

City of Selah  
Study Session  
May 12, 2009

Mayor Jones called on Ted Pooler, Vice President Huibregtse, Louman Associates, Inc. The Mayor said he had looked at the graffiti on reservoir, and asked how the painters get inside the barbed wire.

Ted Pooler said he would address engineering service tasks. He said Jeff Louman was not able to be here because his mother has some health issues and the doctor's appointment came up at the same time as the City Council Meeting. He handed out the May 11, 2009 weekly project task list, noting the first task, the Comprehensive Sanitary Sewer Plan was finished last year.

He said the next project on the list, the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project, is also complete, but they are still trying to get the project documentation paperwork closed out. He said the two items that remain are the Operations Manual for the electrical system and the electrical record drawings. He said there are no issues related to work yet to do, so they will hopefully have those by end of the month.

He said the third item, the Public Works Shop Study, ties in with project 08111. He said they are talking with Tree Top to negotiate a property exchange relative to the WSDOT Wenas right-of-way. He said once the site is finalized, they will begin more serious work on site preparation.

He noted the next project number is the Stormwater Management Program. They're working through 2 grants now, one, a \$75,000 grant that expires the end of August, and the other a \$50,000 grant that expires the end of June. He said things are moving forward with both of those, noting the discharge protection elimination Ordinance needs to be adopted in July. He stated that ordinance will say that you are not supposed to dump things down the storm drain that are not supposed to be there and that you are not supposed to have any pipelines connected to storm drains that are not supposed to be there. He said that ordinance will give the City a little more regulatory authority and is required by the state as part of the stormwater permit. He said it is required under state permit that the ordinances must be adopted by August 16. He said the other Ordinance he is working on is relative to run-off from construction sites, and applies to sites smaller than 1 acre. He said that will give the City authority on parcels not covered by state law, and we need to incorporate that authority into Selah Municipal Code, noting that HLA will be coming back to the City to discuss the pro's and con's of acting on that more restrictive ordinance.

He said they usually test storm systems during the dry season, but that's a little tricky here because Selah's system carries water throughout the year. However, they have been testing in recent weeks to determine if there are areas collecting water that are not supposed to be collecting water. During that testing they did not find anything out of order in the system. He said in the next month or so they will be taking samples and testing for coliform material in stormwater system. The Underground Injection Control (UIC) program requires the City to register all of its drywells by 2010, and they are using

grant money to investigate those system. He said Council Members may have seen storm drains with stencils around them, noting lots of the ones that are marked are not connected to pipes. They have documented those, measured the depth of dry wells, recorded locations during an investigation that took about 4 weeks because they must report that to the state.

He said that Item 5 deals with the Water System Improvement Project, noting drilling and casing of the new Well 8 in Wixson Park will upgrade the existing well and bring well capacity up to water right allocation level and eliminate the sand. He said bids were opened on that a while ago, but the contractor chose to put off that work until September. He noted the electrical design work cannot be done until they know what the well will produce and what horsepower requirements there will be.

He reported the Well 6 pump house construction and Zone 3 pump station improvements are nearly complete. He said the electrical is completed with exception of the Transfer switch, which will allow that pump station to run on emergency power. That switch will arrive this month, and that installation will make the whole thing functional. He said the Speyers pipeline will be installed by the end of this week and then pavement repair will begin. He said this pavement repair will be only temporary, because when they do the actual road project, they will tear it up and install sidewalks and curb before the final paving. He predicted the City will get complaints because it will not look new for a while, but, the City will save about \$18,000 by doing it this way.

He reported the Zirkle Fruit/East Goodlander Road improvements, which are not really a City project, will start in next week or two. He said Zirkle want to provide a parking lot for its employees that will tie in with East Goodlander. The contractor, Granite Northwest, will extend East Goodlander east to the City limits. They will then grind out existing pavement to North Wenas and overlay it.

Councilman Jorgensen asked if Zirkle volunteered to do that on their own.

Mr. Pooler said that was a requirement of the Boundary Review Board for them to access off a City street.

He went on to report that they're working on close-out of the CMAQ Alley Improvement Project.

He noted the Zone 5 - 6 booster pump stations to Valhalla Heights have not had much activity. He said Dainard Paulson's project has been delayed so that work will not be done on the connection from Zone 5 to the booster station for a while, and they no longer need the Goodlander Heights booster pump station. He said that may come before Council again.

He reported that he's putting together Tree Top/Wenas right-of-way and legal descriptions for discussion of a property swap. He said there is a question about how much of that property is useable because of wetlands, and they'll need to look at water, plants and soil to establish amount of useable property and then delineate boundaries of wetland to establish setbacks for the Public Works Shop.

City Supervisor Frank Sweet said there will also be an appraisal of that property after wetlands determination, and that will be simultaneous with appraisals of Crusher Canyon property.

Ted Pooler said there's not much work going on now with the Marudo property. He noted Garner's are looking at further building on their North Wenas property.

He said in General Wastewater Services phthalate (a chemical that comes in plastic) survey will move ahead into an industrial user survey where they'll ask industry if they are using products that have phthalates in them.

He said Speyers Road is moving forward at a furious rate, noting there will be an open house May 27 at Fire Station 1. He said they are cleaning up the Operations Manual for the pool, working to put all information together in an easily accessible form. He said the more straightforward we can make that, the easier it will be for summer help to maintain our pool.

Mayor Jones pointed out that Jeff Glaspie's job at TreeTop was to handle filtration.

Mr. Pooler said the pool's filtration system is straightforward, but there are a few mechanical issues we need to work out dealing primarily with the way the filters are held in place. He said they now sit in friction fit down into the manifold, and as the pump runs, the filters wiggle, so the friction fit at the bottom gets warped, and they pop off. He stressed the need to improve the system that holds the filters in place. He noted some valves must be replaced. He concluded by saying, "If it's hard to maintain, it doesn't get maintained."

Mayor Jones asked how much capacity Well 8 has.

Public Works Director Joe Henne responded it is about 1200 gallons per minute, and we're doing about 730.

Mr. Pooler said the water right is for a specific aquifer, noting you can punch another hole into that aquifer with that same right. He said that while there are no guarantees, the bigger hole has a filter pack that prevents the sand from entering the pump. He noted there will be some sand when they start, but they will handle it, and the sand problem should be eliminated.

Mayor Jones stated that Well 8 was built in 1944.

Joe Henne said the old well will remain there; it will just not be used.

Ted Pooler noted all electrical gear in both the old and the new wells will be upgraded to meet Codes.

Councilman Dave Smeback asked how many wells have backup power.

Mayor Jones responded just Well 7 by Carlon Park.

Joe Henne said Well 5 down at the shop has a transfer switch, Well 8 will have a transfer switch, and Well 6 will use Hospital Hill booster station as backup.

Councilman Dave Smeback asked if Wells 6 and 8 will be cooler than 7.

Joe Henne said no, Well 7 is so deep because it's a new water right for a different aquifer.

Mayor Jones thanked Ted Pooler for bringing the Council up to date on engineering projects in the City.

The Study Session concluded at 3:43pm.