

Minutes of the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee for Monday, January 6, 2014.

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

Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Comments from Citizens

None.

Electric Department

Committee reviewed the activity report and future work schedule for the Electric Department. Mustain told the Committee that the City had not yet experienced any problems related to the frigid weather.

An advertisement has been placed in the newspaper to solicit bids for the sale of scrap metal. Most of this is short pieces of electric wire. The bids should be opened on January 16 and the results included in the regular Board meeting packet.

Water and Sewer Department

Committee reviewed the activity report and future work schedule for the Water and Sewer Department. Forsee reported that the only weather problem for his department had been customers with frozen pipes. There have not been any broken mains.

Forsee told Bormann that he had found most valves and manholes shown on past maps as a part of the GIS setup. He has raised a few, but not many. There are still two manholes in Leon Swiney's farm between the railroad tracks which have not been found.

Street and Sanitation Department

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

Behrns recommended that the budget for street work in the coming year focus on asphalt overlays for residential streets. This would mean delay of reconstructing Jefferson Street between the railroad tracks until 2016. He said that he believe this would have the greatest benefit to the most citizens, and distribute some of the fruits of the transportation sales tax. Coupled with the annual grant from Boone County, the tax should bring about \$190,000 through October. Behrns distributed a long, but very preliminary list of streets that need serious work. Behrns asked the aldermen to take particular notice of street conditions and make recommendations in the next few months, so that a bid package can be written soon after the budget is adopted.

Behrns noted that there had not been any trash collection this day, so as to protect the employees. The crew will try to do both Monday's and Tuesday's routes on Tuesday. Hoffman said that Columbia and all of the private sanitation companies in the area had also postponed collection.

Behrns said that he had received a request to allow for a citizen to use the stub end of Rodney Griffin St. as a site for a "park and ride" for his car and perhaps one other. The space is adjacent to barriers separating it from Highway 124. Parking would not be in front of or block access to any of the nearby house. Hoffman does sometimes pile snow in that location, but otherwise staff believes that we could allow the parking as an experiment. Behrns did not find any need for vacating the street. Committee members were agreed to this, but Behrns will also consult with the Police Chief before contacting the citizen.

As May Arise

Behrns said that the December financials were not yet ready and he had no new comments to make on the utility budgets yet. He noted that a wish list of special projects in the general fund might include: stormsewer work on line under Hubbell's parking lot and the Miles Street ditch; replacement of two police cars with used cars from the Highway Patrol, purchase of a Hearst tool for the Fire Department; advanced acquisition of railroad crossing mats; replacement of the front-end loader, a large contribution to the Civil War Reenactment; possible addition of temporary street workers for two summer months; and a request from the Police for an additional full-time officer.

Behrns made his annual report on the "red flag rule" and issues of the security of private customer information. He noted that there has been no turnover in office personnel and no new third-party

vender contracts that touch on the personal information of City customers. After conferring with the front office staff, he said that employees were not aware of any security breaches or attempts by outside parties to gain access to protected information. On the basis of our experience, staff does not find a need to recommend any changes to City procedures or rules. The current policy appears sufficient and will be reviewed again in a year's time.

In accordance with state statutes, Behrns reported that no power users had installed customer-owned electric generating units or requested to do so. Therefore the estimated generating capacity of such customers was zero, and the estimate net kilowatt-hours received from customer generation was zero.

Macro Grenke said that he had received a couple of emails from citizens concerned that the street crews had not put down enough cinders on the streets after the last snow. Hoffman and Behrns said that the City had not used cinders on most streets for many years. The crews use a mixture of sand, salt, and calcium chloride, which might not be as visible. The chemicals would not have effective melting action until the temperature get up to the mid-twenties. Mayor Grenke said he was satisfied with City efforts and had recommended that the citizen drive at a safe speed, commensurate with the street conditions.

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