

MINUTES
LAWTON WATER AUTHORITY SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 27, 2003 - 6:00 P.M.
WAYNE GILLEY CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chairman, Cecil E. Powell. Invocation was given by Ken Pauley, Associate Pastor, Emanuel Lutheran Church. Notice of meeting and agenda were posted on the City Hall notice board as required by law.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Stanley Haywood, Randy Warren, Randy Bass, James Hanna, Glenn Devine, Amy Ewing-Holmstrom, Robert Shanklin.

ABSENT: Jeffrey Patton.

ALSO PRESENT: Larry Mitchell, City Manager; John Vincent, City Attorney; Kathy Fanning, Deputy City Clerk; Col. George Steuber, Fort Sill Liaison.

PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH AWARD TO BILL CHANDLER, FIELD SUPERVISOR WITH THE WASTEWATER COLLECTION DIVISION OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Jerry Ihler introduced Employee of the Month, Bill Chandler, a City of Lawton employee for 19 years, starting out as a temporary part-time employee at the Cemetery in 1984, a laborer for awhile, and moved over to Public Works as an equipment operator, has been a senior equipment operator, a crew chief and currently for the last five years a field supervisor in Waste Water Collection. He was nominated by a couple of his crew members indicating he is a caring boss, for the employees and citizens. In his position, he deals with sewer backups and has the compassion to deal with people during a tough time and Ihler has received many letters indicating he is a caring employee and concerned about the citizens during their time of trouble. Ihler congratulated Chandler as Employee of the Month and appreciates his efforts.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Consider permitting PGS Onshore, Inc. to conduct a Geophysical Survey on land owned by the City of Lawton in the vicinity of Lake Ellsworth, accept payment of \$57,224.23 and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an agreement authorizing PGS Onshore, Inc. to conduct these surveys. Exhibits: PGS Onshore, Inc. letters dated April 23, 2003 (2); PGS Onshore, Inc. permits (5); Agreement For Geophysical Survey.

John Vincent said this is a new company that has not done this type survey in our area before. We have had other oil companies do surveys and had oil drilling leases, but no wells were drilled. This company would survey acreage around Ellsworth for a payment of \$57,224 and will sell this data to other oil companies. Vincent asked if Council would want to allow somebody survey our shorelines for possible shore drillings.

Warren asked if they were planning on using the thumper. Vincent said it was his understanding they were going to use the thumpers.

Mayor Powell asked if this would be detrimental to our shoreline or lake in any manner. Vincent said no, we have had this done before.

Shanklin said this is not in the budget under revenues, so what fund are we going to put this \$57,000 in. Vincent said, the last time the City actually leased land, Council indicated to the City Manager what fund it would go into and you could do that this time.

MOTION by Shanklin, 2nd by Hanna, for approval.

Devine asked shouldn't we make a motion to accept this before we spend the money.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION by Warren, 2nd by Devine, to accept the funds for this project and designate the money be allocated to the shortfall in the Senior Centers.

Ewing-Holmstrom said she didn't know if Council was the best body to decide where the money should go. The City Manager might have a more crucial account this money should be in and maybe we should discuss it with him before voting.

Bass asked if the tenants with leases would receive money also. Vincent said yes, this company will have to make individual deals with the lessees for crop damage, etc. If Council agrees to approve this, we have agreed to provide them with a list of lessees and addresses.

Ewing-Holmstrom asked the City Manager if we have people who are going to be laid off in regards to the budget. Mitchell said in the preliminary budget, we are making those recommendations; there are several. He said his only observation would be Council look at putting this into this year's budget; we do have a deficit for the current year, which is another option Council might want to consider versus putting it into next year's budget, but that would be Council's decision to make.

SECOND SUBSTITUTE MOTION by Ewing-Holmstrom, to put this money into the current City Budget to help us balance. Motion failed due to lack of a 2nd.

Vote on the Substitute motion was held to accept these funds for this project and designate money to be allocated to the shortfall in the Senior Centers. AYE: Warren, Bass, Hanna, Devine, Shanklin, Haywood. NAY: Ewing-Holmstrom SUBSTITUTE MOTION CARRIED.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m. upon motion, second and roll call vote.

CECIL E. POWELL, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

KATHY FANNING, ASSISTANT SECRETARY