

WATER BOARD MEETING  
JULY 21, 2009  
TIME: 6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Chuck Storie, John Wall, Robin Meyer and Tony Higginbotham. Frank Massey was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken and all present but one member.

Minutes were approved.

Dr. Kent Smith of the State Health Department and Dan Cain were present to address the question of including fluoride in the City's water or not. Several dentists and other concerned citizens were present.

Dr. Smith stated 95% of towns and cities that are served by public water, has fluoride in them. Health commissioner information that was downloaded from the internet was handed out.

A Decatur County Health Department representative read a letter of support written by a doctor in the community.

Dentist Steven Stradley stated the cost is very small to put fluoride in the City's water.

Jeff Smith Wastewater Superintendent explained that his permit for the Wastewater plant does not allow him a large fluoride quantity to be discharged into the river. There are several industries in town that use fluoride. IDEM is putting a regulation on the Wastewater Treatment Plant on the amount of fluoride that can be discharged daily into the creek. 1.7 parts per million is the allotment by IDEM for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. As far as is known only Greensburg has the regulation. Most of the fluoride is coming from industry, but if we use fluoride then that could put our Wastewater Treatment Plant over the allotted amount by IDEM.

Rick Denney Water Superintendent stated that he and Jeff work closely together and will keep a close monitoring of the fluoride.

Mayor Herbert questioned if there is any health hazards with the fluoride.

The Board unanimously supported putting fluoride back in the City's water.

The filter bed #8 was leaking a couple of years ago and the company that supposedly fixed it had been called back in several times to fix it again. They never could really find the exact leak. Rick told he had a couple of companies come down and they found where the exact leak is and

they will use mountain grout to seal it. He brought in two quotes one from Gates \$1145 and one from NEW (Nies Eggert) \$900.

**Motion by Robin Meyer and seconded by Tony Higginbotham to approve the lowest quote being NEW (Nies Eggert) for \$900. Ayes John Wall, Tony Higginbotham, Robin Meyer and Chuck Storie. Nays none. So passed.**

**Motion by John Wall and seconded by Robin Meyer to award the chemical bids to the lowest bidders being Chemicals, Inc.; Harris & Ford; Brenntag Mid-South and Sal Chemical. Ayes Tony Higginbotham, Robin Meyer, Chuck Storie and John Wall. Nays none. So passed.**

Donna Lecher Water Office Manager addressed the Board about the radio read meters they use and all the problems they have and are having. They have several hundred in the ground and can only read about 52% meters with the hand held readers. They have to manually read the meters.

Joe Ferguson and John Johnson of Master Meter were present and stated the Company has been in business for 35 years. They work with Green Tree Software which is the billing system the City's Water Office uses.

Mr. Johnson gave a slide presentation. Everything is under glass in their water meters. Radio, batteries and antenna is built in.

There are two separate warranties – meter body and register. Technology 20 year warranty. Ten years unlimited and ten years prorated.

The software, laptop notebook and training cost is \$19,99, the radio read water meter dialog are \$165 each, interpreter register is \$140 each and you would need two antenna towers.

The City has 4700 meters. Donna has looked at several different systems and really need approximately 500 meters to really get going.

The Board made no decision.

Darren Burkhardt of HNTB gave a status update on the current projects.

Rick Denney talked about the new route for the new Archaeological site investigation and the cost is \$1110. SRF funds have been approved.

**Motion by John Wall and seconded Chuck Storie authorizing the Mayor to approve and sign the contract, with minor changes recommended by the City Attorney. Ayes Tony Higginbotham, Robin Meyer, Chuck Storie and John Wall. Nays none. So passed.**

Mayor Herbert asked the Board if they could participate in a joint meeting with the Board of Works on August 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M. after the regular Board of Works meeting at 5:00 P.M. This meeting would be reviewing the Water Utility Financial Analysis concerning a rate increase for water and wastewater. H.J. Umbaugh representatives would be present for the meeting. The Water Board members approved the joint meeting.

Joe King asked if the Board had made any kind of decision concerning his mobile home park.

Mayor Herbert stated all the records the City has have been looked at. The only records not looked at would be Frank Hamilton, Jr. old records.

Donna has talked with Mr. Hamilton.

The City will try to look at the old records that Mr. Hamilton has to see if there is anything and the Mayor told Mr. King, he is welcome to be involved in looking at those records.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

**PRESIDING OFFICER** \_\_\_\_\_

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**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk-Treasurer