



ORLAND PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 12, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chairperson James Paschall at 4:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Director of Public Works Zach Barber.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners present:

Commissioners Monica Rossman, Byron Denton, Vice
Chairperson David Kelly, and Chairperson James Paschall
Commissioner Emil Cavagnolo

Commissioner absent:

Staff present:

Administrative Technician/Commission Secretary Meagan
Mondragon; Public Works Director Ed Vonasek; Public
Works Lead Mechanic Roy Stewart.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

PUBLIC WORKS

A. Lift Station Standardization

Director Barber addressed the Commission regarding the standardization of the pumps at the Airport, Railroad, Heartland, Butte, and Whitehawk lift stations. He highlighted that three of these stations are currently struggling with significant debris issues, which hinder their operations. To mitigate this, he proposed the installation of chopper-style pumps, designed to effectively break down debris and ensure smooth functionality. Director Barber also mentioned that the City received two bids for this project: one from J&J Pump and the other from Simonds Machinery Company.

Commissioner Denton inquired if Mr. Stewart could clarify the distinctions between the two bids. Mr. Stewart explained that J&J Pump, based in Redding, CA, is just an hour away, allowing for quicker response times, especially in emergencies. Additionally, J&J Pump offers flexibility in scheduling, providing service on weekends, holidays, and overtime as needed, and their bid was the lesser amount.

Mr. Stewart further elaborated that Simonds Machinery Company, located in San Francisco, indicated that standardizing each lift station would take 2-3 days, with emergency repairs potentially extending to 2-4 days due to their limited hours of operation (Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM).

Commissioner Denton emphasized the urgency of standardizing the lift stations and its critical importance. Commissioner Denton sought clarification on the differences between the types of pumps available. Mr. Stewart detailed that there are regular pumps, semi-chopper pumps, and chopper pumps, noting that the current semi-chopper pumps are inadequate for effectively managing the debris.

ACTION: Commissioner Denton moved, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to recommend that the City Council proceed with upgrading and standardizing the lift stations at this time, selecting J&J Pump as the contractor. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0. Ayes: Denton, Kelly, Rossman, Paschall; Noes: None; Absent: Cavagnolo.

B. Wastewater Treatment Plant Dredging Project

Director Barber informed the Commission about the current status of the Wastewater Treatment Plant, specifically noting that Pond 1 is not operating efficiently due to a significant buildup of sludge that requires immediate attention. Director Barber explained that Specialized Utility Services Program Inc. (SUSPINC) is an engineering firm tasked with assessing the project's needs, developing a comprehensive plan, and applying for the grant funding needed for the City of Orland. Director Barber highlighted the recent success of SUSPINC in Hamilton City on a similar project.

The Commission acknowledged the urgency of initiating the dredging process at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and unanimously agreed that engaging SUSPINC would be the most effective way to commence Phase 1 of the project.

ACTION: Commissioner Denton moved, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to recommend that the City Council proceed with Phase 1 of the proposed WWTP project as proposed, engaging SUSPINC engineering for planning and grant funding application. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0. Ayes: Denton, Kelly, Rossman, Paschall; Noes: None; Absent: Cavagnolo.

C. Capital Expense-Equipment Replacement: Vac-Con

Director Barber informed the Commission that the Public Works Department currently operates two Vac-Con trucks, from 2008 and 2015, which are utilized across various departments, including parks, streets, water, and sewer. The 2008 model has significantly exceeded its expected lifespan and has become a costly maintenance burden. In contrast, the 2015 Vac-Con is primarily deployed for sewer and lift station tasks, effectively handling larger volumes of water and sewage.

Vice Chairperson Kelly inquired about the age of the Vac-Con that needs replacement and its typical usage. Director Barber confirmed that it is indeed the 2008 model, commonly used for addressing plugged drains.

Mr. Stewart noted that the City of Orland has partnered with Sourcewell, allowing for substantial savings through a cooperative purchasing program that incurs no costs to the City. He explained that the quote from Municipal Maintenance Equipment reflects these discounts.

Vice Chairperson Kelly asked if this was the only bid received. Mr. Stewart confirmed that there are only two companies in California offering both jetting and suction trucks. Mr. Stewart added that the Public Works Department is well-equipped to service Vac-Con trucks, ensuring efficient repairs if the city remains with this brand.

Chairperson Paschall inquired about the funding sources for the Vac-Con purchase. Director Barber indicated that the allocation would be 30% from the Sewer Fund and 70% from the Water/Storm Drainage Fund.

After a thorough discussion, the Commission unanimously agreed on the necessity of replacing the Vac-Con.

ACTION: Commissioner Denton moved, seconded by Vice Chairperson Kelly, to recommend that the City Council proceed with the purchase of one Vac-Con Machine as proposed. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0. Ayes: Denton, Kelly, Rossman, Paschall; Noes: None; Absent: Cavagnolo.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS (Not Aгенzided)

Commissioner Rossman:

- 4-way Stop being added to County RD M & County RD 24.

Commissioner Denton:

- Nothing to report.

Vice Chairperson Kelly

- Wanted to thank Public Works for the removal of speed bumps on 8th street and adding stop signs on Tehama Street

Chairperson Paschall

- Nothing to report.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:50 PM

Meagan Mondragon, Secretary

Jim Paschall, Chairperson