

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

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bormann at 7:01 p.m. Present were Mayor Tim Grenke, Aldermen Dick Ward, Jim Lee, Langdon Magley. Also attending were Matt Harline, Larry Dudgeon, Mark Mustain, Phil Hoffman, Mike Forsee of the City staff and James Smith of the Fireside Guard.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Comments from Citizens

None.

Electric Department

A. Activity Report

Grenke noted that it seems like lots of street lights are out. Mark said he had not noticed an increase.

B. Street lighting on South Columbia Street

A report was included in the packet about the costs and benefits of using LED street lights. Columbia is or might one day be considered a collector street, so by certain criteria, the recommendations kind of went along the lines of a collector street. Mustain was planning on installing a 150W equivalent LED light with 400 foot separation. This would be like a standard residential street. He gave details about the report included in his handout with four different examples of lighting units and costs. The lighting companies included maintenance costs, particularly pointing out the costs of replacing lights more frequently. Mustain said that might not be valid to count that discount since the staff is there every day, it is just a matter of not getting something else done as quickly. They did use real numbers for labor costs that we gave them. Bormann asked about the specific LED models and if they were giving the same amount of light as the sodium lights. Mustain said the LED did shed as much light as high-pressure sodium (HPS) lighting and all three models advertised delivered about the same lighting. He added that because LED lighting is directed more on the street so more of the LED lumens ended up at the point of interest, where the sodium diffused more. Mustain went through the table extensively and explained that the Cooper had the quickest return on investment (ROI) at a little over 4 years. Grenke asked where are the Cooper lights manufactured? Mustain replied that he didn't know. Bormann stated that he thought it would be interesting to try a street. Grenke stated that an ROI of less than 5 years is pretty reasonable. Mustain noted that LED are the lights of the future so it just a matter of when we want to follow along. Ward asked if the LED will cover the area that the sodium light bulb covered. Mustain said it would not have the spillover into yards. He mentioned that for sodium bulbs the manufacturer's warranty that at 10,000 hours of use you get 50% of light output. After about two to two and a half years you have to replace a high-pressure sodium light by their rating and it is pretty close to that in our experience. The LED lighting standard is a warranty of 70% output at 50,000 hours. Harline asked if that meant it would last a little more than ten years. Mustain said that was correct. He added that he would like to take a couple more weeks to look at the data since some of the info came in this afternoon. In summary he said it would cost about \$110/fixture more for LED over HPS. The total additional cost for lighting and starters would be for the stretch of Columbia Street from Lakeview to Country Land Drive. Harline asked if we would need additional hardware for the new equipment or should we get one back up? Mustain replied maybe one in case there was a problem. Bormann suggested that we review this in two weeks with better information. Mustain said he would bring back the information.

C. Pole attachment agreement for Landis Gyr remote reading

Harline reported that Landis Gyr wants to enter into an agreement with the City of Centralia to put some RF frequency collector units on some of our poles to remotely read gas meters in town. They need about six in town. Lanis Gyr is the contractor for Ameren that reads the gas meters. We charge low pole attachment fees to CenturyLink and Charter and so we would charge a similar amount to Landis Gyr. They also will need to be charged electricity. Harline asked Mustain to correct anything he got wrong, but we probably would not monitor more than one unit because they use so little energy. Mustain replied that they already have some units on Ameren poles in the City limits, but they have dead areas and they need to cover the “dead spots.” He suggested the fee would be in the attachment fee plus about \$9/month for energy, or the minimum charge.

Water and Sewer Department

The Committee reviewed the activity report and future work schedule for the Water and Sewer Department. Bormann asked for comments or questions and there were none.

Forsee had no comments on water.

Forsee reported that the sewer manhole rehab project that was completed last month by Midwest Cementitious Rehab (MCR) was recently tested by the rainfall. MCR came and lined the manholes at a really good price and after the 6 inches of rain there was no leakage. Borman asked these were brick lined manholes. Forsee replied that the one behind IC Billiards was a concrete lined manhole that had been leaking behind but was now dry. The one at Howard Burton and Head was a concrete block lined manhole but the one between Doty and Bruton was brick. The project was very successful at a very good price.

Street Department

Committee reviewed the activity report and future work schedule for the Street and Sanitation Department. Mayor Grenke commented that he had seen the street sweeper out and working. There were no additional comments.

