

Minutes of the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee for Monday, August 4, 2014.

The meeting was called to order by Alderman Bormann at about 7:10 p.m. Present were Mayor Grenke, Aldermen Andrea Vollrath, Don Bormann, Dick Ward, Jim Lee, Langdon Magley. Also attending were Matt Harline, Mark Mustain, Phil Hoffman, Mike Forsee, and James Smith.

Pledge of Allegiance

Those present participated in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Comments from Citizens

None.

Electric Department

Committee reviewed the activity report and future work schedule for the Electric Department. Mustain replied, when asked about the LED dusk-to-dawn (D-D), that we had the light for a 90-day trial period to see how much we can reduce our energy cost. The LED lights were about ½ the wattage. He has taken pictures and observed that they give good light. The lights have a five-year warranty but often last up to ten years. The sodium lights have to be changed every 1 – 5 years – more maintenance. Magley commented that the street lights at Switzler and Allen were not coming on and that one on the square near Kinkead's Pharmacy was out. Mustain said he would look at those.

Mustain presented a request for oil testing of the City's substations. The quote from SD Myers is \$1,393 and it is strongly recommended by our insurer that we have these tests done. SD Myers has been doing the tests for about 20 years. At one point we got results but since we had only one substation we could not make all the repairs, as we now can. There is a quote for \$400 to do Infrared analysis, but Mustain reported that we can get that done by our Fire Department at no cost. **Alderman Magley moved and Alderman Ward seconded a motion to approve spending \$1,393 on oil testing of the substations. The motion was approved unanimously (five members present) by voice vote.**

Mr. Ward asked about a tree that the City crew had initiated trimming and asked for help from Asplundh. Mustain replied that the City's initial idea was to trim the tree. This was not successfully communicated to the Asplundh employees who worked on the tree because it had been stripped clean as they do before felling the tree. Mustain will determine how costs might be split out on this tree between the City, Asplundh and the property owner. Mustain also mentioned that a tree on the SE corner of Jefferson and Tarr that Lynn had asked about is in the right of way.

Water and Sewer Department

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

Lee asked about the big valve project. Forsee replied those would be 12" valves and due to health concerns of several of his crew they simply had not done it. Forsee reported that the manhole rehab contractor had said he would be in Centralia by now, but the job he was currently on was taking much longer than anticipated. Forsee hoped to have him in town in a week or two.

Foresee reported about the recent annual inspection of the water utility from MDNR. Forsee reported that it went smoothly and was the fastest he remembered. This was due to several

factors: DNR was using a more automated approach, the system upgrades including adding the SCADA system, well maintenance and tower improvements, and the neat and tidy condition of the facilities. The reports were in good shape too. Forsee reported that the DNR inspector seemed to be favorably impressed. Harline reported that he had been at part of the inspection and the DNR staffer was telling his trainee how nice the facility looked. Forsee said they did have some questions about backwash filter procedures on the sand filters, but he anticipated an overall good report with some minor suggestions for improvement.

Street and Sanitation Department

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

Hoffmann reported that APAC had visited and that he had reviewed Wesley Street with them. They acknowledged the problem with the repeating flaws was their fault and they will fix it. Hoffmann reported that it was likely a mechanical issues, e.g. rock on the roller.

Harline reported that a citizen had complained about patches in the 600 block of Bruton. Hoffmann replied that those patches were the work of a contractor for the local gas utility. Harline added that the patches were noticeable but not something that would damage a car. Hoffmann concurred.

Hoffman reported that the new trash truck was up and running and all Thursday trash had been collected by the end of Friday. Both trucks went down Thursday. The main ram on the compactor for older truck is bent. It is in the shop for a few days.

The new recycling trailer should be ready for service in a week or week and a half.

Other

Harline noted that next month the first Monday is Labor Day and the Committee needed to choose a new meeting time. **Grenke moved and Alderman Lee seconded a motion to move the September meeting to Tuesday, September 2nd. The motion was approved unanimously (five members present) by voice vote.**

As May Arise

None.

There being no other business Borman called for a motion to adjourn. **Alderman Ward moved and Alderman Magley seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion was approved unanimously (five members present) by voice vote.** The Committee adjourned at about 7:25 p.m.