

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
Tuesday, November 13, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Public Works was held on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 7:30 a.m. in the City Council Chambers located at 405 Jefferson Street, Washington, Missouri. The following were present/absent:

MEMBERS:

Chairman	John Vietmeier	Present
Member	Brad Mitchell	Present
Member	Mike Radetic	Present
Member	Steve Richardson	Present
Ex-officio Member	Steve Strubberg	Present
Ex-officio Member	Vacant	--

OTHERS:

Council Representative	Jeff Patke	Absent
Council Representative	Steve Sullentrup	Absent
Council Representative	Jeff Mohesky	Absent
Council Representative	Greg Skornia	Absent
Mayor	Sandy Lucy	Absent
City Administrator	Daren Lamb	Absent
Water/Wastewater Superintendent	Kevin Quaethem	Present
Water/Wastewater Secretary	Beverly Hoyt	Present
City Engineer	John Nilges	Present
Assistant City Engineer	Andrea Lueken	Absent
Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director	Bill Halmich	Absent

Originals and/or copies of agenda items of the meeting, including recorded votes are available on record in the office of the Public Works Department for one year. Video/DVD and audio tapes are kept only until the minutes have been approved for the meeting. DVD copies of this meeting are distributed to Board Members if requested.

A motion was made by Mr. Mitchell and seconded by Mr. Richardson to approve the minutes from the regular October 9, 2018 meeting. The motion passed without dissent.

Priority

There are no priority items, everything is going good. We have spent some time down on Rabbit Trail, we still have not figured out where the water is coming from at this time. We have diverted the water into a storm drain so we won't have any icing issues there this winter. It's not in the street and that's a good thing. We will continue to monitor this issue.

Wastewater

Everything is good at the plant. There have been a couple of sewer calls, most were service laterals. There have been no complaints about odor issues. We have received a couple of quotes in on the air scrubber, looks like the scrubber equipment is running about \$94,000.00 and we have \$140,000.00 in the budget for this. The piping will all be done in-house. Once all the bids are in we will have the proposal to look at and make a decision. A lot of these pieces of equipment are region specific to sellers. You can't just go out and get three (3) bids from someone locally because there is only one local person.

Water

At Fifth & Oak that originally started with a water line replacement. There were two situations, a gas line was hit by us and then a contractor hit one. There have been some issues with Spire's people locating the lines. We are replacing all the curbs and gutters, sidewalk and then overlaying the entire street. This is a full re-construction. This has been going on for some time now. We have to get utility taken care of, in the past we used to pave streets without doing a full review. We now go and replace things before we have a break knowing a year later we will have to fix it again. We try to get ahead of these things. Right now the curb schedule is to be for paving to be done by November but with this weather we are a little concerned. We know asphalt plants will be opened up a little later with the bridge work. It will be significantly better than normal by December. New sidewalks, new curbs, new access to Emmanuel Lutheran, they will actually have a ramp on their side which is consistent with our ADA transition plan. Overall the new drainage will be taking a lot of the water off the streets, there were new pipes put in, there was concerns about water coming down Oak Street, by the Bank of Washington. We are hoping that this will alleviate that as well. Our portion as far as the Public Works goes was the water line replacement. That was done earlier this year to get ahead of the project.

Mr. Mitchell has asked if there were any plans to be make this any wider. Mr. Nilges says there is no right-of-way to widen, so there was no consideration. This isn't a very heavily driven street, Cedar Street was widened 18", however with Borgia grade school there it made sense. There have been concerns that since it was widened that people are driving really fast down this street.

Maguire Iron & Steel Final Payment. This was a negotiated price that came in under bid and part was a negotiated cost. We still don't have the grass done at site and there are a couple of ruts that need fixing. However, the City will be doing work up there to pour a slab for the generator so we will be making our own ruts. There is also a pole that needs to be pulled, so we negotiated the remaining funds and the grass work to be done in-house. The remaining money will be rolled into this years' budget and the final finish up will be in the spring.

