

## **Minutes of the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee for Monday, August 6, 2012.**

The meeting was called to order by Alderman Bormann at about 7:25 p.m. Present were Mayor Grenke, Aldermen Simmons, Sanders, Angell, and Magley. Also attending were Lynn Behrns, Phil Hoffman, Mike Forsee, Kenny Coolley, and James Smith.

### Comments for Citizens

Coolley told the Committee that he felt Jefferson Street was deteriorating and needed an overlay soon. He was told that money for the current year was already programmed. Coolley asked that the work be scheduled for next year and that the City start obtaining estimates from a contractor for a 2" lift for the entire length of the road.

### Electric Department

Committee reviewed the activity report for July and future work schedule for the Electric Department. Mark Mustain was on vacation, and the Committee had no questions.

Behrns explained a price sheet contained in the agenda packet. Five of the City's warning sirens needed to have the radio receivers replaced in order to comply with the FCC regulations that take effect at the end of the year. An additional receiver will need to be upgraded. The regulations require narrow band frequency use (just as the radios recently procured for the Police Department). Only one vender, Blue Valley Public Safety, Inc., has the service territory for the brand of sirens used by the City. Mustain has not found any economical alternatives from switching to other brands. The quoted price for the work, including installation, is \$11,129.52. This item will be on the next Board agenda, giving the aldermen time to review the proposal. Also, a lightening strike has damaged two of the existing receiver circuit boards. Mustain has repaired one. He will be borrowing the board for the other from Blue Valley as a temporary bridge until the replacement work is done.

### Streets and Sanitation

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

Hoffman told the Committee that it took seven days to do the culvert replacement at the Ne sewer lagoons. Work went without incident. Hoffman was able to use waste segments of concrete from sidewalk replacement projects as rip-rap for erosion control around the culvert ends. He also added the old, broken sidewalk as rip-rap in the creek at the Parkview Court crossing. The creek was straightened and cleaned between Booth Street and Parkview. Latter it may be necessary to do the same on more northerly segments of the creek.

Application of the dust control chemical is complete and working. Adjacent neighbors have expressed satisfaction. There is still a small amount of dust when drivers speed. Having the speed limit reduced may help with that. This not a permanent fix, so staff will continue to monitor.

The street crew, with help from the Electric and Water Departments, is making progress on paving the Miles Ditch. Most excavation is complete and Hoffman is ready to start setting forms and base rock. Work pace should increase when the water main crossing is made less susceptible to breaking.

Behrns told the Committee and press that Lakeview Street will be closed at the COLT Railroad crossing on August 14<sup>th</sup>. The railroad is replacing wood planking with new rubberized mats and will attempt to do all the work in one day. COLT wants to be finished with work before schools starts.

August 15<sup>th</sup> would be a reschedule day in case of rain.

### Water and Sewer Department

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

Forsee said the contracted SCADA upgrades are installed and operational. Some bench marking and software tweaking remains. Software patches are being prepared. In a future budget, a second set of upgrades can be implemented for the remaining controls in the water plant, but this is not a critical need.

DNR has reported on its inspection of the sanitary sewer system. The report has many non-mandatory suggestions of varying value. It does have three questions which have to be answered by August 16<sup>th</sup>.

They deal with irrigation schedules and will need to be more fully addressed as part of the next application for renewal of our NPDES discharge permit. The City will have to engage a consulting engineer (probably Gary Cunningham) by the end of this year in order to have the application ready six months before the date of our permit expiration.

There is not much water left in either the NE or NW treatment lagoons. Forsee will probably end pumping by the end of the week.

Forsee said that we still need a flow meter for the NW site; but it would have to be fitted to a 16" pipe, so it would be very expensive. Forsee is holding off for a future budget.

The Water Treatment Plant is running more than 20 hour per day; 15-16 is more usual. Watering lawns and cooling at Hubbell account for the extra demand. When usage is reduced in the Fall, staff will deliberately overflow the water towers. This will allow recalibration of the sensors and controls. There may be a bit of extra storage capacity that has not been usable. Also in the Fall, we will contract for inspection and cleaning of the clear well.

Forsee is getting quotes for replacing old doors at the water treatment plant. Four doors need work (two are same style). The door frames are grouted into masonry walls. They would be a special order and difficult to install. Forsee has prices through LaCrosse Lumber. He and Denny Rusch have asked local contractors if they would be interested in quoting on the installation work; but most don't want to touch the project. Five Oaks is interest, because Gary Dorr was involved in the original construction with Reinhardt.. A replacement for the dock door would cost \$1,871. The rear door would be \$1,150. Forsee got a quote from Five Oaks of \$2,800 to do installation of three doors. He will refine the bids for replacing just two doors this year and present them to the Board.

Forsee is starting to work with get a price for the replacement of his pickup truck, as budgeted. Machens Ford has the state bid, and Forsee will work through the list of bid options to be sure the new truck has the necessary power and matches department use. Once approved, delivery may take 2 or 3 months.

An insert valve will be installed tomorrow on Miles Street at Lakeview Street. The valve is necessary to cordon off a smaller area near the Miles Street Ditch in case of a water main brake. He will then be able to replace or repair several bad valves in the area. The water crew will also replace a short section of transite main with plastic pipe across the ditch before the concrete gets poured.

As May Arise

Behrns asked about the proposed gas price sign at the new Prengers convenience store. Committee agreed that it did not fit the status of being a grandfathered replacement of the existing sign. The proposal would require a change in zoning regulations. Aldermen told Behrns that a small change is more doable than the wholesale rewrite contained in a 2002 draft of the sign chapter and parallel zoning standards. That can be addressed later. Simmons moved to refer the issue to P&Z for consideration of possible amendment. Bormann seconded the motion. All present voted aye, and the motion carried.

APAC will be working on the contracted asphalt overlay work in the next two weeks. Staff told Committee that the paint marks on Switzler Street are for utility locates for engineering design.

Behrns noted a house fire occurred in the afternoon on Centralia Street.

The Committee adjourned at about 8:35 p.m.

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