

Minutes of the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee for Monday, October 3, 2011.

The meeting was called to order by Alderman Simmons at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Grenke, Aldermen Bormann, Sanders, Angell, and Orsini. Also attending were Lynn Behrns, Mike Forsee, Phil Hoffman, Mark Mustain, Police Chief Larry Dudgeon, Tim Zimmerman, and James Smith.

Those present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Comments from Citizens

Zimmerman told the Committee that he had concerns of the conduct of juveniles near his residence at 130 W. Sims. These children range from 13 to 18 years of age. They consider a house across the street to be a hangout and have often become a problem, creating loud noise late into the evening and throwing objects at other properties. Zimmerman's own house had been struck and damaged. Another, vacant, house has been vandalized. Zimmerman and Dudgeon spoke of past efforts to disperse the children, without long-term effect. One of the residents is under house arrest and seems to be a magnet. The adults at the home seem unable or unwilling to take corrective action. Committee members suggested that Neighborhood Watch could supply additional eyes and alert the Police Department when necessary. They were told that Neighborhood Watch is no longer active in this area. Committee asked for the matter to be further investigated.

Streets and Sanitation

Committee reviewed the activity report and future work schedule for the Street and Sanitation Departments.

Hoffman told Sanders that the street crew checked public trash cans on a regular basis and emptied them as needed. There was no specific schedule for this.

Committee revisited the subject of stop signs and other traffic controls near the intersection of Columbia Street and Lakeview adjacent to the COLT RR. More enforcement, higher fines, and other control measures were suggested. Some are already in place to the degree that the City has authority and discretion. Orsini suggested that the City again look at making this an exempt crossing.

MoDOT representatives will be looking at the SRTS sidewalk again on Tuesday to determine if there are an ADA concerns and how they could be quickly and economically addressed.

Last week, one of the trash trucks was in the shop with problems related to the pollution control equipment. Friday afternoon, the other truck had a fire in the rear gear box. Neither truck could be repaired before Wednesday. As a result, the trash collections were delayed until late Wednesday. With the help of other departments and a part-time worker, all customers had been serviced before close of work on Friday.

Behrns gave a report on billing for properties which have been mowed by City. A house in the 500 block of S. Allen has been cited five times in the last two years. The property was either mowed by the owner or by the City. Of the latter instances, only one has been billed and not yet paid. The owner has a new address and the bill has been re-mailed.

A member of the sanitation crew is back at work.

Work on the Miles Street ditch is almost complete for the year. The floor and walls are installed from

Miles Street, west and south to the Sims Street right-of-way. Only some landscaping remains to be done. Next year, staff hopes to complete the narrower section going south to the culvert pipe behind Charles Rice's house. This section should be less hindered by wet weather.

Behrns said that Forsee had been able to use a core sampler to determine that the section of Singleton Street between Jefferson Street and Howard Burton Drive has very little asphalt or rock base (even though it had once been part of a state highway). This implies that it cannot be easily repaired, but should instead be rebuilt with a thick concrete pavement. Behrns said that next year's budget should include engineering for this work and preparation of Southgate Street as an alternative for the heavy shuttle trucks from Hubbell. Actual work would take most of the available funding for the 2013-14 fiscal year. Jefferson Street between the railroad tracks would a similar priority.

Hoffman reported that Break Brothers would be at the brush pit with their tub grinder next week.

Behrns said that the top brick work on 105 N. Allen is completed. He will have an ad in the paper soon to try to sell the pallets of salvaged bricks and joists.

City Attorney Merritt Beck arrived.

Water and Sewer Department

Committee reviewed the activity report and future work schedule for the Water and Sewer Department. Patches of the downtown utility cuts should be fixed by the weekend.

Forsee said he hopes to start work soon on replacing the water main in the 100 block of N. Collier.

Forsee reported that a lightening strike had damaged the pump in Well No. 3. Flynn (the firm which installed the pump and motor last year) provided a quote of approximately \$22,000 to replace the motor. Wires and other parts could be extra. The City's property insurance should cover all but the \$5,000 deductible. After the repairs are complete, the electric and water crews will look to installing some sort of grounding grid at the well house.

Behrns present a follow-up letter from Shafer, Kline & Warren concerning engineering for sewer treatment operations. Staff has not yet reached a conclusion on what small projects might be studied first.

Forsee reported that part of the portable pump used to supplement the sled-mounted pump and the lime sludge pond had broken. Parts are no longer available. This pump has been much used recently, and replacing it might be as costly as \$20,000. Dwight Herndon has estimated that he could fabricate a replacement part for \$2,600- \$2,800. Staff recommended this approach. Orsini moved to allow the part to be made by Herndon Welding for a price not to exceed \$2,800. Sanders seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor.

Forsee spoke about replacing more of the radio transponders for the water meters. The last order had been very effective, and most of the replacements had been used. Forsee said that he would eventually need to be upgraded about 670 units (plus meters for any new customers). He has about 160 in stock. Bormann suggested waiting until fewer are left. The price discount is not so large as to counterbalance the possible need of acquiring the rest of the water system SCADA system this year.

Electric Department

Committee reviewed the activity report and future work schedule for the Electric Department.

Orsini noted a street light that might need replacement at Singleton and Barr Streets.

Mustain described replacing the air conditioning at the animal pound.

Mustain said that he would have a bid tabulation for presentation at the next regular Board meeting. [Subsequent to the meeting, Mustain received bids for rubber line worker gloves which would be less than \$1,250 and not required Board action.]

Mustain told Sanders that the replacement bobcat should be here by December 1. The order is backlogged because some parts were made in Japan and delayed because of the earthquake.

As May Arise

Behrns presented a letter from Dennis Haubein on behalf of Forrest Chevrolet. Forrest had originally intended to expand to the east and earlier requested (and then withdrawn) vacation of the adjacent alley. Forrest's and GM's layout has been redesigned, with a canopy entrance on the west side, which would encroach into the right-of-way of Rollins Street. They are asking that the east 20' of the 80' street be vacated. The aldermen agreed to refer the request to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Behrns reminded the Committee of a meeting of the Central Region Missouri Municipal League in Warrensburg next Thursday.

Closed Session

Orsini moved that the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee go into closed session and hold a closed vote, and the purpose of such closed session and closed vote shall be legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representative and its attorney, as provided for under Section 610.021(1) RSMo. Bormann seconded the motion. On roll call vote, Grenke, Simmons, Bormann, Orsini, Angell, and Sanders voted in favor. No member voted against or abstained, and the motion carried.

During the closed session, no closed votes were taken.

At the end of the closed session, Simmons moved that the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee return to open session. Orsini seconded the motion. On roll call vote, Grenke, Simmons, Bormann, Orsini, Angell, and Sanders voted in favor. No member voted against or abstained, and the motion carried.

Return to Open Session

The Committee returned to open session, but conducted no further business.

The Committee adjourn at about 9:05 p.m.