

VILLAGE OF PALMYRA

SPECIAL BOARD MTG.

APRIL 19, 1993

9:00 am

PRESENT: Mayor James G. Elliott, Deputy Mayor Thomas N. Lynch, Trustees Daniel E. Wooden, and Kathleen C. Drews. Special guests MHPC Vice President, Hugh Knickerbocker and Account Manager, Kenneth G. Scherrieble.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Elliott called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

MHPC: Opening remarks by Ken Scherrieble who asked what the VOP interest was in the MHPC proposal and also wanted to clear up some questions to see what's holding up going ahead with the contract or giving up the idea. Ken asked if the services of MHPC were worthwhile for the VOP or not saying this needs to be decided prior to continuing.

Mayor Elliott stated that he had no questions on the proposal but had some in-house questions on the best way for VOP with possible internal savings.

Trustee Wooden asked about hiring the VOP employees currently working for the W/WW Dept. noting that the VOP would have to offer some type of concession with regards to unused sick time, personal time and vacation. Trustee Wooden asked MHPC if they have ever accepted or carried over benefits of this type and would MHPC consider paying half (1/2) with the VOP on these benefits. Would MHPC be carry vacation? Hugh Knickerbocker responded that MHPC had done some things in other cases and would try to fit the VOP needs, however, details would be worked out. The employees would start at mid-range in employment and not the bottom. Trustee Wooden asked if MHPC would consider buying into the retirement saying that the VOP would be obligated to pick up the balance of retirement required. K. Scherrieble a more detailed quotation would be given and possibly more money would be required to meet these specific needs. MHPC is not here to lose money but to assist the VOP in saving money said Ken. Ken stated that in Pawling NY MHPC has cut the WW plant electric bill in half saving about \$2,200 per month above the initial contract savings. K. Scherrieble noted that there are many other areas where MHPC can save money besides only contract savings ie sludge disposal, cleaning water tank in lieu of new tank which would not be good since too much water and no place to get rid of flow, cure pressure problem, take care of heavy metals in the water which is not a chlorine problem. MHPC would find cost effective ways to run the system without a new tank. MHPC has the expertise to save money for long term and are in this business for the long haul. Ken also noted that regaining water customers which had been lost and new customers to sell water to would be part of their job. Trustee Drews asked about saving the first year but not after that referring to costs going up. Ken stated that increases are inevitable in any area however, the VOP will save money when looking at the long term, \$30,000 savings is on the short side of the entire savings. Maybrook as noted in the D&C Article, has saved much money and wants MHPC to run the water plant now. MHPC is the best for the municipality, people and the plants, better service, more money savings, deliver integrity, run efficiently and effectively and environmentally safe to insure people drinking clean water.

Trustee Drews asked if MHPC would have a problem hiring the people in the VOP W/WW dept. K. Scherrieble said NO. Trustee Drews asked if there was a high turnover? K. Scherrieble said that MHPC is a close knit company average person has been there 6 yrs have 86 employees including office staff. A quality management plan will be starting with MHPC in the near future for the whole company. K. Scherrieble gave examples of the E.A.P. PROGRAM that they have in effect and how successful it has been. K. Scherrieble noted that C. Timerson said that he wishes his ideas were used and Ken stated that MHPC policy would be if Corky

211

has good ideas they would be looked at and implemented if possible. Hugh Knickerbocker noted the path of advancement and opportunity that MHPC offers noting the steps to advancement that may be followed as well as the day to day overseeing of the plant. Ken said someone would be here locally an office for MHPC in Syracuse area. Ken hopes that F. Huff and C. Timerson will come with MHPC and Ken feels that F. Huff and Corky don't understand the opportunity they would be losing out on.

Trustee Wooden asked about reporting and Hugh Knickerbocker stated once (1) per month at VB mtg. with a written report. Ken noted that the plants would be run like a Navy ship and an open house for the VOP on a Sat. to see plants, men where uniforms. Mayor Elliott asked about a high turn over in people with expertise when MHPC is bringing less paid people in and take more trained people out. Training is done so knowledge is passed on and growth will move people up but a gradual procedure.

EPA and DEC are behind contract services said K. Scherrieble. It was noted that employees are asked to move for MHPC and not made to move. Present employees including Harold are in charge of the decision they make in going with MHPC or not stated Ken. MHPC would hire all three (3) employees stated Trustee Wooden. VB felt a time to discuss many of the unanswered and unfounded issues on the MHPC situation with the W/WW dept. was a good idea. More discussion continued.

A meeting was set up for Monday morning, April 26 at 11:45 am with H. Kruger, C. Timerson, F. Huff with the VB to discuss the concerns of MHPC and issues. Also decided that a visit with municiple customers and one industrial customer on Friday, April 30th. Visit will be to Southeast, New Paltz, and Fishkill. K. Scherrieble will call on Wednesday to confirm visit and set up times.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Elliott moved to adjourn at 11:00 a.m. seconded by Trustee Wooden, vote, 3 ayes, Dpty. Mayor Lynch out of the room for vote, **CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie J. Hays, Village Clerk