

MINUTES

City Council Public Works & Utilities Committee

Thursday, September 14, 2017 – 5:30 PM

Administrative Conference Room at City Hall

Members Present: Mac Morrow, Chair, Council Member
Maurice Jones, Vice-Chair, Council Member
Jim Fatland, City Manager
Emory Owen, WWTP Director
Dennis Richardson, WTP Director
David Lutz, Public Works Director

Staff Present: Daniel Cobb, Planning Director
Nicole Owenby, Administrative Assistant

Special Guests: Greg Jennings, Resource Institute
Alan Walker, Resource Institute
David Casey, US Forest Service
Steve Williams, NCDOT

Absent: Citizen Appointment Clay Sykes

Welcome & Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tem Mac Morrow, Committee Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.
Agenda was accepted as presented.

Certification of Quorum

Nicole Owenby, Administrative Assistant certified that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes from February 7, 2017 Meeting

Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Fatland, the February 7, 2017, meeting minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

WTP Off-Stream Storage Update

Mr. Richardson explained that the river is eroding the road near the Water Treatment Plant. The Resource Institute and the US Forest Service have surveyed the area and have found problems where the intake is situated in the creek. The project would entail moving the intake to make it more stable and less likely to have debris around it. The project would fix the intake site and also help the aquatic organisms' passage through the dam.

Mr. Fatland and Mr. Richardson emphasized that what the City would be paying for this project would be administrative fees to the Resource Institute and that the \$50,000 would be dispersed if we receive the grant and work is completed.

Mr. Jennings gave additional information about the project stating that this is more complicated due to the organisms and the placement of the intake. The project is estimated to cost around \$600,000, in addition to a special permit that the City must obtain. Due to the National Environmental Policy Act, an environmental assessment must be completed before any work on the project begins. The US Forest Service is concerned with the road because access could be cut off and a limit to the water. There are limitations to when the structure can be built. There is a moratorium on any construction before April 15th due to trout breeding and after August 1st due to the salamander breeding. Thus creating the time limit on when construction may begin, which would be May through July. Mr. Jennings stated that we must start now trying to obtain the permit.

Mr. Morrow is concerned about funding and how long it would take to receive it. Mr. Jennings stated that the funding is coming from the state and it has been approved by state legislature. The funding is from the Department of Environmental Quality and Brevard is at the top of the list because it is considered an emergency. Mr. Walker stated that there is at least \$1million set aside for this type of project. Mr. Anderson is the person who is in charge of bringing state funds to small towns and by linking with the Resource Institute helps bring those grants to smaller towns and cities.

Mr. Morrow wanted to know about storage or a reservoir. Mr. Jennings stated that this was not a reservoir but you could add one in the future. Mr. Richardson added that this project is here to help us now and to give us a peace of mind to have water. Mr. Casey agreed that this was a must for the US Forest Service especially for the aquatic organisms in the river. Mr. Jennings stated that they are also looking at restricting the public from camping and campers in the area. They will do this by building boulder barriers because the campers are impairing the water supply. Mr. Morrow wanted to know what was going to happen to the dam. Mr. Jennings said that they are not proposing to remove the dam. If they were to

lower the dam, it would cause more erosion to the road. They will use boulder wall around the bend to protect the road and keep the dam intact. They will also build boulder steps for the trout and hellbenders to use for navigation. Mr. Jones said that it will provide more stability to the infrastructure. Mr. Jennings stated that they will still need to do manual maintenance to remove limbs and leaves.

Mr. Fatland asked the committee to recommend a resolution to take to City Council. The US Forest Service would also help with the permit process. The funding will end September 30. Mr. Casey stated that they would start environmental assessment as soon as it is approved. Mr. Richardson motioned, seconded by Mr. Jones to approve the resolution. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Jennings stated that the grant would carry over through the next year.

System Development Fees

Mr. Fatland explained the System Impact Fees for water and sewer which have been frozen statewide. The state has enacted new state legislation that requires one to use an outside consultant to look at the System Development Fees (SDF). One proposal is to use the consulting firm of WR Martin, who had done a similar project for the City of Hendersonville. In an earlier email to Committee members, Clay Sykes, Committee Member, reported the fee was very reasonable for work to be done. Mr. Cobb stated that with the recommendation from City Attorney Mr. Pratt, we stopped collecting fees until something new was pushed through legislation. Mr. Cobb stated that this is what they have been waiting on and there is a very clear process that we must follow. The proposed fee must come back to Council for final approval.

Mr. Fatland stated the impact fees will be called System Development Fees (SDF). The consultant firm asked that all of the water and sewer lines be identified and the replacement value be shown so that the fees will be comparable across the state. Mr. Jones wanted to know how they will determine the fee and Mr. Fatland stated that they will look at the replacement value to come with the correct amount. Mr. Fatland asked for a recommendation from the committee to take to Council. Mr. Jones motioned, seconded by Mr. Owen to recommend using the firm WR Martin. Motion carried unanimously.

R-5800 Road Project

Mr. Cobb explained that in 2007 the Comprehensive Transportation Plan was adopted, the plan was approved and it became an access management project. The project now has additional funding and is scheduled to begin construction in 2020-2021. Mr. Cobb stated

that they want to make sure that the City and City Council will be on the same page with the State and any improvements that occur.

Mr. Cobb stated that this project has been in the system since 2012. The survey work has just been completed, so there is no design as of this time. Mr. Williams explained that access management provides safe access to businesses and that only left turns are accessible which will decrease accidents to just two chances. Mr. Fatland made the recommendation to support the R-5800 project. Mr. Jones motioned, seconded by Mr. Fatland to recommend the R-5800 project. Motion carried unanimously.

After further discussion the Committee decided to take three recommendations of the Water Treatment Plant, SDF, and R-5800 Project to City Council on Monday, September 18.

Set Date for Next Meeting.

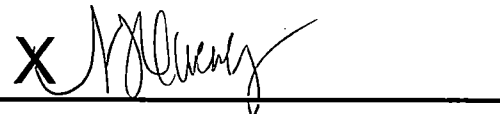
No meeting date was set forth.

Adjourn.

There being no further business, Mr. Richardson moved, seconded by Mr. Owens, the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:08 P.M.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mac Morrow", written over a horizontal line. To the left of the signature is a large, bold "X" mark.

Mac Morrow
Chair, Council Member

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole Owenby", written over a horizontal line. To the left of the signature is a large, bold "X" mark.

Nicole Owenby
Administrative Assistant