

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**September 9, 2009, 1:05 PM**  
**City Council Chambers**

**Members Present:** Jason Wiener (Chair), Ed Childers, Dick Haines, Renee Mitchell, Pam Walzer

**Members Absent:** John Hendrickson, Bob Jaffe, Dave Strohmaier, Jon Wilkins

**Others Present:** Gregg Wood, Kevin Slovarp, Brentt Ramharter, Bruce Bender, Craig Schaefer

**I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

A. Approval of the minutes of August 26, 2009 – forthcoming

B. Announcements – Kevin Slovarp, City Engineer, stated that according to the Montana Department of Transportation, the Scott Street Bridge construction is on schedule and the bridge is planned to reopen on October 23.

C. Public Comment on Non-Agenda items

**II. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Childers made a motion to suspend the rules to consider two non-agenda items, regarding a bid award and a contract amendment for SID 544.

1. (Suspend City Council rules) Review construction bids for Rattlesnake Neighborhood Sewer Collection System project, award bid to lowest responsible bidder and authorize return of bid bonds (memo).—Regular Agenda (Steve King) – **REMOVE FROM AGENDA**

**Motion: The committee recommends the City Council approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a construction contract to award the bid for SID 544- Rattlesnake Neighborhood Sewer Collection System to Safco, Inc. for \$3,630,990.99, contingent upon Department of Environmental Quality approval, and authorize the return of bid bonds.**

Gregg Wood, Project Development Coordinator, stated that they had received bids on Friday, and their recommendation was to award the bid to Safco, Inc. for \$3,630,990.99 and authorize the return of all bid bonds, contingent upon Department of Environmental Quality approval. SID 544 was created by the Council on July 13. They received one very low bid, but the bidder withdrew right away. The next apparent low bidder was Safco out of Hayden, ID. References for Safco were pleased with their performance, including one for a project for the City of Spokane with 19,000 linear feet of sewer main in an established neighborhood. SID 544 has 22,000 linear feet of sewer main. The attached engineer's letter with the bid recommendation and budget summary show how the bid fits into the overall project costs.

Ms. Mitchell asked whether they had been able to check references on all the bidders in the short time they had. Mr. Wood stated that they start checking references for the lowest apparent bidder, and typically accept that bid if the references don't disqualify them.

Mr. Wiener stated that the bid was \$100,000 over the engineer's estimate. Bruce Bender, Chief Administrative Officer, stated the City's contribution would be higher because of it. The City's contribution through the sewer fund was \$500,000 in the estimate, and now it will be \$879,000. Last November's proposed sewer rate increase took into account a City contribution of up to \$4 million, so the contribution is still within the expected range. This contribution may result in a 1.5% sewer rate increase at some point. They may discuss rate increases again when the Wastewater Treatment Facility headworks upgrade goes out to bid in March.

Mr. Childers asked which City fund the costs would come from. Mr. Bender replied that it was the sewer revenue bond. Mr. Childers asked whether the 1.5% increase included the cost of the headworks. Mr. Bender replied that it did not. They are estimating about a 9% increase to pay for the headworks, making the total increase eventually needed about 10%. The previous estimate was a 20% increase. They will not know what increase is required until the headworks goes out to bid.

Mr. Haines stated the engineering estimate was good, and it was a solid bid.

Mr. Haines made the motion to award the contract contingent upon DEQ approval and return bid bonds.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. (Suspend City Council rules) Approve amendment to existing City agreement with Morrison-Maierle, Inc. for the professional services on the SID 544 – Rattlesnake Neighborhood Sewer Collection System project (memo).— Regular Agenda (Steve King) – REMOVE FROM AGENDA

**Motion: The committee recommends the City Council approve and authorize the Mayor to sign Amendment No. 4 to the City agreement with Morrison-Maierle, Inc. for engineering services on the SID 544 – Rattlesnake Neighborhood Sewer Collection System project.**

Mr. Wood stated that there was an existing agreement with Morrison-Maierle, and this amendment would extend services through the construction process. They recommend authorization of the \$301,151 contract amendment for SID 544. The summary sheet goes through the contract history, starting with SID 528, for which they did the design and construction services. Amendment 4 will extend their agreement for construction services for SID 544.

Mr. Wiener asked about the \$384,000 for engineering services, and Mr. Wood replied that included SID 544 and Lolo Street.

Mr. Childers made the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Wiener requested that both items appear on committee reports due to the suspension of the rules.

### III. HELD AND ONGOING AGENDA ITEMS

1. Discussion on the sizes of grease interceptors for the restaurant industry ([Grease Interceptor PowerPoint](#)) ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Stacy Rye and Bob Jaffe) (Referred to committee: 04/21/08)
2. Consider restructuring the city's Sewer Loan Program along the lines of the recently approved change to the Sidewalk & Curb Loan Fund.—Regular Agenda ([Chapter 3.16 – Sidewalk & Curb Loan](#)) ([Chapter 3.18 Sewer Loan](#)) ([Ordinance 3344](#)) (Ed Childers) (Referred to committee: 06/26/06)
3. Information item to present the City's Master Sidewalk Plan. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Doug Harby) (Referred to committee: 01/12/09)

### IV. ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica S. Miller  
Office Manager  
City Public Works Department