A motion was made by Mr. Richardson and second by Mr. Mitchell to approve Maguire Iron & Steel. The motion passed without dissent.

Software for Metering System – The new software is up and running. This has given us the ability to do in depth leak detection for residents. It gives us the opportunity once we find the address that looks like it may have an issue to send out email once it goes over a certain threshold. Whereas before we just got a random ten-page leak detection report. We had no way of tracking them. This is a nice system and is user friendly, a better updating of the system.

We would like to start trying to gain more email addresses from our residents. With the system once we find a leak we would be able to send them an email saying we have detected a leak at your property, please contact our office. It's not that we want to get into anyone' life, but it would be a way for us to assist some of the residents that don't know they have leaks.

The Board agrees that this sounds like a great idea, but with all the internet scams they worry about the reluctance of some residents. This is totally understandable we do have some that have already registered their email address with us when they came in to register for new services.

If the city has their email address, we would be able to email their water bill. There's more to this than just letting them know they have a leak. Going paperless for the bills would be a good benefit. We need to look into the Code Red service and see if an email address can be given. There is a lot this new system could do for us other than just leak detection. We are at the point where we have the technology to do that to help out the residents. This isn't just for water we are looking into other software that will help with our collection to be able to take payments on line for other services. This would be a good overall for the city to move forward.

The leak detection report would be for everything on the house side of the meter, just past the meter we have had the question asked on why we can't detect if there's a leak to the main and the meter. Right now there's no way to quantify if there is a pin hole leak in your service line. From the curb stop to the meter itself we have no way of detecting that, you can't quantify the loss of water. It can only be quantified once it comes to the surface. Irrigation systems will show up on this as well, anything past the meter. The gas company has a similar system that shows when there is more usage and they will contact you to see if there might be a problem. It is important to be able and let our residents know there could be issues.

Old Business

None. We talked about Crestview Tower and the final payment earlier.

Open Discussion

Cold Weather – With the possibilities of the older lines breaking during this cold weather we will always have to be reactive in these situations we can't predict. If we had the funds to replace all these old lines it would be good, but for now we will always have to be reactive.

There have been times when we have been proactive, Oak Street and Eighth Street where we were proactive. We had a leak and decided to just fix it instead of patching. Yes, it takes money and time and residents have had to deal with this for months to get it taken care of, but we are doing better at identifying which streets need to be paved and inspected.

At the Public Works we keep track of all breaks and when we see there has been four or five breaks, then we look at replacing the line. Most are 2" and 4" lines when we change those over to 6" we are able to put in a fire hydrant which in turn helps fire protection for the areas that don't have it. So we do keep track of where the breaks are at and how many on the line. Like 8th Street this was an 8" line but there had been four (4) breaks in the same year. So it was time to replace. We do try to approach the issues where they are like downtown. We could have three (3) breaks this week and there's nothing we can do about it that's the bad part. We have a great bunch of guys that don't mind coming out in the middle of the night, they do what they have to do to get the problem fixed.

When we do have a break we are trying to get that repaired with cold patch instead of letting set with gravel all winter long and rock spilling out all over the road. Cold patch is better for the driving surface through the winter till we can come back and do the hot patch. Asphalt patches are a temporary solution. We do get a couple of residents comments on these, but once you explain to them that they are temporary fixes, they are okay. Since we do in-house paving it takes time, we usually do three or four through April to November with our own Street Department guys and that takes time. One or two complaints a month isn't bad. Less than the complaints when we just filled with rock.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date

The next scheduled meeting date is December 11, 2018.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting adjourned on a motion by Mr. Mitchell and seconded by Mr. Richardson. All in favor aye, those oppose. We are adjourned.

Prepared by: Beverly Hoyt
Beverly Hoyt
Water/Wastewater Secretary

Adopted and Approved by the Board of Public Works:

Date: 12/11/2018
Richardson Signature: Richardson
Secretary