# The Water Works Board of the City of Auburn January 19, 2023 – Regular Meeting Minutes

The Water Works Board of the City of Auburn met on January 19, 2023, at 4:00 PM at the Bailey-Alexander Water and Sewer Complex at 1501 West Samford Avenue, Auburn, Alabama.

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

### II. ROLL CALL

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Brad Wilson, Chairman Bernard Hill, Secretary David Reaves, Board Member

### **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Jennifer Chambliss, Vice Chairman Thomas Sparrow, Board Member

#### **STAFF/VISITORS PRESENT:**

Eric Carson, Water Resource Management Director
Matt Dunn, Water Resource Management Assistant Director
Tim Johnson, Principal Utility Engineer
Rick McCarty, Water Plant Manager
Kyle Hildreth, Water Distribution Manager
Allison Edge, Finance Director
Erika Sprouse, Principal Financial Analyst
Heidi Lowery, Accounting & Financial Reporting Manager
Alex Massingill, Accountant
Amy Whitman, Utility Billing Office Manager
Rick Davidson, Water Board Attorney
Dana Raughton, JACOBS
Gene Simpson, Village Conservation Club
Bill Capps, Village Conservation Club

## III. BOARD COMMUNICATION

# IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Wilson asked for approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 15, 2022. Mr. Reaves made a motion for approval of the Regular Meeting minutes of December 15, 2022. Dr. Hill seconded the motion.

All voted aye; none opposed and Mr. Wilson declared the motion approved.

# V. OLD BUSINESS

# VI. NEW BUSINESS

#### 1. Village Conservation Club and AWWB Lease renewal

Mr. Carson requested Board approval to authorize the Chairman to execute the Lease of Fishing Rights agreement between the Village Conservation Club and AWWB.

Mr. Reaves made a motion to proceed with renewal of lease.

Dr. Hill seconded the motion.

All voted aye; none opposed and Mr. Wilson declared the motion approved.

### 2. Financial Report

Ms. Edge stated that the financial statements presented in the packets were for the month ending December 31, 2022, the third month of FY23. Water sales revenue was at 27.3 percent of the budget. Operating expenses were under budget at 21.0 percent. The net income for December was \$196,092. The Access Fee account balance is \$2,911,124 as of December 31,2022.

## 3. Task Order 1 FY 2023 Jacobs agreement

Mr. Johnson requested Board approval authorizing the Board Chairman to execute the Task Order 1 FY 2023 - General Consulting and Hydraulic Modeling Services for the Water Works Board of the City of Auburn, Alabama between AWWB and Jacobs.

Dr. Hill made the motion to approve.

Mr. Reaves seconded the motion.

All voted aye, none opposed and Mr. Wilson declared the motion approved.

#### VII. STAFF REPORTS

# 1. Project Status Report

# - Martin Luther King Drive Water Main Improvements -Donahue to Richland Road (Project 21075)

Mr. Dunn reported on the Martin Luther King Drive Water Main Improvements project which will extend a new 8" ductile iron water main along the north side of Martin Luther King (MLK) Drive from Donahue Drive to Richland Road. This City's Engineering Services Department is currently designing a streetscape project along this section of roadway. The existing water distribution main along this section of MLK is approximately 70 years old and is in need of replacement. This Water Resource Management Department recommends replacing this main and including it with the streetscape construction project. At the January 2022 meeting, the Board approved the design of the new water main by the Foresite Group engineers, the firm performing the design of the streetscape project. Construction bid plans have been received and are under final review. The consultant is also compiling permitting information for a water main railroad crossing near the Byrd St. and MLK intersection. The construction contract for this project is expected to bid in early 2023. With current extensive lead times for acquiring ductile iron water main pipe, the pipe (materials only) was bid separately and will be provided to the general contractor that is awarded the project for installation. The ductile iron water main pipe was bid on August 18 and the low bid (submitted by Empire Pipe and Supply) was approved by City Council on September 6. The shipment of pipe was received in October and is being stored until ready for installation. The streetscape construction project is expected to last into the Summer of 2023.

# - West Farmville Road Water Main Hwy 147 (North College Street) to Miracle Road (Project 20078)

Mr. Dunn reported on the West Farmville Road Water Main Project (Hwy 147 (North College Street) to Miracle Road). This project will extend a new 12" ductile iron water main along the south side of West Farmville Road from Alabama Highway 147 (North College Street) to Miracle Road. This main will be principally a transmission main to provide auxiliary feed to the W. Farmville Rd/Mrs. James Rd/N. Donahue Dr. area. The pipeline material bids were opened for this project on May 12, 2022. The low bidder was Ferguson Waterworks. The AWWB has received two initial shipments of pipe. The balance of the remaining pipe materials is expected to be received in 2023. AWWB staff plans to begin initial construction/installation in early 2023. Construction is expected to be complete in the Spring/Summer 2023.

