



**Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste Committee**

**13 February 2024**

**5:30 P.M.**

(Or immediately following City Council Agenda Session)

**Committee:** Council Member Teresa Turk, Council Member D’Andre Jones, Council Member Mike Wiederkehr, Council Member Scott Berna

**Copy to:** Mayor Lioneld Jordan, Paul Becker, Steven Dotson, Susan Norton, Kara Paxton, Kit Williams, Chris Brown, Alan Pugh, Terry Gulley, Ross Jackson, Peter Nierengarten, Brian Pugh, Corey Granderson, Aaron Watkins, Cody Ashworth, Greg Weeks, Ryan Harrold, Mayo Miller, Josh Alleman

**From:** Tim Nyander, Utilities Director

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**CALL TO ORDER**

**UPDATES**

**PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Overview of December WWTP Monthly Report**

Ryan Harrold - Jacobs Engineering

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**2. Western Water Transmission Line Update**

Corey Granderson – Utilities Engineer

Paul Becker – CFO

Steven Dotson – Deputy CFO

**INFORMATION ONLY**

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **3. Noland WRRF Electrical Switchgear**

The operation of the Noland WWTF paralleling switchgear, installed in 2005, is critical to providing redundant power to the treatment plant while also providing electric rate discounts to facilitate load shedding. In May of 2023, the City Council approved an engineering contract with Hawkins-Weir to evaluate the critical improvements needed to the Noland Plant's primary electrical feed.

The preliminary engineering report was received in January 2024. Utilities Engineer Corey Granderson will discuss the results of that report and the next steps in the project.

## **INFORMATION ONLY**

### **4. RFQ – Wastewater Operations, Maintenance & Management**

Utilities Director Tim Nyander will discuss the recently completed Request for Qualifications Request for Operations, Maintenance, and management Services for Wastewater Treatment Activities.

## **INFORMATION ONLY**

### **5. Revised Damage Claims Ordinance**

The Utilities Director is requesting revisions to the Water and Wastewater Damage Claims Ordinance which he feels will benefit the residents as well as city staff. This ordinance was recently amended in September of 2023 to enable the City Council to exceed the \$50,000 cap on payments if the damage was a result of a 36-inch or larger water pipe.

The biggest driver to this request was because of the rising costs of labor and materials we have been experiencing. In today's economy, the current \$50,000 ceiling does not always provide the funds to repair the damage of a substantial water leak or a sewage overflow in the City's efforts to facilitate repair of the homeowner's damage. Also, it is evident that the repair costs have escalated even for the smaller diameter piping incidents.

Under the authorization of payments, the Utilities Director would be permitted to authorize up to \$35,000 for a claim. This is in alignment with the dollar amount threshold before a purchase must be approved by the City Council. Additionally, it is requested that the ordinance be changed to where the Mayor can authorize a greater amount up to \$50,000, and a maximum of \$100,000 by the Mayor's recommendation and a two-thirds majority approval by the City Council.

In addition to funding requests, there are additional items the Utilities Department would like to be considered or amended in the current ordinance.

- A. To mitigate further damage during a water or sewage damage incident, the Utilities Director would like to have the authorization to promptly hire (within hours) a remediation/mitigation service to begin cleaning up the water or sewage that has accumulated in a residence, as well as begin drying the floors and walls with fans and dehumidifiers. This will reduce damage and potentially reduce the repair costs. The City shall pay for this cost as part of the entire cost of the compensable claim.

A property owner requesting compensation due to a sewer overflow shall install at the property owner's expense an approved sewer backflow prevention device prior to receiving city compensation for the sewer overflow. This device is typically less than \$50.00 and very simple to install on the customer's cleanout. It acts as a relief valve diverting the overflow outside at the cleanout rather than inside the home.

- B. The language should be clearer pertaining to when the City may wish to retain an experienced and competent adjuster and then rely upon such adjuster's professional analysis to establish possible compensation. This will remove the often-long process for each claimant to obtain bids or quotes for all items damaged by water and sewage issues. Additionally, this will reduce the lengthy staff time that is currently employed in processing claims.
  
- C. There should only be one claim filed per structure per incident, regardless if the resident is a renting tenant who does not own the property. Typically, the owner files a damage claim. A conflict can be created when there is a tenant in a rented structure. Currently the ordinance does not prohibit the tenant and owner filing separate claims, essentially doubling the payable limits. This could be unfair for the customer who owns and occupies their own home.

**STAFF REQUESTS THIS BE FORWARDED TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL**

**6. Highway 16 East Utility Relocations Bid Award**

The Arkansas Department of Transportation has requested utility relocations to prepare for the widening of Highway 16 from Stone Bridge Rd. to Roberts Rd. The relocations are 42.49% reimbursable to the City of Fayetteville by ARDOT based on the previously approved Relocation Agreement (Resolution 134-23).

On January 24, 2024 the City of Fayetteville accepted sealed competitive bids for the Highway 16 East Utility Relocations project. Kajacs Contractors, Inc. submitted the lowest bid. All bids are shown here:

<u><i>KAJACS Contractors, Inc.</i></u>	<u>\$4,349,500.00</u>
Tri Star Contractors	\$4,465,992.19
Brothers Construction, Inc.	\$5,693,191.00

Staff recommends awarding Bid #24-22 and approving a construction contract with Kajacs Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$4,349,500.00 for construction of water and sewer utility relocations associated with ArDOT Project 040785. Staff recommends approval of a project contingency in the amount of \$435,000 and approval of a Budget Adjustment recognizing revenue from ArDOT.

