

Consider Ordinance No. 09-725, an ordinance to amend the City's residential, commercial and industrial sewer service rates. Buddy Petty and City Engineer Tompkins explained that two factors are driving this rate increase. The first is negotiations with Metro Government for the renewal of the City's contract for our sewer treatment. The second is to fund rehabilitation of the City's sewer lines and the construction of an equalization basin that would allow significant flows to be contained rather than overflow from the system creating environmental problems. Mayor Finch noted that the Commission has had two work sessions on this matter and that the public needs to understand that these matters are required and the City has no choice. The City has enjoyed a very good deal with Metro for forty years for sewer treatment. In initial negotiations, the new contract with Metro would have resulted in a 300% to 400% increase. This Commission and staff have worked diligently to come up with other options, even considering our own sewage treatment plant, and negotiated the rate down to a 200% increase. Under the current Metro administration and with the progress of the City's staff, the new Metro treatment rate and including an equalization basin and extensive rehabilitation to our sewer system, the rate increase is down to 77%. If the City is able to qualify for up to \$5,000,000 from the State Revolving Fund for these sewer projects, that rate increase will be reduced. A motion was made by Commissioner Garrett to approve Ordinance No. 09-725 on first reading. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Manning and passed unanimously 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.


 Claudia Davis, City Recorder


 John Finch, Mayor

REGULAR MEETING
GOODLETTSVILLE CITY COMMISSION

Date: April 23, 2009

Time: 6:30 PM

Place: City Hall

Present: John Finch, Gary Manning, Jerry Garrett, John Coombs, Dan Bloodworth

Also Present: Jim Thomas, Joe Haynes, Claudia Davis, Tim Ellis, Julie High, Dean Birdwell, Larry DiOrio, Rick Gregory, Richard Pope, Jack Tompkins, Dawn Freeman, Julie High, Danny Okert, Mike & Linda Moss, Susan Rotkiewicz, Jane Birdwell, Michael O'Neal, Bill Vecchione, Denver Schimming, Joyce Washington, Buddy Petty, Chris Provost, Herb Murphy, Ronald England, Baxter & Deborah Rollins, Lisa Williams, Candice Tyler, James Turner, Charlie Hoover, Bob King, Raymond Foster, Don Deering, Janet Johnson, Don Seymour, Thomas Bell, Kenneth Shepard, Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm Murphy, Jill Garrett

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Finch. Rev. Michael O'Neal offered prayer.

City Recorder Davis called the roll: Mayor Finch present, Vice Mayor Manning present, Commissioner Garrett present, Commissioner Coombs present, and Commissioner Bloodworth present.

Consider approval of the minutes of the April 9, 2009 regular commission meeting. A motion was made by Vice Mayor Manning to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coombs and passed unanimously 5-0.

Denver Schimming, 943 Old Dickerson Road, thanked City Manager Thomas and Public Works Director Bill Brasier for their efforts in getting the open areas mowed at the Dry Creek Farm Subdivision.

Police Chief Richard Pope announced that this year's Citizens Police Academy class will graduate at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28, 2009 and he invited the Commissioners to attend.

Commissioner Coombs reported on the efforts of the Parks Department to engage corporate sponsors to offset the funding for the Fourth of July Celebration. To date, \$4,000 has been committed toward the projected cost of \$22,000. He encouraged each Commissioner to help follow up with the businesses that have been contacted but have not responded.

