

Troy City Work Meeting
Council Chambers
July 12, 2012
6:45 pm

The meeting came to order at 6:45 pm. Present: Mayor Anthony Brown; Council: Phil Fisher; Joe Arts, Crystal Denton, Fran McCully and City Clerk Tracy Rebo.

GUESTS: Susan Monahan – Kootenai Valley Record, Ryan Murray – Western News, and Gary Rose

IBEW – Union Contract FY 12/13: Mayor Brown stated the City is committed to the union contract until the summer of 2013, except for the wage re-opener for fiscal year 12/13. Question regarding the decision on the contract was raised. Rebo advised that she had sent out the letter that Mayor Brown drafted, stating there will be no wage increases, and the City is now waiting for a response back from the Union. Mayor Brown advised that he would like to expand the training of the public works crew to be able to pick up some of the chores. There may be an opportunity for them to learn to do the inspections. Brown advised the power manager Clint Taylor had taken him on a tour of the Northern Lights Dam, everything was well logged; he added he was impressed with the operation. Brown added that the City could use the public works crew for the inspections and not be so dependent on the power department. Brown stated that the IBEW contract talks about, *advancement to the lineman classification is contingent upon passing the journeyman lineman's examination*. Brown continued; I don't know that there is anything in our files that indicates that this crew has passed any testing certification outside of on the job training. Basically the City has four guys that have the same status. McCully agrees. On the same subject, the perspective lineman that we have working for the City can be filled in on what needs to be done to for the water and sewer rounds on Saturdays and Sundays. Fisher brought up that if two of the power crew is not Journeymen Linemen, then they shouldn't be getting paid off this contract. McCully stated; Northern Lights had never asked for certification during this whole process. Fisher stated; wording from the IBEW contract regarding an apprentice, which everything is for a Journeyman Lineman. Rebo advised that the City doesn't have apprentices. Fisher answered; well that's how they had to work up to what they are right now. Rebo advised there was only one that went through that program. Joe Arts suggested meeting with the workers to get their input, they may have reasons for doing things that aren't apparent. Brown agreed. Fisher stated; it's a good idea, but then again, they are a worker that was hired by the City of Troy, even though it is a government, it is still a job and the City is their boss. Crystal Denton stated; cross training isn't a bad thing. Brown stated that the other thing in the contract that he would like to see changed is the insurance. He stated that he has no problem with the insurance program, but if there is another change to renegotiate their share, he would like them to pay more, I'm not saying hike it to 50%, but it is pretty sweet. Mayor Brown asked if there was any further discussion.

NORTHERN LIGHTS CONTRACT: Mayor Brown read the contract aloud. Crystal Denton asked if the wages include what the City pays for benefits. Rebo answered; yes. Phil Fisher stated; the issue I see is, the only place I see a lineman, is in the wages. It says *employees and City of Troy*. McCully reiterated by stating; I picked up the same thing under *City of Troy Status and Duty*, where it says: *A) The City of Troy represents that it is qualified and able to carry out and complete the work*. She continued; it doesn't state anything specific about a special person. Fisher addressed the Mayor and stated; this is where you want to get everybody trained. Nowhere in this contract does it state a

job title, as long as we have a workman there. So if we get the Public Works crew trained to do the checks, it looks legal to me. Mayor Brown agreed and added; all they do on the maintenance checks is fill in the blanks on the form. They have a list of times that they check the pressures. Then they throw the papers in a bin for Northern Lights to pick up once a month. Fisher reiterated; it doesn't state that it has to be lineman up there. McCully asked if there was anything specific in a lineman's training that would make a difference. Fisher answered; no. Discussion followed on lineman certification. Brown advised that he would like to increase the equipment rates. He suggested sitting down with Taylor to refigure.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL – CTEP Contract: Mayor Brown advised that he spoke with the Safe Routes to School representative and it is not too late to re-route it. He mentioned the grant includes funds for education and training and suggested having some children train for crossing guards. He also discussed other ideas. Discussion followed regarding streets. Brown advised that he wants to be sure that the local contractors are aware of the project when it comes time to bid. It was advised that the contract will be on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled council meeting for council approval.

FY 12/13 BUDGET MEETING – Preliminary Hearing Final Budget Approval- Rebo asked the Council for ideas on meeting dates. She advised that it has to be passed by the first Thursday in September or 30 days after receiving the Taxable Valuations. Discussion on dates followed. They set the first meeting regarding expenditures, on July 26th, 2012. The second meeting will be August 8th, regarding revenues. The budget meeting regarding wages will be on the 16th of August.

FY 11/12 BUDGET AMENDMENT: Rebo advised that this will be on the agenda at the regular Council Meeting. She submitted paperwork to the Council for their review. Appropriations will be needed in 911 Jurisdiction Fund and the Health Insurance Fund. Discussion followed.

FY 11/12 BUDGET TRANSFER: Rebo advised that this too will be on the agenda at the regular council meeting for their approval. She let them know that the transfers are a way to clean up the budget. She advised that there were no changes to the bottom lines.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Phil Fisher let Council know that he contacted Kristin Weaver regarding the costs of the lagoon permits. She wanted him to send her a letter and he did. He read aloud the responding letter. He explained that this program is going to try to include 25 cities and towns in Montana. It should cut the permit renewal cost in half, but the testing will stay the same. Discussion followed regarding metered water and water pumped. Rebo requested Fisher to forward the email to the City Hall office.

ADJOURN: Phil Fisher made a Motion to adjourn and Fran McCully seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Anthony E. Brown, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tracy Rebo City Clerk/Treasurer