for years. The land is located by the Utilities Flatrock River Pumping Station. It is 59 acres of tillable land. Years ago the Water Board looked into the land value to see if we were leasing it at a fair price. At that time we were. The Mayor wants to look into that again as well as see if anyone else wants to lease the property. The Mayor also mentioned logging the rest of the wooded property. Rick stated if we consider logging it is best to go through a State Forester. They get 10% but are more interested in preserving the rest of the trees and not destroying the land. Board member John Wall wondered if anyone would want to purchase the property, but there was concern that our old Raw Water Line runs through this property. The current Lease expires 3/31/2009. This item was tabled until next month.

The 3rd item on the agenda was **WATER RATE DISCUSSION**. Rick Denney and Donna Lecher mentioned the Water Rate Ordinance was passed 1st reading by the Council at their last meeting 2/1/2010, which is 5% compounded annually for 3 years. Donna mentioned concerns the Council, as well as both the Water Board and Board of Works, have as far as keeping expenses to a minimum and not wanting to raise rates. Trying to cut costs as well as raise revenue she suggested having rental properties remain on between renters or stay in the owners name, and that all properties with service available should have a minimum bill. She stated they process on average 12 work orders a day. The mayor mentioned to possibly have a trip charge of \$25.00 when the landlords wanted the service turned off. Robin Meyer wanted to see more information as to how other utilities deal with this before making a decision. Donna is gathering information and will report next month.

HNTB UPDATE was presented by Darren Burkhart. Darren stated they had to modify the PER for the Phase 2A Waterworks Improvements Division 1-Flatrock Raw Water Main, which has been approved by the State. Darren gave a list of contractors that have acquired plans as of 2/11/2010 for the project. The Pre-Bid conference was held 2/12/2010 at 10:00am. He looks for quite a few bids to be presented. Rick stated he had all of the Easements in his possession.

MAYOR GARY HERBERT - ISSUES THAT HE WISHES TO PRESENT TO BOARD was the final item on the agenda. There were no issues to present.

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

PRESIDING OFFICER _____

ATTEST:

Donna M. Lecher
Water Office Manager