

The Middlesex Governing Body met in Special Session in the Conference Room of the Town Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a request from Free Will Baptist Children's Home to extend the town's water line to service the home and apply for a grant to cover the cost. Also on the agenda is approval of the audit contract with Anthony & Tabb, PA for covering fiscal year 2010-2011.

Mayor Luther H. Lewis, Jr., called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Members present were Commissioners J.W. McClenny, Luke Robinson, Dale Bachmann, Harold Meacombs, and Fred Hough. Guests were James W. Cahoon, Free Will Baptist Children's Home Board Chair, Don Batchelor, FWB Children's Home, Leo Green with Green Engineering, and Mike Myers with Envirolink.

Mayor Lewis informed the Board of Commissioners that the Free Will Baptist (FWB) Children's Home approached the town a couple of weeks ago requesting to tie into the town's water line, adding that they want to get completely out of managing a water system. Don Batchelor, the water system operator, will be retiring soon. Leo Green, with Green Engineering, has been working the FWB Children's Home staff regarding this project and believes the project will qualify for a non-viable system with a 100% principal forgiveness grant/loan for the entire cost of the project.

Mr. Green presented a map of the proposed extension and a cost estimate totaling \$351,200. The plan proposes an 8 inch water line to connect at Rockside Road, running down the right of way on the right side of Buck Deans Road (sewer lines are on the left inside the city limits) for a distance of approximately 9,000 feet. The plan includes 7 fire hydrants, 4 in town and 3 out of town, with 4 meters serving 5 dorms, with a capacity level of 45, and 70 including staff.

Mayor Lewis proposed a 6 inch line instead of 8, because the town's line at Rockside Road and Buck Deans intersection is a 6 inch line, and 6 inch would be better from a flushing standpoint. Mr. Green said he incorporated the 8 inch line to accommodate future growth in the area.

Mike Myers with Envirolink, contracted by the town to operate the town's water system, has reviewed the FWB Children's Home past violations records and found they have had few violations, mostly reporting and monitoring violations, with some detections of lead and copper. He added that he would look at the plumbing and service lines if corrosion shows up, and we could move an existing testing site.

Mr. Green asked for the town's current water rates. Mayor Lewis advised that there was a flat accessibility fee of \$8.00 per month, plus \$8.00 per 1,000 gallons out of town rate. He added that the rate may not apply because the town

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will have to review the matter and look at the costs involved for the entire project and determine the rate. He added that it would require a lot of flushing the lines, depending on the chlorine levels, and additional testing costs involved.

Mr. Green indicated that no acreage and impact fees are included in his cost proposal, so he will need to add these for approximately 15 acres and also meter taps for the number of meters decided upon. He added the proposal includes sod for all yards disturbed by the project. Mayor Lewis asked that all fire hydrants be like the town's existing hydrants and that a major concern was that all yards be returned to the original condition. Mr. Green assured that would be the case.

There were discussions of any advantages of the line crossing over at Lodge Road to the left side of the road, and also regarding leaving the existing customers on the existing 2 inch line, and not tie in on the new line. Mayor Lewis said he felt it would be better to leave these customers on the existing line, so if for some reason the water had to be shut off at the home, these customers would not be shut off also. Location of some of the hydrants and all these options will be finalized, details agreed upon, and Mr. Green will submit a final plan.

Mayor Lewis and Mr. Green advised the funding agency wanted a public body to be the grant applicant and that the town would not have to front any money. A separate fund would be set up in the general ledger for the project, and all grant reimbursement requests processed and all invoices paid by the town finance office. Invoices would be submitted for reimbursement to the funding agency, and the invoices paid after the funds are received.

Commissioner Bachmann questioned one lead violation, which seemed high. Mike Myers advised he would check into the matter and that there were ways to address the problem of corrosion in the lines at the home. He also asked what would happen if the home closed. Mr. James Cahoon, Board Chair at FWB Children's Home, assured the Board everyone intended to continue to serve children in some type of service. He added that the home has been in existence for over 100 years, and they are always looking at meeting new needs. The type of service has changed over the years to care for children with more severe needs and a higher level of therapy, Mr. Cahoon noted.

Commissioner Hough asked what would be the total extra monthly expense to the town. Mayor Lewis advised there will be additional testing and flushing costs. Hough added that the project would not be a profitable one, so we need to look at all the extra costs to see if we need to adjust the rate. Commissioner Bachmann advised we couldn't service the home at the current rate. Mike Myers advised that Envirolink wouldn't charge any additional over what they are already contracted to do for the town.

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Commissioner Bachmann noted that the town may want to put in a meter just for flushing. Mayor Lewis asked Mike Myers if the town could have a master meter and set 4 other meters at the home. He replied that we could assume ownership of the system and bill from the master meter. The home would be responsible for plumbing from the 4 meters to the individual dorms/buildings.

Mr. Green advised the deadline for the grant application is September 30, 2011, but awards will not be announced until April of 2012. A total of seven million dollars is available for principal forgiveness. He advised that \$10,000 was already included in his plan for the town's administration. Mayor Lewis said that after the water acreage and impact fees were included, the grant/loan would be more in the neighborhood of \$400,000 and Mr. Green agreed.

Mr. Green assured that he and Mike Meyers would sit down, discuss options, and work out the details, giving the town 100% input, and that everything would comply with all town regulations.

Commissioner McClenny stated that he did not foresee the home closing and he is willing to do what we can to support the home, even if we just break even.

After discussion and questions about the existing well at the home, Mike Myers added that the state would require the town to disconnect the well from the town's water system, but that the home could still use it for washing cars, swimming pools, or irrigation, but not for human consumption. Mr. Green assured the Board that backflow prevention devices would be on every tap.

Mr. Green requested the Board to adopt a Resolution approving the project at the next town meeting. The Board was in agreement to support the project and agreed this matter will be placed on the September 12, 2011 meeting agenda.

Mr. Cahoon addressed the Board stating he appreciated Commissioner McClenny's sentiment and appreciated the town's support over the years. He invited the Board members to visit the home, and the new Heritage Hall, which has a nice meeting room with audio visual capabilities. He invited the town to use the facility in the future, if needed.

The other item of business on the agenda is to approve the audit contract with Anthony and Tabb, P.A. for fiscal year 2010-2011. Clerk Lambert added the total contract for CPA and audit services totals \$9,700, which is \$1,150 less than last year. Commissioner McClenny moved to approve the contract. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and carried unanimously.

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With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Hough moved to adjourn.

Jennifer Lambert
Town Clerk

Mayor Lu Harvey Lewis, Jr.
Commissioners
Harold Meacombs
Fred Hough
Luke Robinson
Dale Bachmann
J.W. McClenny