

SPECIAL SESSION

JANUARY 18, 2017

The City Council of the City of Athens met in Special Session on Wednesday, January 18, 2017, 5:30 p.m. in the Derek D. Daniels Conference Room of the Athens Partnership Center, 201 W. Corsicana St., Athens, Texas with the following members present, to-wit:

Jerry D. Vaught, Mayor  
Tres Winn, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Monte Montgomery  
Joe Whatley  
Ed McCain

Philip Rodriguez, City Manager  
Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary

others present: Ryan Adams, Lawrence Cutrone, Buddy Hill, Gary Whittle, Alan Ross, Randy McIntyre, Wayne Weeks, Chip Perryman, Ann Perryman, Rich Flowers, Mike Peek, Travis Reed, Rachel Williams, Steve Barksdale, Beth McConnell, and other interested citizens;

constituting a quorum at which time the following proceedings were enacted, to-wit:

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Milburn Chaney.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No action was taken.

CONSENT AGENDA

a) NO ITEMS

CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS

There was no discussion.

HEAR UPDATE ON ALL REMAINING STORAGE TANK REPAIRS AND REHABILITATIONS

Ryan Adams, Managing Director of Administrative Services, provided a brief update on storage tank repairs and rehabilitations. He stated that the project was generated from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Compliance issues from the past. He stated there were seven (7) tanks with active violations of different natures. He explained the needed repairs included the following:

1. New surface coding's
2. replacement of minor structural components
3. rust removal
4. cleaning of tank interior

Mr. Adams further explained the initial project was to rehabilitate two (2) tanks. He stated the South Palestine Overhead Storage Tank and the Lane Street Ground Storage Tank were completed in the summer of 2016.

Mr. Adams explain there are five (5) remaining tanks that are in need of repairs:

1. Faulk Street two (2) tanks
2. Scott Street Ground Storage Tank (full replacement of the tank)

3. Hwy. Loop 7 Elevated Storage Tank
4. Royal Mountain Standpipe

Mr. Adams presented an estimated plan on how each of the five (5) remaining tanks would be repaired. He identified the 3 phases for the repairs as follows:

1. Phase 1 - will focus solely on the Faulk Street Tanks explaining they are full rehabilitations with construction beginning April 2017
2. Phase 2 – will focus on Scott Street which is a full replacement to concrete
3. Phase 3 – will focus on the two (2) remaining tanks with construction beginning in the Winter of 2018

Mr. Adams stated the design documents are ninety five (95%) complete with advertising soon and it will take one hundred and sixty five (165) days to complete the rehabilitation.

Mr. Adams entertained questions from the City Council regarding the storage tank repairs with SPI Consultants answering questions.

#### HEAR UPDATE ON WATER TREATMENT PLANT WELL REPAIR

Ryan Adams presented an update on the Water Treatment Plant Well Repair that identified inadequate construction of piping, and inadequate blocking of the underground joints. He stated repairs were performed by Duplechain and the new build is 94 inches shorter, and it has a vacuum and two (2) pressure relief vales.

Councilmember Whatley extended a special thanks to Mr. Cleo Hickman for his assistance and stated Mr. Hickman is very knowledgeable.

Councilmember Montgomery stated when the well was originally turned on there was an issue with more water being produced than designed; therefore there had to be changes in the chlorine injection. He stated he recalls a chemical in the water that might expose lead. He asked what has happened with this scenario.

Lawrence Cutrone, Director of Public Works stated the ground water is more acidic, and one of the occurring issues was with chemical feeds. He stated it was thrusting more water than designed. He further stated the pump is working properly.

Mayor Vaught asked how many gallons does the well pump, with Mr. Cutrone stating that the well pump is rated 1.7 MGD.

There was additional discussion regarding the well.

#### DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ALL MATTERS RELATED TO THE PROPOSED ENGAGEMENT OF GARVER ENGINEERING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE ATHENS WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Philip Rodriguez, City Manager, presented a Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) Time line:

- December 2015 discussions began with KSA Engineers regarding pressure issues on the north east side of town. He stated a couple of plans were presented to Council in January 2016 and both of the plans were to do a study of water and wastewater in the city's system. He stated in the same time frame the city was getting notices of HAA5.
- Water issues were discussed on January 25, 2016 and during a Special Session on January 29, 2016 to continue the dialogue. He stated after that meeting the city worked with KSA Engineers to determine the root cause of what was happening in the HAA5 system and what could

be done. He stated the two suggestions from KSA to staff were to work on the Chlorine Contact Time Study (CT) with the idea of changing the city's chlorine feed as well as having the well source for water.

- HAA5 issue was discussed at the February 8, 2016 City Council meeting. He stated prior to February 8<sup>th</sup> KSA was informed to start on the Chlorine Contact Time study (CT) and to ensure the city could utilize the well. He stated by April the city had received its next quarter Notice of Violation (NOV) for HAA5 and he reminded the Council that those are the one year (1) running averages. He stated this was the second notice, however, by this point there was a significant reduction in HAA5 levels. He stated it was well below the threshold.
- May 9<sup>th</sup> HAA5 was discussed in Council meeting.
- June 27<sup>th</sup> HAA5 discussed
- July 2016 next quarter NOV received for HAA5
- July 25 HAA5 was discussed during the City Council meeting and Council was informed that citizens will receive a letter regarding HAA5.
- Summer of 2016 the CT study had been completed by KSA and it was filed with TCEQ
- During the Fiscal Year 2017 budget workshop Council developed a strategy to correct all TCEQ NOV's and the calendar year 2017 was about "Water"
- In the CT study from July 2016, KSA stated they were concerned about the city's ability to change the point of feed line and at that time the city engaged Garver to work with KSA's study to change Water Treatment Plant chlorine feed and at that time the city requested KSA to address issues related to HAA5s. He stated an update was delivered to Council during the 8/22/16 meeting
- August 24, 2016 the City Council met with Athens Municipal Water Authority (AMWA) officials to discuss the well issues and engaged AMWA as how changes could be made to the chlorine feeds
- October 2016 the next quarter HAA5 NOV was received and an update was provided to the City Council on 10/24/16
- In November 2016 another notice was sent out regarding HAA5, however it stated full compliance with a running annual average is expected by the first half of 2017.
- January NOV for HAA5 was received. He stated it has dropped again and council was provided an update during the January 9, 2017 meeting

He stated the well was repaired on January 10, 2017.

Councilmember Whatley stated that the chlorine feed issues are occurring in counties within the same quarters.

There was additional discussion regarding changing the chlorine feed.

Mr. Rodriguez stated Garver has continued its work to assist the city in resolving TCEQ violation issues.

Randy McIntyre, with Garver Engineering presented proposed services for the City of Athens Water Treatment operations as follows:

- Treatment Optimization
- Disinfection Optimization
- Monitoring Plan
- Operations Manual
- Cross Connection

A lengthy discussion followed.

Mr. McIntyre then presented the City Council with the following alternatives:

1. Reduced pre-filter chlorination and Chloramines in clear-wells
2. Conversion to Free Chlorine in Clearwells
3. No pre-filtration chlorine, free chlorine in the clearwells
4. No Filtration Chlorine, Chloramines in Clearwells

Mr. McIntyre further explained the scope of work would include the following:

1. Update the current Monitoring Plan to meet TCEQ Requirements
2. Update the current Operations Manual to meet TCEQ Requirements
3. Update the current Cross Connection Control Program to follow the EPA Cross Connection Control Manual and meet TCEQ Requirements

At this time Mr. McIntyre entertained questions from the City Council, after much discussion a motion was made by Councilmember Whatley, seconded by Councilmember Montgomery to approve up to \$172, 928 to Garver Engineering for matters related to improvements to the Athens Water Treatment Plant in order to get the well in compliance with TCEQ. The motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL AND/OR CITY MANAGER UPDATES  
INVOLVING COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ISSUES OF PUBLIC SAFETY

There was no discussion.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Councilmember McCain requested the city engage with Athens Municipal Water Authority to look at the existing contract for clarification and the possibility of city buying treated water from AWMA

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2017.

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Jerry D. Vaught, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary