

Minutes of the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee of the City of Centralia for Monday, April 6, 2015.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bormann at 7:00 p.m. Present were Committee Chair Don Bormann, Committee Members Jim Lee, Tim Grenke (Mayor), Andrea Vollrath, Dick Ward, and Landon Magley. Also in attendance were Phil Hoffman, Mark Mustain, Mike Forsee, James Smith (Fireside Guard), Ethan Baca, Nancy Baca, Rebecca Reasons and two other members of the family.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Those present said the Pledge of Allegiance.

READING OF MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Grenke read a proclamation honoring Ethan Baca for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout and a proclamation recognizing Tuesday, April 7, 2015 as Arbor Day in the City of Centralia and encouraged the citizens to plant trees. Mayor Grenke noted that the City was recognized as a Tree City for the 24th year.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

None

WATER AND SEWER

Activity Report

No comments or questions.

Water

Forsee reported on the 12" valve at Hubbell. Originally the price we were given was \$9,500 and we were set to go. The vendor then asked us to drill a test sample to determine the thickness of the wall of the pipe. After seeing the "coupon" they told us it would be an additional \$5,100 to buy a drill bit, which the vendor was interested in keeping after the project. Forsee we would keep the bit if we had to buy it and then set about talking the vendor that were interested in doing some valve insertions and possibly sell us a machine. After talking to the valve vendor the price is now \$6,248 total and they might be in the upcoming Thursday, although the weather doesn't look favorable.

Sewer

Harline stated that he is still working on getting property descriptions for the agreements with our farmers for irrigation. Harline reported that everyone is happy and not concerned about the delays and that in the worst case scenario we would approve the agreements at the May meeting. Forsee noted that we were about at the halfway mark on both lagoons. Benoit has some room but the others will begin pumping soon and need to be replenished. Mustain reported that Benoit had an underground wire burnout and he would be working on fixing that sometime in the next week.

Harline and Forsee reported that we were developing bids for sliplining. Forsee replied to a question from Bormann that we had been using a contract with the City of Independence.

STREETS & SANITATION

Activity Report.

Bormann asked for comments and questions and there were none.

Streets

Road Project list RFP: Harline reported that an RFP had been prepared based on the list prepared by Hoffman

and approved by the Board and it was here for the Committee's comment. Harline added that last year we received a very low bid of \$68.10 per ton but this RFP was based on \$75/ton with some wiggle room. Harline then asked the Committee to comment on possible additional streets to overlay if somehow we get favorable bids. He noted that Jefferson Street between the tracks had been identified as a high priority but it was so wide it would likely be too big a project for any remaining amount of funds. Hoffman replied to Harline's question that he didn't have the list handy. Ward asked if the entire 40 foot width would have to be done and Hoffman replied that at least a wedge across the whole street would be necessary. Bormann asked about the plan for a concrete replacement of the entire stretch. Harline said that in his opinion it would be at least the summer of 17 and that his preference was to do an overlay and buy some time. Harline noted that an overlay of the downtown streets wasn't even on Lynn's list and they need some attention. Bormann noted that he would like to see the concrete project on Jefferson to remain a high priority. Harline listed some other possible Stone Street, Sunrise Circle Southwest Circle, and Howard Burton Drive Booth to the railroad tracks if there is any money left over. Jefferson Street by itself would be \$35,000. Bormann stated that he realized there were many overlay needs. Hoffman noted that there was a big need for a facelift downtown. Magley noted that there was curb and gutter work needed downtown.

Sidewalk Grant Update: Harline reported that we had received eight letters of interest on the Jefferson Street Sidewalk Project and that the committee needed to set up a schedule. Harline noted that any of the firms could do the job and we could not choose a consultant by price. Bormann stated in answer to a question from Lee that State Law prohibited choosing an engineer by cost in order to avoid choosing a firm that would give poor advice and end up costing a lot more.

Wheel Loader: Harline reported that our Case Wheel Loader was being auctioned on GovDeals and that the bid was currently at \$23,000 which is still not as much as the trade-in offered. Either way we could stay within budget. Hoffman noted that we would know next week if we were selling it or trading it in.

Sanitation

Spring cleanup: Hoffman reported that it starts the upcoming weekend. Harline noted that there was slight price increase from Dayne's but it is the first increase in four years.

Special Pickup for Residential Service: Harline noted that he had seen dozens of places where we have people putting out very large amounts of refuse at the curb including what looked to staff like construction debris. Harline noted that the purpose of the Sanitation Department was for the health benefits of refuse collection, but two 95-gallon carts should be enough for a household in a week. Harline wants to have a discussion about it, but perhaps we need to set a specific maximum amount and additional trash would be a \$5 or \$10 charge for a special pickup. Harline repeated that he was only trying to get the discussion started. Grenke asked what a 95-gallon cart cost. Hoffman replied it was about \$68 and could be paid over two months. Hoffman replied to a question from Lee that the some of the trash may be coming from outside the City but that the loaner dumpsters were just costing us money. Hoffman replied to a question from Harline by stating that repeat customers were common with the loaner dumpsters. Harline asked the Committee if they thought this was worth pursuing and they replied affirmatively.

Harline reported that we might want to look at setting a reduced monthly trash rate for apartment dwellers who currently pay the standard \$17.25 residential fee, even though they may be using a common dumpster. Lee asked if we had a dumpster rate and Hofmann answer affirmatively but it was for commercial. Harline answered in response to Magley's question that charging the commercial rate would be a large loss of revenue and there is a bit more administrative burden. The Committee indicated approval of pursuing a residential dumpster rate.

Stormsewer

Hoffman reported that he was doing some culvert work.

Other

Bormann asked for comments or questions and there were none.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

Activity Report Chairman Bormann asked for comment on the Activity Report and there was none.

Long-term Power RFP

Harline noted that he had attended a meeting with a consultant that described what it might look like to go with an option beside a full-requirements purchase with Kahoka and Hannibal. Harline noted that we would have to hire someone to do intermediate term and day-ahead purchases. Harline noted that we were still pursuing full-requirement bid updates. Harline asked if the Board would want to hear a presentation about this strategy with Chris Dawson of GDS. Harline replied to questions from Bormann that it should be a cost savings than our current full-requirements with an 11-MW capacity limit. Harline explained that instead of purchasing all our power at one rate, some would be cheaper and some more expensive, but it should be cheaper overall. This firm could work with us on other things like adjusting to net-metering and other issues

Developing the RFP for Boring for Electric Conduit

Harline reported that Mustain and he had participated in a conference call with BHM he firms that will be doing **Magley moved and Vollrath seconded a motion to hire BHM to prepare an RFB at the cost of \$7,000 for boring under the railroad tracks which was approved by unanimous voice vote.** Harline and Mustain gave an approximate time line for the bid process.

Mustain said that there would be scrap bids for the Board meeting this month.

OTHER & AS MAY ARISE

Bormann asked for items for Other and then As May Arise and there were no additional items.

ADJOURN

There being no other business, Bormann called for a motion to adjourn. Vollrath moved and Grenke seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote. The Committee adjourned at 7:57 p.m.