# -Will Buechner Parkway Water Main Project

Mr. Dunn reported that the Will Buechner Parkway is being constructed from Martin Luther King Drive (AL Hwy 14) near Webster Road to Richland Road near Creekside Elementary. This project includes the installation of a new 12" ductile iron water main along this new connecting roadway. This project is being done in concert with the COA and a new residential development located north of Highway 14 and west of the Solamere Subdivision. Construction of the water main, and other utilities, is underway. This project is expected to last until late March 2023

# -East Farmville Rd. and Shug Jordan Parkway Water Tank Exterior Washing Project

Mr. Dunn reported that this project consists of the exterior pressure washing of the East Farmville Road and the Shug Jordan Parkway elevated water storage tanks. In September 2022, staff solicited proposals for this work from seven contractors. Six proposals were received, and the lowest proposal received was submitted by Veolia Advanced Solutions – Utility Service Co., Inc. in the amount of \$23,348. This proposal was approved at the September 2022 AWWB meeting. The contractor (Utility Service Co., Inc.) mobilized on December 7, 2022 and completed the work in late December 2022.

# - James E. Estes Water Treatment Plant Improvements (Project 20001)

Mr. Dunn reported on the James E. Estes Water Treatment Plant. This project consists of several process, structural, and equipment replacement improvements at the Estes Water Treatment Plant. These elements include improvements to the carbon and lime feed systems, replacement of sludge collection equipment (in two sedimentation basins), various pump and valve

replacements, and misc. structural and electrical improvements. The project bid opening was held on July 1, 2021. Three bids were received and the low bid was from Schmidt Environmental Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$5,208,000. The Board awarded the construction contract to Schmidt at the July 2021 meeting. The pre-construction conference was held on September 29, 2021 and the Notice to Proceed was issued and effective October 29, 2021. Currently, the project is approximately 65% complete. The contractor is currently working on filters 7 and 8 valve and actuators, pipe gallery wall preparation, sedimentation basins 3 and 4, and powder activated carbon (PAC) feed system at Lake Ogletree. The PAC system is underway on issues experienced as a result of the severe weather the week of Christmas 2022. Filters 7 & 8 are expected to be back in service in mid to late January 2023, at which time work on filters 5 and 6 will begin. The project is expected to last into the Spring of 2023.

### 1. Rainfall Data

Mr. Carson stated that the rainfall report for the end of 2022 indicated we were 3.23" above normal at the lake and 6.69" below normal at the plant. As of January 20th, we have received 4.77 inches of rain at the lake for the month, which puts us at .3 inches below normal for the year at this site. At the plant, we have received 4.88 inches of rain which puts us at .52 inches below normal for this site.

#### 2. Lake Level Chart

Mr. Carson stated that the lake level is currently at an elevation of 486.3 feet. This elevation is slightly above the optimal pool.

#### 3. Drought Map and Drought Discussion

Mr. Carson stated that the drought monitoring maps comparing December 6, 2022, and January 10, 2023, were very similar. Lee County is in relative y good shape, state and, national maps show little change.

# 4. Statistical Usage and Revenue Analysis Recap

Mr. Carson stated that the Statistical Usage and Revenue Analysis Recap showed the average water demand for December 2022 was 6.6 million gallons per day (mgd), which includes water produced and water purchased from Opelika Utilities. Water produced from the water plant was approximately 2.8 mgd, water produced from Well #3 was approximately 1.1 mgd and, water produced from Well #4 was approximately 1.8 mgd. Water purchased from Opelika Utilities was .9 mgd. Based on these production numbers, the Board produced 86% of the distributed water from its sources and purchased the remaining 14% from Opelika Utilities in October.

# VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

# 1. Next Regular Meeting

The next regular meeting will be on February 23, 2023, at 4:00 PM at the Bailey-Alexander Water and Sewer Complex at 1501 West Samford Avenue, Auburn, Alabama.

# IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Wilson declared January 19, 2022, meeting adjourned at 4:20 PM at the Bailey-Alexander Water and Sewer Complex at 1501 West Samford Avenue, Auburn, Alabama.

Brad Wilson, Chairman

ATTEST:

Dr. Bernard Hill, Secretary