Consider Ordinance No. 09-775 on second reading, an ordinance to amend the City's residential, commercial and industrial sewer service rates. City Manager Thomas explained that this amendment to the Municipal Code to change the sewer use rates is a result of two issues. The first is to allow for the anticipated rate increase charged by the Metro Government for the treatment of our sewage as the City enters into a new contract with Metro, currently being negotiated. The second is to fund rehabilitation of the City's deteriorated sewer lines and the construction of an equalization basin that would allow significant flows to be contained rather than overflow from the system creating environmental problems. The total increase to city sewer customers would be 77% with the increase being phased in over two years. This equates to approximately \$22.00 per month increase for a household who uses an average of 6,000 gallons of water per month. Mayor Finch added that the increase this year will be 35% and the increase in 2010 will be 31%. Five years ago, the impending increase was in the range of 300 to 400% based on a cost of services study conducted by Metro. He commended Mayor Karl Dean for his efforts and willingness to work with the City in these contract negotiations. Under the new Metro contract for sewer treatment, we will be billed based on actual flow amounts. Currently almost half of our sewer flow is inflow and infiltration. During heavy rain events ground water flows into the deteriorating sewer lines, adding to the sewer treatment costs. Mayor Finch declared the public hearing open.

Ronald England, 1014 Cynthia Trail, asked how many sewer users there are in each category of residential, commercial and industrial customers, and if the three classifications are all paying the same rate. He also wanted to know how long the pay back would be for the rehabilitation increase. City Engineer Jack Tompkins stated he did not have the number of users in each category with him but he would call Mr. England and give him that information. Commissioner Garrett responded that the rate increase is the same for each category. Vice Mayor Manning responded that sewer rehabilitation is an ongoing issue and there is no definitive point in time when it would end or that no further work is needed.

Nancy Murphy, 518 Elba Drive, stated she pays Madison for her sewer usage and questioned how the rate increase would affect her. City Manager Thomas explained that her White House Utility District water bill includes her water charges and the City of Goodlettsville's sewer charges and that none of the money she pays goes to Madison. She asked the Commission to consider some type of help for retirees and seniors regarding the rate increase.

Denver Schimming, 943 Old Dickerson Road, inquired where the equalization basin will be constructed. City Manager Thomas responded that it will be adjacent to the City's Mansker Creek Pumping Station on Gallatin Road, on property currently owned by the City. Mr. Schimming referenced the Mayor's recent open letter to the public and questioned that if the City qualifies and receives forgiveness for up to \$5,000,000 on our loan from stimulus funds, would there be an adjustment to lower the sewer rate? Mayor Finch explained that the City has a chance of a \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000 forgiveness on our State Revolving Fund Loan of \$12,500,000, but there is no assurance of that at this time. As a condition of the loan application we must pass a rate increase for the work we are going to do. With a two year phase in on the rate increase, as

recommended by our staff, if we get any forgiveness, the rate increase on the second phase could be adjusted down. Mr. Schimming inquired when the City would know if they get the stimulus funds. Mayor Finch responded that there is a June 17, 2009 deadline to be under contract for the rehabilitation in order to qualify for any stimulus funds. Hopefully, there would be some news by the end of the third quarter. Mr. Schimming asked if there are anticipated future sewer rate increases based on the engineering reports of the City's needs. Mayor Finch responded that the amount of this project will meet the needs identified at this time and will be paid for within this new rate structure.

Bill Vecchione, 503 Brick Church Pike, inquired if the \$12,500,000 estimate was determined on a detail basis or abstract basis. City Engineer Tompkins responded that it was not on a detail basis but certainly not totally on an abstract basis. The engineering drawings are not completed at this point. Mr. Vecchione asked what percentage of contingencies were allotted on the total cost estimate. City Engineer Thomas responded that the percentage is 15 to 20%. Commissioner Garrett added that if the cost exceeds the contingencies, the very sound sewer fund can absorb some of the costs.

