



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE HOLDEN BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

August 7, 2024

Members Present:

Mr. Al West	Chairman
Ms. Kim Holger	Secretary
Mr. Doug Hayworth	Member
Mr. Allen Mensch	Council Liaison

Guests Present:

Mr. Tony Lerda	Superintendent
Ms. Christie Reed	Financial Coordinator
Mr. Ray Briscoe	Mayor
Mr. Jim McDaniel	City Council Member
Mr. Larry Miller	City Council Member
Mr. Tim Geraghty	Alliance Water President
Mr. Josh Duncan	Director of Operations

Members Absent:

Mr. Rob Hough	Member
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The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM.

There was a review of the minutes from the April 2024, regular meeting. **Motion** by Ms. Holger to approve the minutes, Mr. Hayworth seconded the motion, Mr. West called for a vote. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Financial Report: **Motion** by Ms. Holger to approve the financial statement and pay the invoices, Mr. Hayworth seconded the motion, Mr. West called for a vote. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

MOTION by Mr. Hayworth to amend the agenda and move "New Business" to the first topic, seconded by Ms. Holger, Mr. West called for a vote. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

NEW BUSINESS

ALLIANCE WATER

Before Alliance Water began their presentation, Mr. Lerda reminded the Board that he has been working toward the goal of less responsibilities at O & M and creating an internal structure for the company to continue after his retirement. However, that has not worked so he has been entertaining the option of finding another managing company for the Board to consider. Mr. Lerda invited the principles from Alliance Water to come before the Board for introductory purposes. A partnership with Alliance Water would include the staff from O & M to still be involved under Alliance employment. There are years of knowledge and experience to offer from O&M staff and Alliance is a much larger company with more recourses available to Holden services. There would also still be the 24/7 coverage available by the current employees for emergency repairs. O&M would continue with their construction section of the company for water and sewer repairs, excavation, service installations, etc. Mr. Lerda introduced Tim Geraghty who is the President of Alliance Water. After introducing himself to the Board, Mr. Geraghty introduced Mr. Josh Duncan who

accompanied him to the meeting. Mr. Duncan is the Director of Operations. Mr. Geraghty began speaking about other clients they work with such as Clinton, Henry County, Osage Beach, etc. He encouraged the Board to go on their website, www.alliancewater.com. The company is headquartered in Columbia Missouri, however they have clients throughout Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, and Tennessee. They tailor each contract to meet the needs of each client. The contract would be for one sum each month that didn't change. It would include all chemicals, locates, laboratory, postage, etc. Then at the end of the year, one invoice would be sent for any additional monies for items that may have been underestimated, or there would be a reimbursement to the BPW for any items that came in under the estimated price. Alliance bids out things like process chemicals annually, Since Alliance Water buys large quantities of chemicals, that cost could significantly be reduced and keep the local vendors being used already. Mr. Geraghty continued by saying that typically their contracts are written to have an annual review of costs to determine what the monthly charge will be for the upcoming year. There is however the option of just taking the CPI figure each year and raising the contract price by that each year. The contracts can be tailored to meet the requests of this Board. At the present time, they are working with Mr. Lerda to dissect the expenses and determine what the role of O & M will continue to be. Mr. Lerda has been clear that this must be a positive move forward for all involved. Mr. Geraghty stated that the intention was to continue working out of the current office location and there would be no changes immediately. The software, billing, etc. will be analyzed and reviewed going forward to determine what, if any, changes need to be done. The presentation was concluded with Mr. Lerda stating that this company is big on education and other opportunities, however it is not a done deal. There are still discussions going on and Mr. Lerda impressed upon the Board that they are in charge of the decisions and choices. Alliance is not the only company available, and the Board is not required to choose them. As O&M and Alliance discuss finance they expect to have some close numbers soon. Mr. Lerda will be sure to keep the board updated.

QUOTE TO CLEAR DAM

Mr. Lerda stated that he had received a quote for \$3,000 to place goats on the dam at City Lake to clear it off. However, at this time, he does not think it is cost effective. This year he recommends just letting the winter knock everything down and then get ahead of it next year by spring.

OLD BUSINESS

WATER SYSTEM –

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

Mr. Lerda stated that the new clay valve had been installed at the water plant. It was a large undertaking, and the plant had to be disabled for a day to complete installation. The original valves had been there since the construction of the plant in 1992. One valve was changed last year and now the other has been changed. Mr. Lerda continued that there have been several water main breaks lately due to the extreme heat and dry conditions causing the ground to move and shift. Mr. Lerda told the Board that for planning purposes they need to remember that there are several fire hydrants that need to be replaced. He suggested that they all need to be painted. The Board collectively discussed the option of having a group do community service hours by painting fire hydrants.

SEWER SYSTEM –

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

Mr. Lerda stated that the work had been completed on 14th towards City Park. The next project should be Lexington & 6th Streets. Mr. Lerda informed the Board that DNR had sent a letter stating they would be sampling waste load above, below and a few miles beyond the plant. They also called and requested the gates to be unlocked on Tuesday by 6 am. There was some discussion as to why this study was being done at this time. Mayor Briscoe suggested it may be part of the permit renewal process.

RATES

Mr. Lerda stated that there is currently a deficit of 1% in the water and a deficit of 13% in the sewer. His recommendation is a 6% increase across the board to balance this out. These balances shift back and forth between water and sewer each year according to demands.

MOTION by Mr. Hayworth to accept a flat 6% increase to the customer, seconded by Ms. Holger, Mr. West called for a vote. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. Lerda informed the Board that he had been approached about some land located within city limits on the far west side. A potential buyer for the land would like the BPW to allow the county to service their water. However, city water is reasonable to this property, and the capacity for growth benefits all homeowners in Holden. There has been some discussion about the development of multiple homes or a subdivision on this property. However Mr. Lerda stated that he has not been given a firm answer on that.

With no further comments offered, a motion was made to adjourn.

MOTION by Ms. Holger to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Hayworth, Mr. West called for a vote. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Meeting adjournment at 7:22 P.M.

Signed _____
Secretary

Date _____

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