

Minutes of the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee for Monday, July 1, 2013.

The meeting was called to order by Alderman Bormann at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Grenke, Aldermen Simmons, Magley, Lee, and Wilkins. Also attending were Lynn Behrns, Mike Forsee, Phil Hoffman, Mark Mustain, Clifford de la Rosa, and James Smith.

Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Grenke asked for a moment of silence in respect for the 19 firefighters lost in the forest fires in Arizona. He also reminded the committee and audience of the July 4th "Ring Bells for Freedom" event on Thursday in the City Square.

Grenke noted a proclamation he prepared for the recognition of Will Mustain's attainment of the Eagle Scout rank in Boy Scouts.

Comments from Citizens

De la Rosa was present to describe to the Aldermen what progress he has made on demolition or repair of the Narraganset Building. He read from a prepared statement and afterward distributed copies to the committee members. Appended to the statement was a diary of his work time spent on the building through the end of June.

He also distributed photographs of other buildings in the downtown area. They showed some loss of stucco and brick deterioration. They were not labeled. He then left without waiting for questions.

Aldermen Angell arrived.

Streets and Sanitation

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

Hoffman said the item for stop sign replacement was to make some faded signs more visible or larger. Last week, he was also able to add rock and blade unpaved sections of Columbia Street and Ivy Street, so that dust control chemicals could be distributed on those sections on Friday.

Hoffman remarked on the replacement trash truck (which had been expected last Friday) will not arrive until Tuesday. Behrns will ask Dayne's to work on Friday to help with the double routes after the holiday, then they will have our thanks and no longer be needed. The backup truck should be repaired soon and available as needed. That truck is still waiting for a replacement wiring harness

Hoffman has spoken with the engineer and believes she will give quick notice to proceed to contractor for the Switzler Street reconstruction project. The City's work is done except for one broken valve. Forsee would address later in the meeting.

Behrns reported that the Kansas City Southern Railroad had finally reinstalled the asphalt crossing on Allen Street. In discussion with MoDOT, he was told that Centralia should receive a visit someday about a state program for crossing upgrades. Behrns would like to participate if City is only obligated to supply a percentage as match. He believes that work would total about \$9,000 (based on experience with Norfolk Southern Railroad several years ago.) In any case, Hubbell will start on rehabilitation upgrades at its Allen Street offices next year. This would include aesthetic upgrades to the Allen Street entrance. This would be opportune time to redo the Kansas City Southern crossing with concrete pads across the full street and both sidewalks. This would particularly make that crossing more ADA accessible as major pathway to northern Centralia. Aldermen said this work would be a good item for next year's budget.

Water and Sewer Department

Committee reviewed the activity report and future work schedule for the Water and Sewer Department. Committee members had no questions.

Forsee reported that the department's 27-year old locator had broken. He is doubtful it could be repaired. He has surveyed several vendors and many styles. He found that the lowest and best alternative was a new locator from H-D Supply for \$2,501. He has a "loaner"; but this equipment needs to be replaced quickly, as it is used almost daily. The Electric Department may also be able to use it on some jobs, because it will be more accurate.

A water valve in middle of the intersection of Switzler and Pratt broke – stuck open. It must be replaced before the street paving project starts. Ordinarily this is not a problem, but two nearby valves are also broken and it is not possible to immediately repair them without shutting down the East Water Tower and Hubble's complex on Howard Burton. Our only course is to use a valve insert. This will cost \$4,100. (Next year we will have to deal with the bad valve to Hubbell—a 12" valve in a transite main. That job will require careful coordination.) Simmons moved to have Decker Construction install the valve insert for a price of \$4,100. Magley seconded the motion. All members voted aye and the motion passed.

Forsee said he had not yet completed a spec sheet in order to solicit bids for a replacement backhoe. That should be complete and a bid tab available at a future meeting.

Electric Department

Committee reviewed the activity report and future work schedule for the Electric Department. Mustain explained again that the work east of Rollins Street was in an easement south of Cox, where there is no alley, lots of fences and trees and the ground can be very swampy. The electric crew is working while the ground is dry to eliminate a continuing need for tree maintenance and improve circuit reliability.

Other

None.

As May Arise

Behrns reported that he received only one proposal for the sale of 105 N. Allen, one from Carlan's Restaurant. Therefore there is no need for a subcommittee review. He will negotiate with the target of having documents for approval at the regular board meeting.

Two proposals were received for architectural work on City Hall, Police Station, and the City Square Gazebo, including interior maintenance and ADA work. Behrns will distribute copies of the proposals to the review committee, so they can make a selection at the next meeting, and he can negotiate for a contract.

Bormann has spoken with Midland GIS. Most of their work on electric system is complete; they are now working on water mains.

The Committee adjourned at about 7:28 p.m.