

Minutes of the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee for Tuesday, November 13, 2018.

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

I. PRESENT

Present were Mayor Tim Grenke, Aldermen Don Rodgers, Don Bormann, Landon Magley, Robert Hudson, and Jim Lee. Also attending were City Administrator, Heather Russell, Electric Foreman Jeff Armontrout, Water Foreman Matthew Rusch, Public Works and Public Utilities Director Mike Forsee, Fire Chief Denny Rusch Chief Bob Bias, and James Smith with the Centralia Fireside Guard. Citizens present were: Zack Thomas with Engineering Surveys and Services, Mark Fox, Griffin Munson, Logan Hubert, Justin Hubert, Andrew Rish, Oliver Fox, Ian Tuggle, Nick Lockwood, Jason Lockwood, Boy scouts and their Parents from Troop #90, and also citizens Tom and Bridget Finnegan

II. PLEDGE OF ALLIGANCE

III. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

None

IV. ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

A. Activity Report

Lee asked Armontrout if he had anything to highlight, and Armontrout said they have had a crazy number of locates and have been trimming trees. Lee asked Armontrout what would cause a street light to flash and a few of the Aldermen said they had seen the street light that has been flashing as well. Armontrout said it is not working at all now. Bormann made the comment that they were all just changed to LED and Armontrout agreed and was looking into this. Grenke asked if we are still not turning utilities off if it was less than 30 degrees outside and Russell said we have not had any except a returned check today and it was being handled.

B. Generation/Purchase

None

C. Distribution

None

D. Other

1. Purchasing 3- Phase Pad Mount Transformer

Hudson asked if there was much of a difference between them and Armontrout said it's all the same transformer. He was thinking we go with Arkansas Electric Company. Grenke asked if the cost includes freight, and Armontrout said he believes it does and it has a 12-14 weeks ship time. Bormann asked where this one was going and Armontrout said it is going to be a reserve for standby. Hudson said so we don't have to wait 12 – 14 weeks to get one. Lee asked if we needed to act on this tonight. Russell stated no, this is just for

the Board's information tonight.

V. PUBLIC WORKS

A. Activity Report

Hoffman said last month they have been working on drainage work, had a storm sewer project for a home owner, and have done some culverts. Bormann asked Hoffman if Mayes Meadows was done and he replied back to Bormann that the curb, gutter and drainage was all in they are just waiting on the weather because they are waiting on a good week to pour concrete.

B. Streets

1. Randolph Road Update/Discussion

Russell said there were two more opinions on site construction costs for Randolph Road: option 5 is 38ft concrete up to Remington, continuing with 24ft wide concrete street without curb & gutter, but with gravel shoulders. Option 6 was based off Bormann's recommendation of the east ½ of the street complete with curb and gutter at 19ft, and gravel on the west ½ of the street. Grenke said Russell measured Hwy 22 and it was 22ft wide. Forsee said the middle sections is where we get the size difference, if you look at Jefferson St. from bike lane to bike lane it is 24ft wide. Forsee asked Thomas where the storm sewer was supposed to be. Thomas said he did move around some inlets. Forsee said two bids ago they were taken out. Thomas said options 1-4 there were alternates based on paving from Hwy 22 to Remington, gravel north, then the low spot there where he had to cut the culvert. Thomas said then had to add the inlets. Thomas said he put them back in but there could be discussion on taking them back out if it was curb-less or build them later. Forsee noticed we added water service with more footage, and asked if that was because of materials at that end if we only did paving. Forsee said there was 100ft when we started out. Thomas said he is doing some shifting because of some of the power poles, the water line will fall where the ditch is.

Russell told the Board the balance in the transportation sales tax fund is currently \$311,830.50. Rodgers questioned when we will have to make a decision. There is a time limit for the CDBG grant said Russell, she believed it is 3 years. Russell said she will be talking with Mayfield. Rodgers asked about making the decision on sending out the easements. Russell said we can back out, up to signing a contract for construction according to the Grant Administrator. Grenke said we are not obligated right now. Magley asked about leftover money for overlaying in town. \$116,000 left according to Russell. Rodgers asked how much the grant was for and Russell said \$200,000. Magley and Hudson are having a hard time with this. Hudson said he is really having a hard time dropping that kind of money they could use for streets in town, Forsee said Christensen saved us money, Russell said they came in about \$5,400 under budget. Russell asked the board to think about it. Rodgers said we are going to have to grow up and get this going. Hoffman reminded the Board that these numbers are just estimates and it could be more or less. Bormann asked what Finck had to put up for this. Russell said there are no penalties for Finck if we do not take it. Hudson said do we have an estimate 38ft wide to Remington and Thomas is going to crunch numbers and get back to us. Russell said we may not be able to use the Grant if we stop at Remington. Hudson said then will it still be there until we use it to build a road. Russell said a hearing before the Board of

Adjustment will be needed for any variation of the road other than 38ft with curb and gutters. Grenke said we need to make it clear to the Board of Adjustment that this is a process and will be in phases. Rodgers asked if we are going to make a decision and wants to know what is our gain and our loss. Grenke said that part of town will open up on that side of town and will attract more business. Lee said this does fit into our long term plan and somewhere down the line it will be used, we have an opportunity to get \$200,000 to help with this project. Magley said we need to do it right the first time, Lee said we do not want to waste money on it. Bormann said it would be realistic to be building on one side. Lee sees where Bormann is coming from. Lee then asked the Board what they would be able to live with for a length of time and questioned if it would feel narrow. Bormann said we do need rock out there, same as what is behind the carwash. Lee said he understands but questioned when we will see the second phase of our project, 5 years or longer. Bormann said what if something else goes out there. Lee asked would we still be able to get a CBDG grant in the future. Bormann said maybe. Forsee said we are looking at concrete versus gravel. Magley said we would be surprised with how much traffic there will be out there. Russell said if we are talking aesthetics then we're not attracting the type of business we want with just 1/2 of a road. Thomas said if we expand then it is not a huge expense. Hoffman said from the street department stand point the half gravel is a pain and a concrete center would be much easier to maintain especially since farmers are going to be using it. Lee said this was a good discussion and should asked the Board make a decision. Russell said she will compile all the options and bring to Monday's Board of Aldermen meeting.

