

Minutes of the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee for Monday, November 7, 2016.

The meeting was called to order by Alderman, Jim Lee, and Chairperson at 7:00 p.m.

Present also were Aldermen Landon Magley, Don Rodgers, David Wilkins, Andrea Vollrath, Dick Ward and Mayor, Tim Grenke. Absent – None. Also attending were City Administrator, Matt Harline, Street & Sanitation Foreman Phil Hoffman, Electric Foreman Jeff Armontrout, Water & Sewer Foreman Mike Forsee, Police Chief Larry Dudgeon, Fire Chief Denny Rusch, John Selby, Donna Bryson, Ben Ray, Gage Pemberton, Bradley Werkmeister, William Bates, Kyler Bahr, and Todd Pemberton from Boy Scout Troop 90 and James Smith of the Fireside Guard.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Grenke led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Comments from Citizens.

John Selby (616 North Barr) told the Committee that he was not happy with the City's new trash service. He was upset that he had purchased a 96-gallon cart and he felt that he couldn't use it any more. Lee explained that he could still use it if he put his trash in bags inside of the 96-gallon poly cart. Harline said he could understand his frustration and the City was looking at options to address the burden of people who recently bought the 96-gallon containers.

Water and Sewer Department

A. **ACTIVITY REPORT** Jim Lee asked for comments and questions on the monthly report and there were none.

B. WATER

Aerator installation bids – Harline announced that we had two bids for installing the aerator at the water plant noting that the aerator had been on site at the plant for several months. Harline reported that he had spoken with a representative of the low bidder and they were prepared to do the installation on November 16. Rodgers asked why there was such a difference in price. Harline said that he was a local contractor and he was convinced that they could do the job. Forsee said that he was convinced that Flynn Drilling could do the job. Forsee replied to Harline's question that the aerator would be left on site for us to dispose. Harline said Heggeman had bid the same amount several months earlier as an emergency bid. Lee said it looked like an easy choice. **Grenke made a motion to accept the bid of Flynn Drilling to install the aerator for \$9,725.00. Vollrath seconded the motion which passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

Water main break update Harline said that he was very impressed by the work of Forsee, his crew, the fire fighters, and street department employees repairing the water main break on Collier Street in October. Forsee added that he had a lot of help including the police department. Forsee said that he thinks he has a line that is tied in that is not on the map. Forsee reported that this was a cast iron main and it needed to be replaced, but they had installed a new valve. Grenke said that he had spoken with Lynn Behrns former City Administrator and Behrns had told him that the line had been scheduled for replacement. Forsee said in response to Harline's question that he is trying to schedule new training on the valve replacement tool that he thinks would work even better than the valve they installed in this emergency. Lee said that he was impressed with the crew as well.

Declaring Truck #3 surplus property – Harline noted that we have purchased a new dump truck for the Street Department and they transferred a truck to Water and now Truck #3 can be declared

surplus and sold. **Vollrath made a motion to declare Truck #3 surplus property. Magley seconded the motion which passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

C. SEWER. – None.

D. OTHER

Adding personnel – Harline reported that when we created the budget this year we increased water and sewer rates 5% and he felt that it was time to add the additional position and Mike Forsee was in agreement. Harline said that he felt that it was necessary to add an additional position back to the Water/Sewer Department. Forsee noted that his crew was aging and Randy (Adams) might be retiring as soon as the following year. Forsee said it would be good to get someone trained and learning all the parts of the job and where everything was at in the city. **Ward made a motion to add one additional person to the Water/Sewer Department. Vollrath seconded the motion which passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

Electric Department

A. ACTIVITY REPORT Lee asked for comments and questions on the monthly report. Grenke said that 27 rereads seems a bit high. Armontrout replied that it really wasn't unusual.

B. GENERATION / PURCHASE

None.

C. DISTRIBUTION

Equipment bids – Harline noted that there was quite a difference in price but the two bids in the packet were for the same pieces of equipment. In answer to a question from Lee, Armontrout replied that this was for pulling the wire under the train tracks in the conduit they had installed last fall. **Vollrath made a motion to accept the bid of Anixter in the amount of \$2,456.75 for electric equipment. Magley seconded the motion which passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

D. OTHER

Promotion of Jeff Armontrout Harline reported that he would be bringing an ordinance for establishing Jeff as the Foreman effective October 31st and the ordinance would reflect. Harline added that our attorney said that it was necessary to pass an ordinance but it was acceptable to set the pay rate at the time he was promoted. Lee asked if that was just informational and Harline replied in the affirmative.

