

CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE MINUTES

November 8, 2011

The City Council of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in a conference at 5:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building Conference Room on the 8th day of November, 2011, and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at the Municipal Building at 201 West Gray, and the Norman Public Library at 225 North Webster 48 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Dillingham, Ezzell, Gallagher, Griffith, Kovach, Lockett, Quinn, Spaulding, Mayor Rosenthal

ABSENT: None

Item 1, being:

DISCUSSION REGARDING CHANGE ORDER NO. TWO TO CONTRACT NO. K-0910-27 BY AND BETWEEN THE NORMAN UTILITIES AUTHORITY AND RED CLIFF, INC., INCREASING THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY \$8,053.27 FOR THE LITTLE RIVER INTERCEPTOR, PHASE III, AND NORTHWEST INTERCEPTOR PROJECTS.

Mr. Ken Komiske, Director of Utilities, said Norman Utilities Authority (NUA) on July 28, 2009, approved Contract No. K-0910-27 with Red Cliff, Inc., for the Little River Interceptor, Phase III, and Northwest Interceptor Projects in the amount of \$1,637,392. The construction was to begin on August 17, 2009, and completed by August 12, 2010. On November 24, 2009, the NUA approved Change Order No. One increasing the contract amount by \$57,273.68 to install a thicker walled sewer pipe in areas where the trench depth exceeded 20 feet, which affected approximately 1,440 feet of 30-inch piping for the Little River Interceptor and 170 feet of 24-inch piping for the Northwest Interceptor. On January 24, 2011, the NUA approved Amendment No. One increasing the contract amount by \$175,000 for rock excavation, an unforeseen site condition, and granting a 240 calendar day extension for a revised completion date of April 9, 2011. Construction was substantially completed on February 18, 2011, and Staff had been working with Red Cliff, Inc., to restore impacted properties to pre-construction conditions; however, recent drought conditions hampered establishment of vegetative growth on those properties. Staff now finds restoration efforts acceptable and recommends acceptance of the projects. Change Order No. Two increasing the contract amount by \$8,053.27 will reconcile "as-bid" estimated quantities to the "as-built" final quantities for the project. Staff recommends approval of the projects and final payment in the amount of \$39,000 to Red Cliff, Inc.

Items submitted for the record

1. Text File No. K-0910-27, Change Order No. Two, dated October 25, 2011, by Mark Daniels, Utilities Engineer
2. Change Order No. Two to Contract No. K-0910-27

Item 2, being:

DISCUSSION REGARDING THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT EXPANSION PROJECT, PHASE II.

Mr. Komiske said the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) was constructed in 1942, with the most recent upgrade in 2000, adding aeration basins to make the water cleaner, but those improvements created more sludge. He said the current design is for 10 million gallons a day (mgd), but the current average flow is 11 mgd. He said the State of Oklahoma and the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) rule of thumb is that if communities are at 90% of their capacity they should be planning and budgeting for the next phase.

Mr. Komiske updated Council on the existing facilities treatment performance. He said there are two sets of clarifiers, two sets of digesters, and two final clarifiers. He discussed the current EPA permit limits for Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), and Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>), and said Norman is within their limits. He credited the employees operating the WWTP for that accomplishment, given that it is still overloaded at this point. He said the trend for effluent continues to rise so as the WWTP reaches its design capacity, it loses the ability to treat it. The City needs to begin planning for the future as the WWTP is becoming stressed.

Mr. Komiske said project drivers for the next phase are regulatory requirements. He said the City acquired a new Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) permit in July 2010, and the permit stipulated that the City would have disinfection in place by July 2013, and dissolved oxygen will probably be the next requirement in the 2013 permit. He said the City is currently under a Notice of Violation (NOV) because when ODEQ issued the permit stipulating the disinfection requirement, they wanted to view engineering designs within three months and that was not possible. Mr. Michael Graves, Garver Engineering, has been lobbying on the City's behalf and told ODEQ that engineering plans were not done within three months because a firm had to be selected through a Request for Proposal (RFP) and discussion of the design needed to be done. Mr. Komiske said a preliminary design is currently being worked on to be submitted and the important part is it will be in place and working by July 2013.

