

Minutes of the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee for Tuesday, September 6, 2016.

The meeting was called to order by Alderman, Jim Lee, and Chairperson at 7:08 p.m. (after a brief Special Meeting of the Board of Aldermen).

Present also were Aldermen Landon Magley, Don Rodgers, David Wilkins, Andrea Vollrath and Mayor Tim Grenke. Absent – None. Also attending were City Administrator, Matt Harline, Street & Sanitation Foreman Phil Hoffman, Electric Foreman Mark Mustain, Water & Sewer Foreman Mike Forsee, Police Chief Larry Dudgeon, Fire Chief Denny Rusch and James Smith of the Fireside Guard.

Comments from Citizens.

None.

Public Works

A. ACTIVITY REPORT Lee asked for comments and questions and there were none.

B. STREETS

Street overlay update – Harline said that the overlay projects were done. Harline noted that John Bliven from Hubbell Power Systems had said “thank you” for Howard Burton Street to which Hoffman added that he had received several positive comments about that street. Harline noted that the Committee had chosen Hoffman’s list of major streets over his list of the worst local streets and he had to admit that it was a good choice because those were the streets that were used more. Magley said that there were new drag marks on the new asphalt on Jefferson because it was high in the middle.

Sidewalk project update – Harline stated that the sidewalk project was not going as fast as he would like because the contractor was bouncing between two sidewalk grant projects; one here and one in Prairie Home. Harline added that the work done was good. Lee asked if the hand rail over the creek was in place and Harline replied that it was not.

C. SANITATION

Update on RFP for Solid Waste Services – Harline reported that the Solid Waste committee had met earlier in the evening to evaluate the three proposals – Dayne’s Waste Service, T-MAC and the City. Harline noted that the next meeting would be on Thursday, it would be an open meeting and Dayne Love was invited to answer some questions. Harline noted that the price per ton for Dayne’s was considerably lower than the City’s bid.

D. STORM SEWER

Lee noted that there were several culvert additions noted in the activity report. Harline added that Midland had completed their first run of mapping but they had missed the new addition on Jefferson Street as part of the sidewalk project.

E.-OTHER

None.

Electric Department

A. ACTIVITY REPORT Lee asked for comments and questions on the monthly report. Lee asked if Mustain had received comments on Allen Street LED lights. Grenke said it looked pretty nice.

B. GENERATION / PURCHASE

None.

C. DISTRIBUTION

Shut off policy. Harline noted that we had discussed this before, but now he had a draft for the Committee's recommendation. Harline said that before the policy was changed, the Code had to be changed to allow partial payments under certain conditions. Harline noted that sometimes people paid on line and we de facto had to accept the payment. Harline said he would recommend that we not shut off service if 90% of the bill is paid. It would include the 5% penalty. Lee asked if he thought someone would exploit that. Harline said yes, someone probably would, but we would have 90% in hand or they would have their power and water disconnected. In person it would have to be the entire payment.

Harline added that the other change in policy would be to allow one extension per twelve months than one extension for your entire life, which is closer to what we really do. Harline said that he was required to sign off on any additional extensions which could be problematic and slows the process down. Harline said that there were about five requests each month and the extensions were typically for about a week or so.

Harline added that we would also use social media to advertise when we would be delaying shut offs due to the cold-weather policy. Harline stated another change would be to require a single deposit after a single disconnect where we now only require a "double deposit after two disconnection notices in one year.

D. OTHER

Step increase for Electric Supervisor: Harline said that he wanted to bring an ordinance to increase the pay of the Electric Supervisor. Harline noted that he had discussed this during his annual review if he had accomplished a couple things and those were done. Plus Mustain had done such good work during the power outage.

MAMU Board of Directors: Harline noted that he had been asked to serve on the Missouri Association of Municipal Utilities. It was the original committee and the one that is the governmental relations wing of MPUA. Lee asked if it was a large time commitment and Harline said that it was not.

Water and Sewer Department

A. ACTIVITY REPORT: Jim Lee asked for comments and questions on the monthly report. Grenke asked if it was a big year for lawn mowers hitting remote ready antennae. Forsee said that there had been a lot. Forsee asked if they would approve the copper and plastic pipe bids, they are under \$1,250. Forsee said it was a good price. Lee asked if Forsee needed a motion. Harline said maybe during the Comprehensive Plan process the City could develop a policy or way of working with developers and homebuilders on siting of water meter pit.

B. WATER

Aerator replacement update Harline referred to the bids for installation and supplies that Gonzales had provided when we were approaching this as an emergency last spring. Harline added that we have the aerator and have put off installation until we don't have as much daily water usage. Harline reported that he had spoken with Jon Kremer of Gonzales and Kremer would be putting together a bid packet and most of these items could be bid but installation might be a sole source. Lee asked what the function of the aerator is and Forsee explained its purpose as the first step in the treatment process to eliminate iron and manganese and odor out.

C. SEWER.

DNR Response to recent visit: Forsee said that most of the comments were what we expected such as cutting the growth on the berms of the lagoons. Harline added that DNR had a lot of concerns about the nighttime application of our treated water to fields which would have to be added to our permit renewal application. Forsee noted that he has been working with DNR and the farmers. Harline noted that Forsee has been an excellent diplomat. Lee asked if DNR was still promoting our plant had Forsee said they still brought people down periodically. Forsee noted that the farmers had talked with DNR and that had been helpful.

D. OTHER – None

OTHER - None.

AS MAY ARISE - None.

Wilkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting that was seconded by Vollrath and approved by unanimous voice vote.

The Committee adjourned at 7:40 p.m.