NEENAH-MENASHA SEWERAGE COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

Wednesday October 9, 2013

Meeting was called to order by Commission President Youngquist at 8:00 a.m.

Present: Commissioners Mike Sambs, Kathy Bauer, Jim Gunz, Gordon Falck, Raymond Zielinski, Dale Youngquist; Manager Randall Much, Accountant Roger Voigt.

Excused: Commissioner Tim Hamblin

Also Present: Tom Kispert (McMAHON); Rob Franck (MCO); Steve Coburn (Town of Neenah S.D. 2).

September 24, 2013 Regular Meeting minutes: Motion by Commissioner Gunz, second by Commissioner Zielinski to approve the minutes from the September 24, 2013 Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

The following correspondence was discussed:

A. September 11, 2013 Notice received from Wisconsin DNR.
RE: Phosphorus water quality based effluent limits in WPDES permit for the NMSC.

Commissioner Gunz questioned if the NMSC can meet these limits today; Manager Much reported no. Commissioner Gunz questioned if we have received our new permit; Manager Much reported no. Commissioner Gunz questioned if the new limits will be in the new permit; Manager Much indicated we will have up to 9 years to comply.

Old Business

President Youngquist reported the contract with MCO is still being worked on.

Manager Much reported receiving a phone call from Bob Potratz indicating they would be willing to sell us the storage building used by the City of Oshkosh for $3,000,000 dollars.

President Youngquist reminded the Commission we will discuss property encroachment policy at the next meeting.

New Business

Operations, Engineering, Planning

Phosphorus Removal – Manager Much reported there will be a meeting on October 14th with the Fox/Wolf Watershed Alliance regarding adaptive management. Tom Kispert reported the pilot unit will arrive on October 21st.

Construction Progress Update. Tom Kispert discussed his memorandum on the construction progress. There is a very tight schedule for project completion; the main concerns are with the painting subcontractor, they have brought in an additional subcontractor for sandblasting. The additional subcontractor has been more efficient in completing the sandblasting task. Commissioners further discussed the subcontractor issues with the painting, the quality of the work, and what to do if substantial completion is not met by November 30. Tom reported there is a construction meeting Thursday (October 10) to discuss issues with the contractor. Tom reported on issues with changing aeration tank drain valves; clean gravel fill was used previously and this is creating a larger trench than anticipated to reach the valves which are located approximately 25 feet below ground level. Additional issues are expected as excavation is now reaching areas with several underground pipes located together.

Tom Kispert discussed and explained the items proposed in change order #24 for the contract with August Winter & Sons. After discussion motion by Commission Gunz, second by Commissioner Falck to approve change order #24 in the amount of $30,637.00 for the contract with August Winters & Sons. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gunz excused from the meeting (9:52 am).

Tom reported on the proposals that are currently pending for change orders. President Youngquist requested estimated costs for the pending change orders. Upgrading the polymer system; estimated at $150,000 installed. Adding vent piping for the biogas regulator; estimated at $2,000. Adding a work platform for the generator radiator; estimated at $10,000. Primary clarifier mechanism structural repairs; this was allowed for in the contract, some has been used but not sure what additional work needs to be completed. This may result in a credit. An electrical duct bank is interfering with a non-contact cooling water line; estimated $4,000-$5,000 to move. Adding 2 - 3 stationary ladders to digesters; estimated at $2,000-$3,000.

Tom reported on the status of the HSI Blowers. Blower #5 was sent in for repair and has not been returned; blower #6 is installed and running. Some of the issues with the blowers have been resolved. Tom discussed the printed email distributed to the Commissioners and explained the situation for why the email was issued. Atlas Copco (parent company of HSI) is open to extending the warranty on the blowers an additional 6 – 12 months beyond the original warranty. Commissioners discussed requesting an extended warranty of 24 additional months with the warranty to begin after the issues have been resolved; Commissioners also discussed requesting the offered maintenance service at no cost during the first 2 years of the warranty period. Commissioners also questioned Tom if other vendors are available who offer high speed blowers. Tom reported there are several firms. He has talked with one firm who would be willing to place a unit at the treatment plant at no charge for 6 months. Commissioners questioned the cost involved if we would refuse the current equipment; Tom reported there would be an estimated cost increase of $400,000 and reminded the Commissioners of the price discount provided by HSI on the purchase of their units. The unit pricing for the HSI blowers came at the time they were in the process of being purchased by Atlas Copco.

Tom discussed options available if contingency dollars in the contract are used up. One option available is to use unspent CWF budget application line items; this would require DNR approval. There is only a limited amount of funds available for this option. Tom reported on the sodium hypochlorite system; so far it looks like the changes made have helped resolve the issues. Commissioner Falck questioned the status of the Square D panels; Tom reported the panels are arriving and are being installed.

Budget, Finance, Personnel

Accountant Voigt updated the Commission on several items. A certificate of deposit was purchased at Community First Credit Union; $250,000 for 9-months at 1.0% interest. On November 1st there will be an interest payment to the State of Wisconsin for interest on the CWF loan. Accountant Voigt questioned if the Commission had any concerns with opening a credit card in the NMSC name for use in purchasing materials and supplies. The current practice is to purchase locally if possible with using store credit. For items not available locally or if the Commission does not have an account with a local vendor, MCO has been purchasing and then billing the cost to the NMSC. Commissioners further discussed; Accountant Voigt will look further into this option. The Commission will discuss this further at the next meeting.

Accountant Voigt reported to the Commissioners the User Charge System Report included in their packets is the final approved report from McMahon.

Motion by Commissioner Zielinski, second by Commissioner Falck to approve Operating and Payroll Vouchers #133984 thru #134042 in the amount of $423,428.52 and Construction Fund Vouchers #210 thru #213 in the amount of $1,225,201.73 for the month of September 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Zielinski, seconded by Commissioner Falck to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

Dale A. Zielinski
President

Katherine Bauer
Secretary

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY OCTOBER 22nd 2013.