Harline noted that they would need to hire a lineman to fill the vacant position. Harline said that by hiring in mid-December would allow the new hire to start the MPUA apprentice program in time to start the testing in January. Lee asked if the training was in the evenings. Armontrout explained that Mark Mustain former Electric Foreman for the City would be coming to Centralia to administer tests and do training. Harline added that the new hire would be in the same class as Scott Smith. Armontrout noted that Clayton Crump would be finishing a test in December and would have one year left.

Public Works

A. ACTIVITY REPORT Lee asked for comments and questions and there were none. Lee asked if he (Dayne) had adjusted his timing of his commercial routes. Hoffman said that he thought he had. Harline noted that they had moved it back three hours in Landon's area, but it was still loud. Harline said that Dayne's has adjusted some routes. Harline added that Dayne was willing to come to a forum to listen to people's comments and complaints and to explain what he was facing.

Harline noted that it wasn't as loud as a train and people will like get used to it, but that it doesn't mean that people don't have legitimate complaints. Harline said the complaints have gone down. Harline said that we kind of put people who bought a trash cart recently in a bad position. Hoffman said most people he talked to wanted to keep their carts.

B. STREETS

Jefferson Street Sidewalk project update – Harline stated that the sidewalk project ribbon cutting went well and thanked the people who attended including Ginny Zoellers from the Chamber of Commerce, MODOT, the Mayor, County Commissioner, Janet Thompson, KMIZ and others. In answer to a question to Lee, Harline stated that there were a few items like the crosswalk sign had to be on a separate post from the stop sign, the street signs have disappeared, there is a driveway that has to be re-poured and a few other items. Harline said he had heard plenty of positive comments. Harline said that the project was over budget because the original numbers in the original grant were too low.

C. SANITATION

Solid waste collection update – Harline reported that he had sent out a lengthy memo explaining how he would like to adjust the monthly solid waste services bill. Harline said residential trash would be \$16.00 at the curb or \$15.00 in dumpsters. Harline said that the other rates would be adjusted to match Dayne's rates and the service charge would be added in March when we would have raised rates anyway because we had already plugged those rates in. That way customers could find more efficient ways to have their trash collected and very few would have the rates increased, unless they needed to have their rates increased to reflect a greater need for service. Harline noted that all residential customers and most commercial customers will see a lower trash bill. Harline added that the bulky items and extra tips would be set in the ordinance as well. Harline reviewed other details about what would need to be included in the ordinance. Harline said that he felt that this would put the City in the position to have enough money to go back onto the trash business if they so choose in five years.

D. STORM SEWER

Lee

E.-OTHER

None.

OTHER

Engineering RFQ – Harline noted that he had made changes to the On-call Engineering RFQ to address the comments that had been made. Harline noted that one change was to reduce the insurance requirement and he could put in language to reduce it further on small projects, but the amount of risk is not always less for a small project. Rodgers said that it was reasonable insurance amounts. Forsee asked what the scope would be for projects; would it be for subdivision plans or updates to the water plant. Harline said it would cover both small and large and for that reason he expects to have more than one engineering firm on-call. Harline said we had examples from Clayton, Mexico, Eldon and others. Harline said it would have made the City plans for water main expansion in Southwest Country Estates has been difficult. Lee asked if those plans had to be stamped and if so who would do it. Harline replied that the plans did need to be stamped. Forsee that is what the problem has been. Harline would like to have an ad-hoc committee appointed to review the submittals. Harline said it would be January or February before we had everything done. Harline said in response to Lee that he had had several firms look at the RFQ that had been copied largely from examples of other cities. **Magley made a motion to**

move forward with the RFQ process. Vollrath seconded the motion which passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Comprehensive Plan Update – Harline reminded everyone that the big meeting where all four groups get back together would be on November 15th and a preliminary draft would be assembled after that, Lee asked if the survey part would go out ahead of competing the plan. Harline replied in the affirmative.

AS MAY ARISE

Grenke noted that Veteran's Day was coming. Grenke stated that the First Baptist Church would have an event at 6:30 p.m. on Friday. Grenke added that he was promoting a 5-K Veteran's Day run on Saturday starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Avenue of Flags to benefit the upkeep of the flags.

Harline noted that a committee of employees had been looking at proposals for health insurance and would have a proposal ready for the Committee meeting next week. Harline said that he thinks the employees liked being included. Harline said worst case is a 4.6% increase. Harline said that he expected to offer every employee two options, a low deductible plan and a high deductible Health Savings Account plan.

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

The Committee adjourned at 8:14 p.m.