Harline presented the committee with a draft version of a form for financial assistance from the City to help them fix their sidewalks. This would formalize our standing policy of assisting property owners by paying for the concrete and materials on sidewalk rehabilitation under certain conditions. Harline reported that he could not find the written policy. The proposed form could become the standard agreement once it was reviewed. Harline had two policy questions for the committee. Harline first asked if there was a need to have an approved list of contractors. Harline said the City could simply refuse to enter into an agreement in the rare case where we were uncomfortable with the property owner doing it themselves or if they planned to use a contractor with whom we had experienced problems. Bormann and Magley said that inspecting the projects was the key to making sure the projects were done right. During discussion only one example of a contractor leaving a mess after a project could be cited. Bormann suggested that we keep a list of contractors with whom we have had problems and not approve contracts with them. Harline stated that he had enough direction to move forward

Harline addressed the committee about removing sidewalks without replacing them. Currently the code requires any property owner who wants to remove and not replace a sidewalk to get a resolution adopted by the Board of Alderman. Harline presented a draft form that could be used in place of that process. Harline noted that neither this form nor the form described earlier in the

meeting had been reviewed by Merritt Beck. Harline further explained that he wanted feedback on another idea. Harline suggested that the City could require a property owner, who wanted to remove a sidewalk, to pay into a sidewalk replacement fund in the amount of a portion of the cost of the replacing the sidewalk. The funds collected would be directed toward building sidewalks in other areas of town that were important to improving the network of sidewalks in Centralia. Harline reminded the committee of a sidewalk on Booth Street that had recently been removed with the approval of the Board of Alderman. Harline and Bormann discussed how that sidewalk was not connected to a network of sidewalks and likely never would be, but we did need sidewalks on the other side of Booth Street. Bormann and Hoffmann agreed that the concept might work. Harline said he would move forward and run the ideas and forms past our City Attorney.

Harline reported to the committee that he felt we had a project with good potential for being approved for a Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) Grant. Harline stated that he needed help from an engineer to write the grant. Harline said there wasn't time for a formal Request for Proposal. He had spoken to two firms and knew of other possible firms. He asked if the Mayor could work with him to choose a firm. He thought it would cost around \$3,000 and he could have a proposed contract ready for the Board meeting in two weeks. Harline reported that the Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission was going to assist in the writing of the grant as well. Lee asked for a reminder about what the project included. Harline replied that the project would be building sidewalks to the high school. Lee asked what Mr. Harline was seeking from the committee and Harline replied he wanted approval to select a firm with guidance from the Mayor and any other Aldermen who would like to assist. Bormann stated he would like to participate. Harline said that he would proceed with Mayor Grenke and Alderman Bormann to select a firm.

Sanitation Department

Grenke asked about item #31 on the Activity Report. Hoffmann replied that he was referring to cooperating with Hubbell to provide them a spot to test anchors. Grenke encouraged him to continue working with our local businesses. Harline noted that a citizen whose name he could not remember [David Siler] had stopped by City Hall just to mention what a great job the men on the garbage truck did.

Hoffmann replied to a question from Bormann that his crew had been responding to various, minor storm water service requests but no major projects.

Other

Hoffman said he was approaching the Committee not as the Street Supervisor so much as a member of Whitetails Unlimited (WU). WU was proposing to pay for the materials to build an archery range in Centralia. The spot they were suggesting was behind the lime ponds at the water treatment facility. They had brought the suggestion to Parks Director Erle Bennett and he was supportive. WU would pay for the equipment and the Parks Department would maintain it. Lee asked which direction would be down range. Hoffman said the archers would shoot towards the woods. Lee and Bormann said they assumed that they would make sure all safety precautions were taken. Lee asked if the range would be supervised. Hoffmann said it would not be supervised but it would be fenced. They expected there would be 5' x 5' permanent targets. Ward asked how we would keep kids from getting in the range. Hoffmann replied that fencing would be installed to prevent kids from entering any way but through the approved entrance. He further stated that it would be quite a distance from the main park property. Hoffmann mentioned that there would be no crossbows permitted. Harline noted that the City of Fulton had had a similar public-private cooperative project to build an archery range and it was well used and liked.

As May Arise

Mayor Grenke mentioned that it was Fire Prevention Month and it was a good time to check your home fire extinguisher. Harline mentioned that it was also Public Power Week which had been recognized by a proclamation from the Governor. Police Chief Dudgeon mentioned that a new body shop was opening in the location of AJ's. The new business is called Centralia Collision Center.

ADJOURN

There being no other business, Borman called for a motion to adjourn. Magley moved and Ward seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote. The Committee adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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