

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
Tuesday, March 23, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Public Works held on March 23, 2021 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	Absent
Member	Mike Radetic	Present
Member	Steve Richardson	Absent
Ex-officio Member	Steve Strubberg	Present
Ex-officio Member	Vacant	--

OTHERS:

Council Representative	Steve Sullentrup	Absent
Council Representative	Mark Wessels	Present
Mayor	Sandy Lucy	Absent
City Administrator	Daren Lamb	Present
Water/Wastewater Superintendent	Kevin Quaethem	Present
Water/Wastewater Secretary	Beverly Hoyt	Present
Public Works Director	John Nilges	Present
Assistant City Engineer	Andrea Lueken	Absent
Emergency Management Director	Mark Skornia	Absent
Fire Chief	Tim Frankenberg	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.

Minutes

Motion made by email from Mr. Mitchell and seconded by Mr. Radetic to approve the minutes from the regular February 23, 2021 meeting. The motion passed without dissent.

Priority Items

There are no priority items.

Wastewater

Everything is normal, there have been a few sewer backups here and there.

Waste Water Treatment Plant – We are redoing the SCADA System, making it more accessible for the employees to gain access of the wet well levels. Just an FYI there was something that happened in Florida, the water plant there was hacked. Someone had gotten in and changed a number that was going to put too much caustic sodium in the system that would contaminate everyone. It died, so that tells me that someone internally fat fingered a number. We do not hear about it anymore, just pretty much disappeared. Our system we actually have a system that reset authenticity. You have to know three (3) different systems to get into it, you cannot just find it on the internet, cannot do a google for it and say City of Washington usage, it will not come up. Even if you could get it to come up you would have to have passwords and user ID to even get into the system. Then another user ID and password to get into that system. Make it difficult for anyone to just go out there or get into our system. Could it happen, sure but it would have to go through the City system that has its own firewalls and protection prior to that we are safe as we can be as far as the system.

The SCADA system will give the guys information on a heavy rain or storm, they can pull up the treatment plant and see what the wet well levels are coming in. If any of the pumps that have failed and we need to rush down to the plant. These are not manned on weekends, someone comes in for three (3) hours and checks daily routines on Saturday and Sunday. So, we have never had the opportunity and now by the end of two (2) months we will have it all setup to where I can be sitting home and call my chief operator and he will be able to tell me if we need to be there. We have pumps that are down in the influent well and we are going to have a problem. Most of those major functions are still alarms and they go to the emergency line. The alarms go out to myself the wastewater and water foreman, chief operator and the on-call person. They sometimes get missed if they don't look at the phone, but that's not very often.

Let's go back a little to the sewer backups because those things do happen. We cannot control what people put down their sewer systems, which does end up in the public system. Those can vary from banana peels to anything. When a bend or pipe is minimum grade, these tend to build up over time. We are working to identify those pipe sections that are at minimum grade. We do have a quarterly jetting of those lines, but again you can jet a line one day and then two weeks later there will be a build-up of something that you didn't know about. It is just a maintenance things and not a whole lot we can do about it.

We just want to encourage the public to make sure flushable wipes are not being put into the system. They cause major issues in our sewer system and quit honestly we cannot even find what the cause was most of the time. You can have a sewer backup that clears itself by the time we respond. It makes it very difficult for us, then you get into a situation of insurance, the cause, was the City negligent? Nine times out of ten we are not responsible. Its not us putting them in the sewer line, we are doing what we need to be doing. So another thing we have a form that we put

together, we ran it through our insurance. It is like what to do with a sewer backup. It provides phone numbers, business hours phone number to wastewater department and after our phone numbers. It provides local vendors that will provide clean up services and it also provide the layout of how you file a claim with the City's insurance. Then it provides additional information how to prevent backups in the future. So what we have been doing is literally taking that form and handing it to the homeowner that experiences a backup rather than getting into this he said she said situation, which we never want to be in the field. If you would like a copy of that we have them in the building department. I know Kevin has been handing them out when we do have backups. It is unfortunate but backups happen. The goal is to have zero, but that's not really a goal we are going to hit.

