

A Work Session of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Waxahachie, Texas was held in the Council Conference Room at City Hall, 401 S. Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas, on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: David Hill, Mayor, Council Member Place 1  
Mary Lou Shipley, Mayor Pro Tem  
Chuck Beatty, Council Member  
Melissa Olson, Council Member Place 3  
Doug Barnes, Council Member Place 2

Others Present: Michael Scott, City Manager  
Albert Lawrence, Assistant City Manager  
Tommy Ludwig, Assistant City Manager  
Amber Villarreal, City Secretary

## **1. Call to Order**

Mayor David Hill called the meeting to order.

## **2. Discuss Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Project**

Assistant City Manager Tommy Ludwig introduced Ira Nicodemus with Performance Services.

Mr. Nicodemus reviewed Performance Services noting it is a vendor neutral company guaranteeing savings contracts and design-build public sector projects. He explained the following items:

- Savings Sources
  - Reduced Non-Revenue Water
  - Operational Savings
- Scope of Work
  - Water Meters (AMI)
- Financing
  - Certificates of Obligation

Mr. Nicodemus explained Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) is a network communication system that allows water meters to gather granular usage data and transmit it to the City and customers in near-real time via a cellular or radio-based network, depending on the manufacturer. He noted cities generally choose to upgrade to solid state, electronic meters while implementing their AMI network. Mr. Nicodemus reviewed the following benefits of AMI: near-real time usage information, graphical city and citizen software, tamper and leak alerts, scalable as city grows, near elimination of manual meter reads, and accurate, consistent billing.

Mr. Nicodemus reviewed the scope of the work including replacement of 4,290 (40%) corroded meter boxes and deteriorated concrete boxes. He also noted staff has been diligently working through the development process of this project since July 2020. He explained the savings and process for manufacturer selection noting Badger Meter, a cellular based system, is their recommendation. Mr. Nicodemus noted the annual cost was slightly higher than the radio system

but the cellular benefits were much greater. He reviewed the system components, coverage study, project cost, and project cash flow.

City Council discussed lessening the burden on citizens and Mr. Nicodemus strongly recommended communication with the citizens on the project so they are aware of the process.

Mr. Ludwig requested council direction on whether to move forward with the project and whether to include with the 2021 Certificates of Obligation. He explained if Council would like to move forward with the project there will be formal action taken at the June 7<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting to authorize City Manager to enter into contracts on behalf of this project.

It was the consensus of the City Council to move forward with the project and Council Member Melissa Olson expressed hesitation with including the funding in Certificates of Obligation.

### **3. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Villarreal  
City Secretary