

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
September 12, 2023
Board Room-303 S. Anthony Street, Kennett, MO 63857

Members Present:

John Robertson
Tony Parr
Towny Sparks

Others Present:

Jamie Chitester, CEO
Crystal Dennis, CFO
Jill Rickman, CHRO
Marty Johnson, COO
Mark Bryant, Councilman
Scott Hunter, Citizen
Marco Parr, Citizen
Jerry Smallmon, Citizen
Chris Sharp, Sharp Disposal
Towny Sparks, Jr, Sanitary Waste Committee Chair

Jake Crafton, Mayor
Lisa Dry, Councilwoman
Randy Carter, Councilman
James Waynick, Councilman
Dennis Pelts, Councilman
Lee Reed, Citizen
Alice Russell, Citizen
Christian Johnson, DDD
Kami Sharp, Sharp Disposal

Mr. Robertson called the meeting to order and presented the agenda for approval. Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The August 22, 2023 meeting minutes were presented. Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve all minutes as presented. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The July 2023 preliminary financials were presented. No action was required.

The August 2023 expenditures were presented. Mr. Parr made a motion to approve the expenditures as presented. Mr. Sparks seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

City Council Sanitary Waste Request: Mr. Sparks, Jr, Chairman of the Sanitary Waste Committee, provided a handout to the Board with reasons why the Committee believes that having CLGW as the residential sanitary waste provider for the City will be beneficial. He reported that at the last City Council meeting, members voted in favor of CLGW pursuing residential sanitary waste services as a utility provided by CLGW. Mr. Tony Parr asked Mr. Sparks, Jr several clarifying questions as did Mr. Sharp, Mr. Smallmon, and Ms. Russell. Much discussion was held. Mr. Sparks made a motion for CLGW to provide residential sanitary waste services for the City of Kennett. Mr. Robertson tabled the motion in order that all Board members may be present to vote. Mr. Robertson then asked Mr. Chitester to provide a formal plan at the next Board meeting. Mr. Chitester asked the Board if the City Council could go ahead and send out the required notice letters to current residential sanitary waste providers. Mr. Robertson stated that this would be a decision for the City Council. Mr. Robertson also informed those in attendance that the City Council would be holding a public hearing on the matter and they could contact City Hall for the details of the upcoming meeting.

[At this point in the meeting, Mr. Marco Parr, and Mr. and Mrs. Sharp exited the meeting.]

Chief Operating Officer Updates:

Electric-CLGW sent four Lineman on a Mutual Aid response in Florida and it was an educational experience for those that responded. Mr. Johnson reported that there have been several illegal entries made into the inventory yard. It appears that scrap has been the target of the illegal entries. Additional lighting and security cameras are being installed.

Power Plant-Power prices are falling with the cooler weather.

Gas-The Public Service Commission performed an audit and found a few items to be corrected. The corrections are already under way.

Water Treatment-The EPA and DNR did an inspection last week and have requested additional Bac T samples to be conducted, barriers to be installed around a Well, and the Fluoride room to be vented.

IT-Mr. Johnson reported that supplying the City IT services is going well. Councilwoman Dry shared positive feedback that she has received from the Fire Department.

Water/Sewer-DNR approved the Commercial Street water line replacement and that work has already begun.

Chief Executive Officer Updates:

Water Treatment-CLGW received a grant to abandon an unused Well. Automation of the Water Treatment Plant continues to be a priority and staff are working with R.E. Pedrotti to complete the automation project.

Frey Farms-The legal teams have agreed on a Mediator but no date for mediation has been set.

Scholarships-Kennett Schools have agreed to discontinue credit card use to pay their utility bills if CLGW would provide scholarships for graduating Seniors. CLGW has agreed and will be providing two, \$2,000 scholarships each year.

[At this point in the meeting, Councilman Bryant exited the meeting.]

Solar-Mr. Chitester shared three quotes received for a 5MW solar generation project. The first was from Erthos for \$7.95 million. Evergy provided two quotes. One quote for a tracking system at \$9.2 million. To compare Erthos' and Evergy's bids equally, Evergy submitted a second bid with the same specifications as Erthos which was \$8.2 million. Mr. Chitester noted that the solar array will be located near the lagoon and that the Erthos panels lay on the ground and there is the potential for flooding at the location and he did not believe their product would be a good choice due to the location. Mr. Chitester then noted that the tracking solar array will provide better generation than the non-tracking panels and recommended accepting the Evergy tracking 5MW solar generation proposal. He also noted all of the tax credits and discounts that are available to CLGW, which will drastically reduce the price. If approved for all tax credits and discounts, the final cost would be around \$3 million. Mr. Sparks made a motion to accept the quote from Evergy for a 5MW tracking solar generation array. Mr. Parr seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

[At this point in the meeting, Ms. Russell exited the meeting.]

Miscellaneous general:

The next meeting will be October 10th at 11:30 am.

Upcoming events: September 19th-Customer Appreciation Day

Councilwoman Dry thanked the Electric Department on behalf of the Kennett Area for the Arts Board for their help with the Fall Into Arts Festival. Councilman Pelts thanked the Electric Department on behalf of Kennett Cruisers for their help with the car show.

Mayor Crafton asked if the Street Department had been in contact about their upcoming street repairs and the need for manhole risers and also asked for assistance felling a dead tree on City-owned property. Mr. Chitester and Mr. Johnson agreed to assistance with the tree removal and stated they would check with the Water and Sewer Department leadership on the manhole risers.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Mr. Parr made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Sparks seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Attest:

Randy Baker

Secretary