

Hart County Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors Meeting December 16, 2019

The Hart County Water and Sewer Authority met on December 16th, 2019 in the Hart County Cooperative Extension Service Building. Chairman Wade Carlton called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Present were: Board Members Patti Brown, Larry Haley, Bennie Harper and Marvin Justice; Director Pat Goran; Legal Counsel Kim Higginbotham; Board Secretary/Treasurer Holly McBrayer; Trent Cape and Dexter Ledford; and Hart County residents Jayson Nguyen, Thomas Saxon, Ed Watkins, and Judith Watkins.

Welcome

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Haley motioned to approve the agenda. Ms. Brown seconded the motion which passed 5 – 0.

Public Comments; remarks by invited guests

None

Approval of November 18th regular meeting minutes

Ms. Brown motioned to approve the November 18th regular meeting minutes. Mr. Haley seconded the motion which passed 5 – 0.

Financial report

Mr. Goran presented the financial report.

Old Business

Review and discussion of Authority project prioritization and potential funding

The Board agreed to tentatively schedule a meeting with some members of the Hart County Board of Commissioners after the first of the year to discuss potential funding options.

2018 Community Development Block Grant project

Mr. Goran informed the Board that 3 of the 5 target areas had been completed and the contractor was currently working on B Bailey Road.

Request for water service – Mewborn Road, Eagle Grove School Road, Liberty Church Road poultry operations, and residents

Mr. Goran explained the formal recommendation from EMI including the bid comparison spreadsheet and noted the difference of about \$800.00 between the two lowest bidders. He stated that the bids were very close to the estimate and that the low bid for construction was \$376,414.85. Mr. Goran also stated that 5 poultry operations had committed to purchase a total of 6 million gallons of water per year.

The Board discussed expanding the project area to include the remaining distance of Mewborn Road to reach Bowman Highway.

After some discussion, Mr. Justice motioned to proceed with awarding the Mewborn Road, Eagle Grove School Road, Liberty Church Road project including the entire length of Mewborn Road to Arrowood General Contracting, and authorizing Mr. Carlton and Mr. Goran to sign the Notice of Award. Mr. Haley seconded the motion which passed 5 -0.

Discussion of potential Reed Creek Highway subdivision

Mr. Goran recommended that the Board consider this project because it would expand our system in the direction of the more densely populated Reed Creek area of Hart County and consider benefits other than just the cost per committed customer guideline. Mr. Goran added that this request did not meet the County's requirement that the developer pay to extend our water system because it was beyond the 1,000 feet distance requirement.

Mr. and Mrs. Watkins voiced their support for this project.

When asked, Mr. Goran stated that this area would not likely qualify for CDBG funding due to demographics.

Mr. Cape stated that they were willing to contribute \$30,000 to the cost of construction and sign the necessary 10-year vacant lot commitment letters.

After much discussion, the Board directed Ms. McBrayer to send out commitment letters to the area and to discuss this request at the next meeting.

Request for water service – Byrum Cemetery Road

Mr. Goran recommended proceeding with the project approximately 1600' to ensure proper fire hydrant spacing. Mr. Haley questioned whether there was adequate right-of-way for that distance.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Haley motioned to proceed with the Byrum Cemetery Road project for a distance of 1200'. Mr. Goran reminded the Board that no signed commitment letters had been received yet.

Ms. Brown motioned to proceed with the 1200 feet mainline and the additional 400 feet contingent on receiving 3 signed commitment letters and verification that there was adequate right-of-way.

Mr. Haley then withdrew his motion.

Mr. Harper seconded Ms. Brown's motion which passed 5 – 0.

Request for water service – Whispering Creek Trail

Mr. Goran stated the signed commitment letters from Kevin Cape had not been completed correctly and Mr. Cape had stated his intentions to resubmit the letters.

Request for water service – Bethany – Bowersville Road

Mr. Goran stated all 5 signed letters had been received and that installation would be scheduled.

Request for water – Uly White Road poultry operations

No action was taken.

Other outstanding requests for water service – poultry operations

The Board briefly discussed the multiple poultry operation water service requests.

2020 Community Development Block Grant

Mr. Goran informed the Board that a Public Hearing was scheduled for Thursday, December 19th at 12 pm.

New Business

None

Director's Comments

Mr. Goran stated that he would be out of town from December 19th to December 23rd.

Members' Comments

None

Upcoming Meetings – January – TBD, Monday February 17th

The Board agreed to meet on Thursday, January 16th, 2020 at 6 pm and Monday, February 17th, 2020 at 6 pm.

Adjournment

Mr. Justice motioned to adjourn, and Mr. Harper seconded it. The motion passed 5 - 0.

Wade Carlton, Chairman

Holly McBrayer, Secretary