**STAFF REQUESTS THIS BE FORWARDED TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL**

## 7. McClelland Engineers Contract Amendment

ArDOT has notified the City of Fayetteville to relocate water and sewer infrastructure along Highway 16 where they will be widening the roadway to 4-lanes. After receiving this notification, a formal selection committee was held on March 30, 2021 at which McClelland was selected for contract negotiations (RFQ 21-01, Selection #5). Resolution 165-21 authorized McClelland to begin detailed survey and design work which is now completed.

Affected utilities include approximately 4,100 linear feet of 8-inch diameter cast iron waterline that will need to be replaced and upgraded to 12-inch diameter PVC pipe. Additionally, there is approximately 1,700 linear feet of small diameter sanitary sewer relocation necessary.

Amendment No. 1 will provide funds to cover additional easement acquisition services and franchise utility coordination necessary as well as provide funding for construction phase services such as project inspection, assistance with contractor questions in-field, change orders, testing, progress meetings, as-built plan preparation, and project closeout. The additional fees are hourly not-to-exceed in the amount of \$218,974.41.

Staff recommends approval of Amendment No. 1 to the engineering services agreement with McClelland Consulting Engineers, Inc. for professional services associated with ArDOT Project 040785 Utility Relocations along Highway 16 from Stone Bridge Rd. to E. Roberts Rd.

### **STAFF REQUESTS THIS BE FORWARDED TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL**

#### **8. Bid 23-49 Jack Tyler Engineering – Gregg Avenue LS Pump**

The Gregg Avenue sewer lift station has four (4) pumps total. Pump No. 2 failed recently, leaving the sewer lift station without a backup pump in place. This pump was installed new in 2007 and has been rebuilt 3 times. There is very little efficiency left in a pump with so many rebuilds, at is time to purchase a new pump. The City solicited formal bids for this 85 HP 4,000 GPM replacement pump per Bid #23-49 and received 2 bids. Jack Tyler Engineering was the only bidder that met all the specifications, as the second bid was identified as being incomplete.

<u>Jack Tyler Engineering, Inc.</u>	<u>\$103,352.77</u>
Technology International, Inc.	\$66,865.00 <i>Rejected: Incomplete</i>

The successful bid is in the amount of \$103,352.77 plus applicable taxes and freight charges. Freight is estimated at \$1,000.00, and taxes are estimated at \$10,174.40 for a total estimated cost of \$114,527.17. This purchase will replace the failed pump no. 2 and will ensure that the lift station functions properly in the event of another pumping problem or failure.

Funds are available in the WWTP Upgrade/Replace Lift Stations account within the Water & Sewer fund.

### **STAFF REQUESTS THIS BE FORWARDED TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL**

#### **9. Bid 23-50 Jack Tyler Engineering – Noland Pond Return Pump**

The Noland Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) has three (3) total effluent pond return pumps. The pond return pumps send effluent back to the headworks of the plant in the event

they need to be retreated. One of the pumps failed recently and the cost to repair the pump would be very high due to its age. Rebuilding an aging pump usually does not regain its efficiency.

The City solicited formal bids for this replacement pump per Bid 23-50 and received 2 bids. Jack Tyler Engineering was the lowest and best bidder for this pump.

<u>Jack Tyler Engineering, Inc.</u>	<u>\$70,807.87</u>
Electric Motor Center of Springdale	\$72,413.55

Staff recommends awarding Bid 23-50 and authorizing the purchase of a submersible pump for the Noland effluent pond from Jack Tyler Engineering, Inc. in the amount of \$70,807.87 plus applicable taxes and freight charges. Freight is estimated at \$1,000.00, and taxes are estimated at \$7,001.30 for a total estimated cost of \$78,809.14.

This purchase will replace the failed pump and will restore the pumping capacity for the effluent pond at Noland WRRF.

Funds are available in the WWTP Plant Pumps and Equipment account within the Water & Sewer fund.

#### **10. Bid 23-51 Jack Tyler Engineering – Noland Aeration RAS Pump**

The Noland Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) has five (5) Return Activated Sludge (RAS) pumps that pump RAS from the secondary clarifier back to the aeration basin. One of these pumps failed and the repair is not cost effective, as the pump is 35 years old.

The City solicited formal bids for this replacement pump per Bid 23-51 and received two bids. Jack Tyler Engineering was the bid that met more of the specifications than the other bid.

<u>Jack Tyler Engineering, Inc.</u>	<u>\$61,644.18</u>	<i>Met More of the Specifications Listed</i>
Electric Motor Center of Springdale	\$55,655.67	<i>Met Less of the Specifications Listed</i>

Staff recommends awarding Bid 23-51 and authorizing the purchase of a submersible pump for the Noland aeration basin from Jack Tyler Engineering, Inc. in the amount of \$61,644.18 plus applicable taxes and freight charges. Freight is estimated at \$1,000.00, and taxes are estimated at \$6,107.81 for a total estimated cost of \$68,751.99.

This purchase will replace the failed pump and will restore the pumping capacity for the RAS process at Noland WRRF.

Funds are available in the WWTP Plant Pumps and Equipment account within the Water & Sewer fund.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

December WWTP Report

**ATTACHMENTS**

Public Meeting Press Release

Preliminary Report – Noland Switchgear

RFQ – Wastewater Operations, Maintenance & Management

Revised Damage Claims Ordinance

Highway 16 Bid Tabulation

Highway 16 Kajacs Submittal

Highway 16 McClelland Amendment

Bid Tab - Gregg Ave LS Pump

Bid Tab - Noland Effluent Return Pump

Bid Tab - Noland Return Activated Sludge Pump

**ADJOURN**

Next Water, Sewer, Solid Waste Committee meets on  
Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.