Baxter Rollins, 143 Hardaway Drive, stated he is very concerned about all the recent increases. His Davidson County property tax is going up \$200 and with the City's increased property taxes, the \$15 monthly trash pickup fee and now a \$22 a month increase in the sewer rates, it is almost half the amount he pays for his county property taxes. He appreciates the Police and Fire service but after over twenty years, he is considering moving to another county. He added that he speaks for a large number of citizens who are probably not aware of this increase. He recommended spreading the increase over a five to eight year phase in. The City could cut back on other things such as the Fort and Visitors Center instead of passing so much on to the citizens. Vice Mayor Manning responded that the sewer funds are completely separate from the general fund and any other operation in the City as mandated by federal law. Cutting services in another area cannot fund anything in the sewer fund. Commissioner Garrett added that the City could donate our sewer system to Metro but they would have to charge our customers for the treatment and the rehabilitation also. Mayor Finch thanked Mr. Rollins for his valid concerns and assured him that this Commission is very sensitive to its citizens. No Commissioner gets any compensation from the City. He stated that the City provides the vast majority of services, not Metro, with much less revenue. Commissioner Coombs reminded everyone that municipalities and county governments everywhere are facing revenue dilemmas, laying off employees and cutting services. The City's department heads and management level personnel have had the foresight to look down the pike at this issue. Because of them, our City is "shovel ready" to take advantage of the stimulus funding that most cities are not prepared for.

Denver Schimming, 943 Old Dickerson Road, inquired on the status of the Metro contract negotiations. Mayor Finch responded that the negotiations have been going on for a number of years and are imminently close to a final contract.

Mayor Finch declared the public hearing closed. A motion was made by Commissioner Garrett to approve Ordinance No. 09-725 on second reading. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bloodworth. City Recorder Davis called the roll: Mayor Finch aye, Vice Mayor Manning aye, Commissioner Garrett aye, Commissioner Coombs aye, and Commissioner Bloodworth aye. Ordinance No. 09-775 was approved unanimously 5-0 on second reading.

Consider Ordinance No. 09-726 on second reading, an ordinance to amend the speed limit in Ivy Hill subdivision from 30 MPH to 22 MPH. A motion was made by Commissioner Bloodworth to approve Ordinance No. 09-726 on second reading. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Manning and passed unanimously 5-0.

Consider Resolution No. 09-397, a resolution to adopt mission and vision statements for Goodlettsville city government. Mayor Finch thanked the staff and Commissioners for their participation in the joint planning session. These statements are a product of that meeting and he encouraged everyone to commit themselves to make decisions that are consistent with these vision and mission statements. A motion was made by Commissioner Coombs to approve Resolution No. 09-397. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garrett and passed unanimously 5-0.

City Manager Thomas stated the City intends to fund the infrastructure projects that have been discussed via a loan through the State Revolving Loan Fund, administered through the Department of Environment and Conservation, in the amount of \$12,500,000 to build a wastewater equalization basin and rehabilitate existing sewer lines. Part of the application process is that this public meeting be held to provide information to the public about the City's intent to enter into this funding mechanism and the resulting impact on monthly water/sewer bills, and to answer questions that may arise based on the information that is given.

City Engineer Tompkins formerly opened the public meeting. He reiterated City Manager Thomas' statements and introduced Chris Provost, a managing partner with Camp, Dresser & McKee (CDM), the design engineering company for the 8.5 million gallon flow equalization tank project. Mr. Provost described this tank is designed to store excess flows during wet weather periods that are collected in the collection system and make their way down to the pump station. They have done extensive assessment of the City's system and looked at different alternatives, including rehabilitation of the system, increasing the pump station capacity, etc., and as a result of that analysis, the preferred option was to construct the 8.5 million gallon storage tank. It will be adjacent to the Mansker Creek Pump Station and tied into that structure with architectural treatment and landscaping so that it will look like one unit. Most of the concrete structure will be above ground with a domed top. There will be modifications to the pump station so that when it reaches capacity during wet weather, it will pump the excess flow to the storage basin and then when the rainy period is gone, then that flow will go back into the station and on to be treated. He stated they are working in haste and are on target to have the project ready to bid and meet the state's requirement to have the project awarded by June 17, 2009.

