



# ***COMMITTEE of the WHOLE***

## ***CITY COUNCIL***

**MINUTES**  
**August 12, 2013**  
**5:00 P.M.**

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

D. Sterner, D. Reed, R. Corcoran, F. Acosta, S. Marmarou

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

L. Kelleher, C. Younger, J. Miravich, C. Jones, R. Johnson, D. Cituk, V. Spencer

The Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order at 5:09 pm by Council President Acosta.

### **I. Intermunicipal Agreements (IMA)**

Mr. Miravich stated that the article in today's Reading Eagle properly explained the situation surrounding Cumru and Spring Townships' delay in approving the new IMAs for sewer service with the City. He stated that Muhlenberg and Laureldale represent approximately 70% of the outside customer base. The new IMAs contain a new rate system and restricts Reading from exceeding the annual \$3M transfer to the General Fund from the Sewer System. He explained that the Consent Decree places the original restriction on this transfer. When the Consent Decree is completed Reading is permitted to take the \$3M increased by an annual COLA.

Mr. Miravitch stated that the impasse with Cumru and Spring was caused by each committee's failure to retain the services of an independent engineer and solicitor to review the agreement and the committee's insistence to include indemnity from liability language.

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Miravich both questioned the timing of these issues as both committees were authorized by the Township Supervisors to successfully conclude negotiations with the City.

Mr. Miravich and Mr. Cituk noted that the DEP and EPA will not allow these municipalities to build their own plants, due to a moratorium approved in the 1980's to encourage regionalization of sewer services. Mr. Miravitch added that the plant upgrade in the 1980's

was required by the DER (predecessor to the DEP) when Muhlenberg applied to tap into the City sewer system.

## **II. United States Postal Service (USPS) Closure of Postal Facilities**

Rick Hancock, Real Estate Specialist for the USPS described the desire of the USPS to relocate the North 5<sup>th</sup> and Washington Street main facility and the North 5th Street and Heister's Lane carrier annex. He stated that he was sent here to obtain input and feedback on the proposed relocation of operations. He stated that the operations at the annex would move to the Yatron facility on North 13<sup>th</sup> Street and the USPS will seek a 3000 sq. ft. rental space to relocate the retail operations currently provided at the main facility. He noted that the current main facility has 56,000 sq ft., which is significantly larger than what is required. He stated that the main facility was built in the 1940's and is a historic structure. Eventually both facilities will be listed for sale with a national real estate firm.

Mr. Hancock explained the relocation/closure requirements and the public notice and input requirements. He stated that his presentation now and at the regular meeting mark the beginning of the process.

Mr. Acosta stressed the need for sound public education about these closures as many residents and businesses rely on the main facility in the downtown. He asked Ms. Kelleher to include an article in the upcoming newsletter about the proposed closure and Mr. Hancock's contact information.

## **III. Agenda Review**

### **Consent Agenda Legislation**

**A. Award of Contract** – for the City Hall Access Control System to Berkshire Systems Group, 50 South Museum Road, Reading, PA 19607 to for a total bid price of \$141,588. (Purchasing/Police) AGENDA PAGE 10

**B. Award of Contract** – for the sulfur dioxide to North Industrial Chemicals, Inc., 609 East King Street, York, PA 17405 who is the low bidder with total bid price of \$54,000. (Purchasing/Pub. Works) AGENDA PAGE 12

**C. Award of Contract** - for the Sodium Hypochlorite - bulk to North Industrial Chemicals, Inc., 609 East King Street, York, PA 17405 who is the low bidder with total bid price of \$27,300. (Purchasing/Pub. Works) AGENDA PAGE 14

**D. Award of Contract** – for the sodium hypochlorite in totes to North Industrial Chemicals, Inc., 609 East King Street, York, PA 17405 who is the low bidder with total bid price of \$27,300. (Purchasing/Pub. Works) AGENDA PAGE 17

**E. Award of Contract** – for the Liquid Chlorine to Univar USA, Inc., 532 East Emmaus Street, Middletown, PA 17057 who is not the low bidder with total bid price of \$117,095. Univar was not the lowest bidder; however, Univar was selected due to prior problems with the lowest bidder that clogged regulators, poor tank quality and could cause potential permit

violations. (Purchasing/Pub. Works) AGENDA PAGE 20

**F. Award of Contract** – for the sodium hydroxide to Univar USA, Inc., 532 East Emmaus Street, Middletown, PA 17057 who is the low bidder with total bid price of \$25,200. (Purchasing/Pub. Works) AGENDA PAGE 22

**G. Award of Contract** – for the free flowing potassium permanganate to Univar USA, Inc., 532 East Emmaus Street, Middletown, PA 17057 who is not the low bidder with total bid price of \$136,440. Univar was not the lowest bidder; however, Univar was selected due to prior problems with the lowest bidder that clogged regulators, poor tank quality and could cause potential permit violations. (Purchasing/Pub. Works) AGENDA PAGE 25

**H. Award of Contract** – for the oxychlorine compound in totes (sodium chlorite based liquid shipped in 250-gallon totes) to Water Engineering Services, Inc. (Purchasing/Pub. Works) AGENDA PAGE 29

There were no questions.

### **ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE**

**A. Bill No. 34-2013** - amending Chapter 11, Housing, of the Codified Ordinances to include electronic filing, collections and collection costs (PMD/Law) *Advertised July 29, 2013* AGENDA PAGE 35

**B. Bill No. 38-2013** - amending Chapter 13, Licenses, Permits and General Business Regulations, §13-116, of the Codified Ordinances to include collections which allows delinquent accounts of ninety (90) days or more to be given to a collections agency and subject to collection costs and renumbering the remaining sections as necessary as attached in Exhibit A. (Police) *Advertised Aug 19, 2013* AGENDA PAGE 57

There were no questions.

### **INTRODUCTION OF NEW ORDINANCES**

**A. Ordinance** – amending the 2013 Position Ordinance by eliminating two Equipment Operator II positions in the Streets Division of the Department of Public Works and creating two Equipment Operator II positions in the Solid Waste and Recycling Division of the Department of Public Works. (Bus Analyst) AGENDA PAGE 88

In response to a question Mr. Spencer stated that this ordinance will shift two employees being paid through Recycling/Solid Waste under Solid Waste. No positions are being eliminated.

**B. Ordinance** – authorizing the execution of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between the City and the Reading School District for the recycling collection service as well as any and all other required documents to facilitate and effectuate said recycling collection service. (Law) AGENDA PAGE 90

There were no questions.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**A. Resolution** - appointing Ricky Denunzio to the Stadium Commission (Nom & Appts)  
AGENDA PAGE 92

**B. Resolution** – appointing Callie White to the Environmental Advisory Council (Nom & Appts) AGENDA PAGE 93

**C. Resolution** – appointing Toni Albert to the Library Board (Nom & Appts) AGENDA PAGE 94

Mr. Acosta stated that he will need to abstain from the vote on Ms. Albert’s appointment as she is his supervisor at his place of employment.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:00 pm.

*Respectfully Submitted by  
Linda A. Kelleher, CMC, City Clerk*