1. Handicapped Parking Spaces on North Allen Street

Russell said she had been approached by a few of JJ's Café customers and Sara Paben, one of the owners of JJ's Café, and they talked about getting a handicapped parking spot and Hoffman said he would put one Singleton would be the best spot. Russell said if we do the one in front of JJ's Cafe we will lose two spots on Allen Street. Russell said she could talk more with the Robb and Sara Paben, as well as Jeff Clementz, to see what they are thinking as well.

2 .Quote from Christensen for Intersection at Lakeview and Jefferson

Russell stated the quote from Christensen was in the packet to repair and overlay the intersection at Lakeview and Jefferson. Forsee said the manhole is sticking up, which is causing many complaints. Hoffman said every direction would get milled out and it would get the ruts out of Jefferson just at that intersection of Jefferson and Lakeview. Christensen could do asphalt and shape it out. Russell said this would come out of the Transportation Sales Tax fund and would cost \$18,525. Grenke wants to have this done. Forsee said Christensen employees have worked hard on other projects, and they have even saved us money. Russell said she like a motion to move forward since Christensen is set to be back in town next week to complete the overlay on Mayes Meadow, and will bring it to the full Board of Alderman meeting for an official motion.

C. Sanitation

Hoffman stated that the recycle bin is constantly full.

D. Storm water
None

E. Other

Grenke said a week or so ago he received an email complaint about parking on Allen street. He spoke with one of the “accused” and she said there are several vehicles parked for more than 2 hours. The resident said she would like to see the parking issues and restrictions applied evenly on Allen Street where it is signed. Bias said the signage is different than the ordinance, and the ordinance dates back to 1950. It was revised in the 1970’s and then again in the 1980’s. Most of the offenders are the employees of downtown businesses or live downtown in apartments. Bias said the signs read weekdays only but the ordinance says Saturdays are included and the CPD enforces it based off of the signage. Bias is hoping the letters Sandy Buck the Code Enforcement officer is sending out will help with the issue. Grenke said there is no limit for the parking on the inside of the City Square or on Singleton. Bias said we may look at the ordinance. Grenke said it has been 35 years and it is time to revisit this. Bias said on Singleton going west there is no time limit.

Lockwood of 20601 N Rangeline Road in Centralia asked if the Chamber could get involved. Grenke agreed. Then Bormann said the Chamber could but it’s really not them. Russell said looking at the minutes from when the ordinances were passed, the downtown business owners were consulted so that would be a good idea to do this time as well. Grenke said the signs say weekdays.

VI. WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT

A. Activity Report

Rusch said they got the motor for the primary pump at the Methodist Church put in, with the help of Armontrout and his crew. Rusch also said Cody Ricklefs took water treatment test and they are waiting to find out how he did. Other than that they have been working with the boring company, making sure they stay off water lines. Rusch told the Board they did add a shower at the shop for safety purposes to clean off after being in muddy holes.

B. Water

Forsee said they are meeting this Thursday with Bartlett & West and are getting ready to submit to DNR. Forsee said they are making sure everyone is on the same page. Lee asked what area this was for and Forsee said this is for the water treatment plant.

C. Sewer

Forsee said Gary Davis is going to be coming in next month and they will have booklets for waste water to give the 3 farmers and will also get their opinions. Davis does not want to be short so he is making sure everything is good. Forsee said they will do calibration checks making sure everything is well. Lee asked about 2015 and how extremely rainy it was. Forsee said it was and if we could handle 2015 then we would be good. Forsee said Davis is working really hard on it.

D. Other

1. Declaring 2007 Case Backhoe Surplus Property

Russell said the old backhoe is ready to go on govdeals.com.

Hudson, made a motion to list the 2007 Case Backhoe as surplus property, Magley seconded and the motion was then approved by unanimous voice vote

VII. OTHER

A. Public Works & Public Utilities Director

Forsee said Armontrout and his Crew have been working with Break Brothers trimming trees and are 90% done and have one easement done. They are still working and have had to shut down the power twice so far. They are working a week at a time, it's not fast but they are doing a good job Forsee said. Forsee said they are good to work with.

B. Budget Billing proposed changes

Russell said the current Budget billing program had been amended in 2008, the way the budget system works is 12 months, electric only, you can sign up anytime and there are two dates, April or October to reconcile your budget billing. You are one or the other and when you reconcile you either owe money or are ahead. We want to change it to be more efficient to have one date to reconcile. You will still be able to sign up anytime but reconcile only once a year. Russell will talk with Julie Metcalf and see which date would work best for her schedule, Hudson said or maybe see which date the most customers are signed up for. Russell will bring a resolution back Monday.

Mayor Grenke, made a motion to adjourn the Committee meeting, Hudson seconded the motion which was then approved by unanimous voice vote at 7:58 p.m.