

The Utility Service Board met Thursday, May 15, 2014, at 11:30 a.m., in the board room at the service center at 1111 McClure Road chaired by Barry Turner. Other board members present were: Clayton Force, Greg Lacy and Cheryl McAvoy. Also present were: Keith Reeves, Director; Dale Langferman, Manager of Finance & Business Operations; Ed Bergsieker, Manager of Engineering; Garry Pugh, Manager of Wastewater Operations; Melinda Burton, Executive Administrative Assistant; and Stan Gamso, attorney.

#### VISITORS

Ryan Mackos, Strand Associates; Darren Wells, GRW Engineers; and Mike Fahrbach, Constellation Energy Corporation.

#### REGULAR MINUTES

**Cheryl McAvoy made the motion to approve the minutes from April 17, 2014, as prepared. Clayton Force seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.**

#### PERSONNEL APPEAL – TABLED FROM APRIL 2014

At the April meeting, Brent Morrison presented an appeal to the board regarding compensation for him and four other employees that worked for two days in January 2014 when all City and County offices were closed due to inclement weather. He had submitted an email from the Indiana Department of Labor. Stan Gamso reviewed the email; reviewed state laws; and discussed again with the City's Personnel Director. He reported that we were correct and consistent with the remainder of the City on compensation for the days.

Keith Reeves recommended the board concur with his position on the matter, due to consistency with the City and the impact to other city departments if our employees were compensated in a different manner.

**Clayton Force made the motion that the board, upon the advice of counsel and review of the City of Columbus Personnel Policy, support the Director's position on compensation of the employees in regards to the appeal presented on Aril 17, 2014. Cheryl McAvoy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.**

#### NON-RECURRING CHARGES – TABLED FROM APRIL 2014

Dale Langferman presented a list of non-recurring charges for board approval. There are a few charges that still need to be considered before being submitted to the City Council for approval. He reported some will require IURC approval.

**Cheryl McAvoy made the motion to accept the fees as presented, and then submit the full list to the City Council for approval. Clayton Force seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.**

## WATER STREET WWTP DEMOLITION – CHANGE ORDER #1

Keith Reeves presented Change Order #1 for the Water Street WWTP Demolition project. A change order in the amount of \$18,602.44, was required because of delays due to severe weather; removal of unexpected debris; and permanent closure of the emergency overflow on the site. The final completion date of September 30, 2014, as not been changed.

Keith Reeves and Strand recommended approval of Change Order #1.

**Cheryl McAvoy made the motion to accept Change Order#1 for the Water Street WWTP Demolition project. Greg Lacy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.**

## CUSTOMER REQUESTS

We received requests from four different customers asking for credit considerations due to high bills. Keith Reeves reported we have no written policy on this and we are under no obligation to issue any adjustments, but he asked the board to consider the possibility of a “one time only” credit on some. The board decided to review each request separately and make a decision on each accordingly.

Greathouse - 224 19<sup>th</sup> Street: Requested an adjustment due to watering a newly reseeded lawn prior to summer sewer allowance becoming effective, which resulted in a higher than normal water and sewer bill.

**Pursuant to a written request from Mr. Greathouse on 5/5/2014, Clayton Force made the motion to deny a credit or rate change for his bill. Cheryl McAvoy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.**

Dirks - 1714 Elm Street: Requested an adjustment due to a malfunctioning water softener which resulted in a higher than normal water and sewer bill. The water softener has been repaired and Mr. Dirks requested a one-time credit on the sewer portion of his bill.

**Pursuant to a written request from Mr. Dirks on 4/25/2014, Clayton Force made the motion to allow a one-time reduction in his sewer bill to his normal sewer charge and waive any late charges that may have occurred as a result of the situation. Cheryl McAvoy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.**

Zeiger – 2557 Lafayette Ave: Requested an adjustment due to a malfunctioning toilet that ran while the customer was in the hospital and rehab center for a month, which resulted in a higher than normal water and sewer bill. Mr. Zeiger has rectified his toilet problem and requested a one-time credit on the sewer portion of his bill.

**Pursuant to a written request from Mr. Zeiger in April 2014, Clayton Force made the motion to allow a one-time reduction in his sewer bill to his normal sewer charge and waive any late charges that may have occurred as a result of the situation. Cheryl McAvoy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.**

Broadmoor North Association – Broadmoor Subdivision: Requested an adjustment due to a leak in the association's irrigation system, which has resulted in a higher than normal water bill. The system has been turned off until repairs can be made after May 19, 2014. Mr. Rickus, on behalf of the Broadmoor North Association requested a one-time credit towards the water billed for the irrigation system leak.

**Pursuant to a written request from Mr. Rickus, President of the Broadmoor North Association on May 12, 2014, Cheryl McAvoy made the motion to deny a credit or rate change for the bill in question and that Broadmoor North Association should pay the bill as presented. Pursuant to previous board action on customer requests, the board is not in a position to compensate on the water portion of any bills. Greg Lacy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.**

**Additionally, the board asked Keith Reeves to respond individually to each customer regarding their written request.**

#### SHOPPES AT RIVERBEND – FINAL ACCEPTANCE

CCU Engineering department observed the water and sewer facilities being installed; provided on-site inspection during construction; obtained all necessary "as-built" information; and conducted all necessary tests. The project was constructed in compliance with plans and specifications prepared by Independent Land Surveying in Brownstown. The owner/developer for the project is Cornerstone Development of Columbus.

Staff recommended acceptance of the project.

**Greg Lacy made the motion to accept the water and sewer improvements for Shoppes at Riverbend. Cheryl McAvoy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.**

#### NATURAL GAS TRANSPORT RATES

Keith Reeves reported that he and Dale Langferman have had conversations with Jackson Sargent, the City's central purchasing manager and Mike Fahrback of Constellation Energy Corporation in regards to purchasing natural gas through the open market and pay only transportation fees to Vectren. It has been determined that by participating in this program, we can save as much as \$15k per year in natural gas costs. Keith reported Stan Gamso has reviewed the contract and talked to the City

attorney, Jeff Logston. The City Council has signed a contract and the Park Department is now considering participation in the program.

Staff recommended participation in the program and Keith Reeves asked for board approval to sign the final contract when presented.

**Cheryl McAvoy made the motion to accept the natural gas contract with Constellation Energy Corporation and authorized Keith Reeves to sign the final agreement when presented. Clayton Force seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.**

#### CLAIMS

The April water claims were presented for approval.

**Clayton Force made the motion to approve the April water claims. Cheryl McAvoy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.**

The April wastewater claims were presented for approval.

**Cheryl McAvoy made the motion to approve the April wastewater claims. Clayton Force seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.**

#### FINANCE REPORT

The financial written report was presented.

#### MANAGER OF ENGINEERING REPORT

The Engineering written report was presented.

#### MANAGER OF WASTEWATER OPERATIONS REPORT

The Wastewater Operations written report was presented.

#### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director's written report was presented.

#### MAY MEETING

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, June 19, 2014, at 11:30 a.m., in the board room at the Service Center.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

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Barry Turner, Chairman  
UTILITY SERVICE BOARD

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Greg Lacy, Secretary  
UTILITY SERVICE BOARD