

**Minutes of the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee for Monday, June 1, 2015.**

Before the meeting was called to order a brief video demonstrating how a proposed valve insertion tool would work.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Andrea Vollrath at 7:23 p.m. Present were Chairman Vollrath, Mayor Tim Grenke, Aldermen, Jim Lee, Don Bormann, David Wilkins, Dick Ward and Landon Magley. Also attending were Matt Harline, Phil Hoffman, Mike Forsee, Mark Mustain and James Smith of the Fireside Guard.

Electric Department

*Activity Report* - Vollrath asked if there were any questions or comments on the activity report and there were none.

*Boring Project Bid and next steps:* Harline reported the following: The City budgeted \$165,000 to bore two holes and conduit in two locations under both railroads. There were only two companies that attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting on the underground boring project and only one of those two submitted a bid. Sellenriek Construction of Jonesburg bid \$200,000 for the project. After lengthy discussions with the bidder and with BHMG, staff has come to the conclusion that our best option is to reject all bids and rebid the project in December or January with the plan being to actually do the boring in spring of 2016, very soon after April 1. Harline noted that with a bid in hand we could make a very precise budget decision. Harline noted that we were still working on final permissions for the project from the railroads, but the permission would be good into next year. The original engineer's estimate for boring and flagging was \$106,000, but that was for one bore. Even if we were to accept the bid and negotiate an agreement with Sellenriek, the best case scenario is that we will go over budget by around \$25,000. BHMG has admitted some part of the high bid was an error on their part for not increasing the estimate with the addition of the second bore. Dealing with one of the railroads has also driven the cost up considerably. Finally, the City may want to accept the risk involved in the cost of the flagman, or request quotes in a time and materials instead of a lump sum cost for the project. Harline and Mustain explained that any interruption in the project would require the flagman to come back and charge a new mobilization charger. Harline noted that Sellenriek was able to look at possibilities and give a reduced price but it was determined that would not be a fair process. Harline added that we will look at rebidding with only one bore at each location would be possible. In answer to a question from Alderman Magley, Harline said that he believed that any permitting work that we do this year should be valid through the project. Harline explained that leaving the flagman out of the bid and paying that ourselves would be an option to investigate.

**A motion was made by Bormann and seconded by Wilkins to reject all bids. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

Vollrath asked for comments or questions.

*Net metering application:* Harline reported that the City anticipated receiving a request in the near future to install solar electric panels on a downtown business. Harline noted that the City, under Lynn Behrns guidance, had long ago put in place policies in anticipation of this application and there should be no major issues. Harline noted that we would need to establish a rate at which to credit payer for the electricity they generate. Mustain noted that this would only produce power when the sun was shining and would not be a risk to revenue.

*Other:* Harline reported that Greg Modlish from Siemens had approached him about doing some preliminary data gathering to see if the City could find greater efficiency with a short ROI if we

replaced our streetlights and water meters with newer and more efficient models. Harline noted that we would be interested in studying the potential cost savings of converting to LED lighting.

Lee asked about the Rose case. Harline said that an attempt to reach a settlement had not worked and that we were proceeding to court. Harline said that he could have a report at a later meeting if the Committee would like at the next meeting.

### Water and Sewer Department

*Activity Report* Vollrath asked for comments and questions on the Activity Report and Vollrath asked for comments and questions on the Activity Report and there were none.

### WATER

*Valve insertion tool bids:* Forsee reported on his search for a valve insertion tool which has taken over two years. Currently he is paying about \$3,500 to \$5,500 to Decker just to do the insertion, much of it was labor. Forsee discussed some of the models he looked at and why he was making the recommendation for Hydra-Stop. Forsee explained why he really needed to insert or replace about 11 valves. Forsee noted that if he doesn't have to have the same Romak system as Decker was \$52,000 and was a lot more complicated. Forsee said that the other units were heavier and were so large that they would require an additional trailer. Forsee said that Hydra-Stop thinks he might be able to open the hole, measure the outer diameter of a pipe and get the valve the same day or next day as opposed to more than a week. Forsee noted that this was stainless steel and the right size. Harline reported that the Board budgeted \$45,000 for this line item so the bid is well within budget and staff recommends approval. **Wilkins made a motion to accept the bid from Hydra-Stop for a valve insertion tool for \$39,519.00. Bormann seconded the motion and it was approved by unanimous voice vote.**

### SEWER

Forsee reported that we are about  $\frac{3}{4}$  full in our irrigation ponds and all the farmers had pumped their ponds full and that is right on schedule. Forsee anticipated that Sunnydale may be drawing some down so it is working really well.

*Other:* Harline noted that the 2014 Water Quality Report was available online and the City had no areas of deficiency again.

### Street and Sanitation Department

*Activity Report:* Vollrath asked for comments and questions on the activity report there were none / no other comments.

### STREETS

*Summer 2015 Overlay Contractor* Harline reported that he will be meeting with Tom Christensen later this week and the Parks and Recreation staff on Centralia Public Schools will be invited as they have projects that they are working on for this summer. There may be an opportunity for them to work of the City's bid and receive better pricing.

*Howard Burton Drive Sidewalk in front of Recreation Park:* Harline reported that he had been approached by the Parks Department to replace some sidewalks on Howard Burton Road in or next to Recreation Park. Harline noted that Mr. Bennett wanted to move the sidewalk into the park to avoid some trees and move it back from the street. Hoffman noted that it would be about \$3,600 which Harline added would not deplete our sidewalk funds. Magley asked about the width and ADA compliance. A brief discussion about sidewalk design followed.

### SANITATION

Hoffman reported that the old truck is broken due to a sheared shaft on the compactor. Hoffman noted that they had no idea what caused it to break like it did. Harline reported that he had recently had a discussion about trash rates with Russ Green. Harline noted that he had two apartments and three small businesses and that currently we would charge those like five separate accounts, even if they pool all their trash in a single dumpster. Harline stated that he will be bringing back a proposed change to address that without putting our revenue at risk.

#### STORM SEWER

*Bruton Street:* Hoffman noted that his crew was working on a storm drain at Allen and Burton and noted that the current storm pipe had rusted to the point of collapse. It is not certain how far they would need to go with the project but it would likely be several hundred dollars.

In answer to a question from Bormann about a recent sink hole that developed on Head Street, Forsee reported that a hole opened up due to a personal sewer lateral that had disintegrated and had been washing out an underground space for years. Forsee explained that it got big enough that the street started falling into it. Forsee noted that the main line was flushed but it was all clear before and after. Hoffman replied to a question by Magley that the street has been replaced by concrete.

#### Other

Harline stated that had been asking about the possibility of putting up "No Littering" signs on the sidewalks on the outside of the square. Harline stated that it would cost about \$120 but he was not recommending this. Vollrath asked about placing signs on trash cans. Lee noted that the signs are as ugly as the littler. There was no interest on the Committee of moving forward with such signs.

Mayor Grenke wants to watch the first use of the valve insertion tool.

#### As May Arise

Magley asked about the Narragansett Building. Harline noted that he had spoken to Dan Marshall about the building and that no inspections had been done on any work that he had done over the past several years. Bormann asked about the building permit being closed and Harline replied that he understood that permits issued at the time when De La Rosa pulled the permit did not expire, as long as they were actively being pursued. Harline said he was gathering information about the CDBG Demolition grants.

**Wilkins moved to adjourn the meeting. Magley seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous voice vote.**

The Committee adjourned 8:16 p.m.