



Special Meeting Minutes
Thursday December 17, 2015
6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: All present

Special Meeting Business: A special meeting has been called for purpose of declaring special market conditions and an emergency and relying on RCW 39.04.280 (1) (b) and (c) to purchase a design built telemetry system.

Mayor Stevens convened this special meeting that had been properly noticed at 6:00 P.M. The Mayor noted that a special meeting is limited to the items that were publicly noticed and thus we could not take action on other items at this time. He said this meeting was called to address issues associated with the City's telemetry system which has apparently failed as a result of impacts to it from the recent windstorm. The Mayor also noted that a resolution had been constructed for the Council's consideration.

Mayor Stevens turned to Steven Hasson for the specifics of this action.

Steve explained that the City's water system communicates by way of a telemetry system and the windstorm apparently knocked it out. The City staff had two engineering firms look at the system to determine if it was reparable. The engineers concluded the cost to repair the existing system was a greater expense that installing a modern system [wireless technology] that did not rely upon buried cables that could be damaged again. Meantime, the inability of the well house to communicate with the City's two reservoirs poses a City liability because there is no assurance that the reservoirs will have sufficient levels of water to provide a consistent water pressure our citizens require for basic necessity or public safety dictates.

To compensate for this lack of communication the public works crew is manually adjusting the amount of water fed to the reservoirs and they need to do this around the clock. Thus, there is a need to fix this system as soon as possible but the cost of a new system is more than \$20,000. Washington State requires a City that needs to purchase equipment or services in this cost range to go through a formal bidding procedure that would take upwards of a month to conclude. In addition, the engineers have determined a short term remedy to make the system operable will take approximately 3 weeks to complete and a permanent solution will require design and construction processes requiring another couple months.

The Washington Statues allow a City to dispense with its bidding procedures in the event of a declared emergency under certain circumstances. Ken Woodrich, the City's attorney, in consultation with Ron Bush, the City's engineer, have concluded that the danger in delaying the installation of a new telemetry system is of greater consideration than forgoing the normal purchasing requirements.

Hence, Ken has constructed an emergency declaration that would suspend the purchasing rules as a means to facilitate the installation of a new system and provided Council is of a like mind.

Ron has evaluated the cost and ability of each of these engineering firms to provide for this communication service and is recommending that the City accept Portland Engineering's cost estimate of \$23,700. Steve noted that the telemetry system shows up on our insurance schedule as claim eligible item with a \$5,000 deductible.

The Council discussed the proposal and by way of consensus determined installation of a new system would be beneficial to the City.

Councilor Hamilton made a motion to approve Resolution 487 with an understanding that Portland Engineering costs would not exceed \$23,700 and seconded by Councilor Baker

Yes Councilors Bianchi, Flanagan, Baker, Hamilton and Flanagan

No

Abstain

Passed 5-0-0

Adjournment

Councilor Forster made a motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilor Baker

Yes Councilors Bianchi, Baker, Hamilton, Forster and Flanagan

No

Abstain

Approved 5-0-0

Meeting was adjourned approximately 6:17 PM

Mayor

City Clerk

