

City of Lafayette
City Council Special Meeting
Meeting Minutes
June 21, 2002
6:30 PM

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lotis Hanks at 6:30 p.m.
- 2. FLAG SALUTE:** Mayor Lotis Hanks led the flag salute.
- 3. ROLL CALL:** Richard Van Orman, City Administrator, called the roll.
Present: Mayor Lotis Hanks, Ron Ross, Joe Giesbers, Bob Cullen, and Gary Filpi.
Absent: *Marianne Mitchell, Richard Jewell.*
City Staff Present: Richard Van Orman-Interim City Administrator, Boots Ward- Sewer Treatment Plant Operator, John Wright- Assistant Sewer Treatment Plant Operator.
Others Present: Holly Ploetz, Tony Bell, Mike Hanks.
- 4. DISCUSSION OF SEWER PLANT ALTERNATIVES:**
Marianne Mitchell arrived at 6:35 p.m.
Richard Jewell arrived at 6:40 p.m.

Holly Ploetz said that she has been involved in the sewer industry for about 25 years, and for the last years 18, she has worked for Linn-Benton Community College as a faculty member in the wastewater program. She is working through a grant with the EPA. She offered to conduct a class for the Council on the wastewater process, so the Council may understand it better through the decision making process that they are going through right now. Holly Ploetz said that the current plant was designed to last for 20 years, and it is approaching 30 years now. There have been a lot of issues with the plant over the years. Holly Ploetz said that this plant is tired, and she has structural concerns. Discussion ensued.

Holly Ploetz said that it would be a good idea to have an I&I (Inflow and Infiltration) test done again. Boots Ward said that the City is setting up a TV of the lines to see exactly where the extra flow is coming from. Discussion ensued. There was discussion about adding a third blower. Boots Ward said that there is a spot in the plant for it, but it is a very involved and expensive process. Bob Cullen asked staff to look into the cost of adding a third blower. Staff will look into this. Boots Ward said that the plant also has a problem with the underground lines that run from the boiler room to the plant. All of those lines will need to be replaced, because there is a persistent leak.

Bob Cullen asked what condition the waste would be in when it is pumped on the fields. Holly Ploetz said that it would be treated wastewater that has to meet very strict standards. Bob Cullen asked if the only advantage to pumping to the fields would be that during the summer, the City wouldn't be pumping into the river. Holly Ploetz said that there are some hydraulic issues- the levels should be kept down (in summer) because it is going to start raining (winter). You also don't have to treat for phosphorus. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Lotis Hanks said that the problem of air leaking through the pipes needs to be addressed if the diffusers are going to do any good. Ron Ross said that he would like to see a list of the things that need to be replaced at the sewer plant.

Richard Van Orman said that he understands that the Council would like to consider three things as an alternative to the Montgomery Watson proposal. 1- Complete rebuilding of the existing treatment plant, 2- land apply the effluent in the summer, 3- significant program of I&I reduction, and possibly another digester. If these things were to be done, the question is whether this plan provides the capacity required for 5,400 people twenty years from now. If it does not provide that capacity 20 years from now, it is not just DEQ, it is the people here now that are paying a 20 year bond on those improvements. Discussion ensued.

- 5. ADJOURN:**
The meeting was adjourned around 8:50 PM.

Minutes approved on this 27th day of June, 2002.

APPROVED:

ATTESTED:

Mayor Lotis Hanks

Richard Van Orman, Interim City Administrator