City Engineer Tompkins stated the construction schedule for the tank has not been definitively determined, but should be in the range of six to nine months. The next phase of the project is sewer system rehabilitation, being done by GRW Engineers. Some of the system's network of pipes in the ground are old and are leaking. When it rains, flows into those pipes exceeds the capacity of the system and results in overflows in the streams. The rehabilitation will repair these pipes, consisting of smoke testing 47,000 feet of pipe, TVing 37,000 feet of lines where a tv is inserted into the lines to look for problems so that they can be repaired, approximately 113 point of repairs or dig downs to the pipe, installing 45,000 feet of cured in place liner, repairing 350 sewer manholes. The timeframe for this work will be a two year project and the cost is estimated at \$4,000,000. The cost of the equalization tank is \$9,000,000 for a total project cost of \$13,000,000. Short term negative impacts will be noise of the equipment associated with the construction. Long term positive benefits will be to get water out of the system, saving money, and avoiding overflow and sewage is certainly beneficial to the environmental. There should be no interruption of service to customers, other than a rare individual home could be out of service for no more than three to four hours and would be notified prior to any disruption in service.

Buddy Petty, Barge Waggoner, stated they looked at three methods of financing for this project and determined that the State Revolving Loan Fund was the best for the City. They offer a rate of 80% of the prime rate on a 20 year loan and the possibility of getting funds from the stimulus fund. The

amount of the first loan is \$13,000,000 and at this time the rate is 3.21%, which could be different at closing. The total debt service is \$882,137 principal and interest. The requirement of the State Revolving Loan Fund is to approve a rate increase sufficient to cover the cost, which has been done this evening. There are many customers in the City that use the minimum quantity of 1,500 gallons and their total of the two phase increase is \$4.65. The first year increase will be a 35% increase and the second year will be an additional 31% increase, which compounds to the 77% increase. He reviewed the rates and the increase for each bracket of usage. The total increase is attributable almost 50/50 to cover the Metro treatment cost increase and the sewer rehabilitation and basin. The City's sewer users are approximately one-third residential, one-third commercial, and one-third industrial.

Nancy Murphy, 518 Elba Drive, asked for clarification on the \$22 increase per month. Mayor Finch clarified that this forum is only to discuss the loan, and then explained the two phases of the increase to her.

James Turner, 909 West Cynthia Trail, noted there was no mention of the phased in rate increase in the letter published in the newspaper. He stated that White House Utility District has had a water line in front of his house that has leaked for fifteen years before it was fixed.

There being no further questions or comments about the loan, Mayor Finch closed the public meeting.

Consider Resolution No. 09-395, a resolution to adopt the Goodlettsville Greenways and Open Space Master Plan of 2009. City Manager Thomas stated that at the April 9, 2009 meeting, Chris Camp, Lose & Associates, Inc. presented a report of the master plan. Implementing this plan will require the majority of funding to come from grants, which all require adoption of a plan. A motion was made by Commissioner Garrett to approve Resolution No. 09-395. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Manning. Commissioner Coombs inquired if a phase had been added to include the Pleasant Green park area. Parks Director Ellis said that the area was not brought up in any of the public input for the plan. He asked for that to be put in later as an amendment, as part of the restructuring of Two Mile Pike and Moss Trail with sidewalks going to that area. He is not ready at this time to make it inclusive to this plan because there has not been enough time and the approval of the plan before us needs to move forward. The motion was approved unanimously 5-0.

Consider Resolution No. 09-396, a resolution to seek support by the City's congressional delegation to include funding for implementation of Phases I, II, III and IV of the Goodlettsville Greenways and Open Space Master Plan of 2009 in the reauthorization of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA-LU). City Manager Thomas stated the City will have to rely on outside funding for a big part of the implementation of the Greenways and Open Space Master Plan. One of those possible sources of funding is reauthorization of federal legislation currently being considered. This resolution will provide the staff the vehicle to request of our congressional delegation that funding for Phases I through IV would be included in the reauthorization of the federal legislation where that funding would be available. A motion was made by Commissioner Bloodworth to approve Resolution No. 09-396. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coombs and passed unanimously 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.


 Claudia Davis, City Recorder


 John Finch, Mayor