

## **Minutes of the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee for Monday, December 1, 2014.**

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

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Comments from Citizens

None

### Electric Department

A. Activity Report - Bormann asked for comments and there were none.

B. Railroad Permit

Mustain reported that we were in the process of designing the crossings for the power lines across the railroad tracks. We almost to the point of applying for permits and we have enough money in the FY 2015 to obtain the permit if the Committee was willing to move forward. We budgeted \$20,000 for the engineering to determine a path across the railroad tracks and the cost was \$13,000. The cost for the permit will be \$7,300. Bormann asked if we would have to have a flagman. Bormann replied that we probably will.

C. Long-term Power RFP

Harline reported that the final version of the Long-Term Power purchase RFP is out on the street. Bob Harbour has sent it to 11 different possible power providers; all the ones he knew were potential bidders. One he did not send it to was a coop that would have required the City to be lifetime members of the coop. One option in the RFP is to do what is called block and index, which requires much more active participation for setting process. Each individual City Council will have a chance to review and accept which ever parts of the bid they like. There is an option for full requirements, which we have now. That will eliminate almost all of the risk and so the company who makes the successful bid will assume the risk in terms of price of power. The RFP has a due date for replies of December 18th. There will be a chance to discuss the options at the MPUA meeting in Columbia on December 11th.

D. Other

The LED lights will ship out by Wednesday. Hope to have them up by Christmas. Andrew Alton has started with the City on November 17th. Mustain replied in response to a question from Bormann that Alton went through training as a lineman, but this was his first work as a lineman.

### Water and Sewer Department

A. Activity Report

Bormann asked for comments. Bormann said the he saw that we sent in our response to the DNR for the annual inspection of the sewer operations. Bormann asked if we have received the response yet. Forsee replied that we had not. Bormann asked if we were still doing okay at getting the water pumped out. Forsee said that we were and we were using the overland flow quite a bit.

### Street Department

#### A. Activity Report

Bormann asked for comments.

#### B. Sidewalk grant update

Harline reported that there will be a meeting at the Mid-MO Regional Planning office on Wednesday the 10th to review the grant applications. There were over 30 submitted. There is about \$3,000,000 available. The maximum amount awarded to a grant will be \$500,000, so as few as six might be funded. Bormann noted that the competition is stiff. Lee asked what our request was. Harline reported that our project was about \$170,000 - \$175,000 and our share would be 20% of that amount.

### Sanitation Department

#### C. Trash rates

Bormann reported that there was a report in the packet. Harline noted that John Glascock, Public Works Director reported that there was no plan to increase the gate rate at the Columbia landfill above \$41.00/ton of trash in October. Harline said that at the \$41 dollar rate we still will need to raise trash rates by \$1.00/month per customer. Harline noted that we pay by the ton, and that as the economy has been improving the amount of trash is increasing. The city charges a flat rate per month. Grenke noted that some cities included a fuel surcharge. Harline explained the surcharge was added to customers in Mexico for example when the cost of diesel fuel exceeds a certain amount and goes down when it gets below a certain amount. Harline explained rates in other cities and what you get for that money. Harline also reported that Dayne's charges a gate rate of \$48/ton at their transfer station at Scott's Corner east of Mexico. Hoffmann reported that the transfer station was a very nice operation and easy to get in and out. Harline reported to Bormann, in response to his question, that he believed Dayne's hauls their trash to the landfill in Bowling Green, Missouri. There was a lengthy discussion about trash service provided by private haulers and how cities charged for administrative and other fees. Harline asked if the Committee was ready to authorize drafting an ordinance to raise trash rates by \$1.00/month. Magley asked when the last time trash rates were increased.

Rate for extra pickup for commercial service – Harline said he wanted to be able to charge for an extra pickup for trash for a commercial customer.

Trash collection of non-bagged items – Harline reported that we have allowed customers to be spoiled by picking up anything at the curb, whether they are in a bag of container or loose in boxes and small bags. Harline would like to encourage people to put trash in bags for a year and then perhaps move to charging for special pickups. Harline noted that every other city charges or at least requires a call ahead for bulky item pickup, most charge people. Dayne's in Hallsville has one day each month when they pickup couches and other bulky items in Hallsville.

### Other

Darren Adams asked about construction demolition which is sometimes not picked up because he doesn't always set it out. Hoffmann noted that they do not pick it up at new house construction because they did not have roll-off dumpsters. Harline had spoken with Lynn Behrns and the prohibition against construction debris in a loaner dumpster at a house was to make sure we didn't subsidize construction companies. Grenke asked about loaner dumpsters. Harline and Hoffmann reported that those were for house cleanups, not for construction. Lee asked about temporary

trash pickup. Adams reported that the sheet rock boxes were the biggest pain. Bormann suggested that we discuss it further.

Harline asked if we wanted to have an ordinance that allowed for charging for small do-it-yourself dumpster charges. Bormann indicated yes. The Committee indicated that we allow for free loaner dumpsters for one week.

#### As May Arise

Harline mentioned the Boone County Municipal Dinner and wanted to have a good showing from the City of Centralia.

Darren Adams asked about improvements on Jefferson Street that would include curb and gutter street with sidewalks. He asked if that is part of the grant application. Bormann told him that it is not. There was further discussion about Emerald Subdivision and improvements to Jefferson Street.

Adams wanted to know why he had to have an irrevocable letter of credit for sidewalk construction. He said it was an expense and then the people did have their feet held to the fire to get the sidewalks built. Harline said he wanted to make sure sidewalks were built. Adams said he wasn't opposed to building the sidewalks, but he did not think the cost should be on the developer. Bormann said that he did not know exactly how they did it in Columbia could be looked into in the future. Bormann agreed that it could be handled a different and possibly better way.

Adams mentioned that he had looked at the Comprehensive Plan from 1987 and it called for industrial development out east. Adams noted that there is no gas to his building on Highway CC and it has been in the City's comprehensive plan to build that direction for industrial development. Harline noted that it is not a City utility. Adams said it should be a priority for the City to get natural gas to those sites. Magley asked if the church had gas. Adams reported that the gas stops on Rodney Griffin. Harline said he would talk with Ameren and see if there were other options.

#### ADJOURN

There being no other business, Borman called for a motion to adjourn. Wilkins moved and Magley seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote. The Committee adjourned at 7:59 p.m.