Mr. Komiske said another project driver is capacity. He said the planned expansion will be 17 mgd, which represents full build out of the South Basin according to the 2025 Land Use and Transportation Plan. The final project driver is equipment replacement. He said the cement basin structure of the plant is good, but all the mechanical equipment and piping needs to be replaced. He said that consists of primary clarifiers; aeration systems; fixed film secondary clarifiers; and digester lid.

Mr. Komiske talked about the proactive future plans such as wastewater reuse; biogas cogeneration; Class A bio-solids production; and potential regulatory requirements for nutrient removal. He said nutrient removal consisting of phosphorous and nitrogen may be required before wastewater reuse because the EPA wants local streams to continue to be cleaner for bodily contact and a warm water aquatic community.

Mr. Komiske said current WWTP needs include the following:

- Screening improvements - at capacity
- Influent flow metering/splitting – at capacity
- Rehab existing primary clarifiers - at capacity
- New aeration basins (3) – at capacity
- Replace existing AB Diffusers – at capacity
- Secondary clarifiers (2) - at capacity
- RAS pumping – at capacity
- WAS pumping – at capacity
- UV disinfection –regulation driven
- Post aeration – regulation driven
- Parallel discharge line – at capacity
- WAS thickening (2) – at capacity
- Sludge blending – at capacity
- Anaerobic digestion – at capacity
- Odor control
- Standby power – at capacity

Councilmember Gallagher asked if wastewater reuse is allowed, will it require additional equipment and Mr. Komiske said yes, if reuse is for water to placed back into the reservoir it would cost closer to \$100 million than the \$52 million current needs estimated cost. He said it sounds like a lot more money, but it would balance out costs by not having to acquire water from another source.

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Councilmember Kovach asked if the \$100 million estimate would include reuse as well as using methane gas for power or sludge for bio-fuel and Mr. Komiske said yes, there would be a way to store methane gas so there is a constant source of gas for electrical maintenance. He said it would also include bio-composting for Class A sludge that can be used as compost for plants.

Mayor Rosenthal asked about the impact of having odor control and Mr. Komiske said it will not be an odorless WWTP, but would help control odor in various stages of the cleaning process. Mr. Graves said technology used would help destroy organic related odors as well as hydrogen sulphide odors. Mayor Rosenthal felt odor control is a quality of life issue.

Councilmember Lockett asked how far the improvements would take us into the future and Mr. Komiske said twenty years or more without a north treatment plan, but eventually a WWTP will be needed on the north side. Councilmember Lockett asked what the maintenance costs covered and Mr. Komiske said the estimated maintenance costs are for repairing pieces of equipment that need to be replaced as well as day to day maintenance.

Mayor Rosenthal asked about reuse regulations and felt that the City is a long way from reusing water to be pumped back into the Lake Thunderbird reservoir. Mr. Komiske said the State does not have rules regarding reuse of effluent and he has been working with the State on writing regulation. He said the cleaner you make the water, the more you can do with it including indirect potable reuse, which would be putting it back into the reservoir. He said there would be different categories for reuse of the water such as irrigation, etc.

Councilmember Griffith asked if projected future costs would include treating pharmaceuticals and Mr. Komiske yes that would be a goal.

Mr. Steve Lewis, City Manager, said, in order to advance the project, the City needs to file the \$52 million plan of action with ODEQ to respond to the NOV and asked for Council direction. Council agreed the plan should be submitted. Mr. Graves said in conjunction with the report the City will also file an updated construction schedule to show compliance by July 2013.

Councilmember Kovach asked about the timeline for the project and Mr. Graves said, design would take approximately 18 months, six months for the permitting process through ODEQ, and two years for construction so there would be a four year implementation window.

Items submitted for the record

1. Memorandum dated November 3, 2011, from Kenneth Komiske, Director of Utilities, and Mark Daniels, Utilities Engineer, to Norman Utilities Authority Council Conference
2. Norman Wastewater Treatment Plant, Phase 2, Recommended Plan Conceptual Cost Estimates
3. PowerPoint presentation entitled, "Norman Wastewater Treatment Plant: Phase 2 Improvements," City Council Conference, November 8, 2011

The meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

ATTEST:

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City Clerk

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Mayor