Kevin had a short video of late Friday of the lift station showing us taking out hand wipes and what the problem was. Down at Rabbit Trail there is a lift station by the retirement center and this lift also takes in numerous homes now. What you see in the video is a pump being pulled that is completely plugged up with hand wipes. This is a grinder pump that has an impeller underneath, it has knife blades called a grinder that grinds particles up that becomes unpumpable. What you will see in the video is what these wipes are doing to every one of our lift stations, which causes possible backups at the lift stations and possible backups upstream from the lifts station because the pump stopped working. I really like to get that video out on YouTube so people can see what happens. I honestly do not feel that people know or realize when they hit that button, what is happening to the system. The industry has tried and tried to get this cleaned up and not only does it do it in those grinder pumps, clay lines anywhere there is a burr or an offset in the pipe. If you use hand wipes an you got a burr on your fingernail, you feel it drag. That's what it does in the pipe. Once it catches, everything else does too. The last five backups we have responded to I'm 99% sure its due to hand wipes. From what we are seeing over-and-over again, when we have the opportunity to see what is coming down and its hand wipes. Roots used to be the problem and now what we see is a hand wipes are the worst thing in the system. Hand wipes are flushable just not bio-degradable. It is important for us to come up with some sort of program to get this information out. We could look at flyers to put in the utility bills, possible put it on face book. We need help if the users keep using this kind of thing there's not a lot we can fix here. We have not tried the flyers in the bills yet. We did a Facebook push about a year ago, we do think putting it in the utility bill is a good idea.

We can come up with the number of backups, we have had but how many other City's have had would be a little more difficult. I'm not sure if they'd freely give that info out. Missouri Department of Natural Resources does watch this very closely. We will look into doing a flyer about the effects of hand wipes.

Down in the Fawn Valley area, some years back we got into these backflow devices. Every home that was affected down there has a backflow. This was back about 15 to 20 years ago. Just because you have a backflow in your home does not mean you will not get a backup. The backflow is the property owners responsibility to maintain. If it is not maintained on a regular basis, when you need it and it does not work, it is your responsibility. They need to be inspected frequently, there is a gasket in that if not maintained it will not seal shut in a backup event.

Water

All is good in water. We met with the paint representative and Cochran Engineering up at Clay Street last Monday and they took a paint sample off the tank to ensure we don't have any lead base, which we don't believe we do, but always best to know so it is out being tested. Once we get that back, we will start seeing some numbers come in about a month or two. It is in the process and we are moving forward.

We are in a contract with a property owner down South Point Road for the new water tower. It is actually 30' higher in elevation so we are in a due diligence period now just to verify those elevations are going to work for us, but has potential of saving a significant amount of money when the tank is constructed. We are in a contract and the survey is completed, and still waiting on getting some additional borings to make sure the soil is good.

Just to let you know we are in our sanitary survey mode on the water side. DNR will be doing a virtual paperwork review on April 6th to make sure we have all our paperwork in line, which we do. What this is, they come in and they used to come out and go through every well building, site down with us and go through our paperwork. Now we will be doing a webinar, so on camera that we have this and that. They will do a visual inspection the following week on the 14th. Myself and one of DNR representatives, we are being audited on our distribution system. Every year we have done this, we have done a good job. Chlorine rooms in all our well building that separate the chlorine from the rest of the building so we do not deteriorate the rest of the building with chlorine. This is being done in all the wells.

Meadow Lake

Pipe is on order, should be here by the 26th dependent on the factory, and the manufacturer making the pipe. Myself and four employees are going for training on the fusion machine in Owensville. This will save us money. We will only pay \$300.00 a day for the fusion machine and we will fuse it ourselves. Compared to a few thousands a day to have someone else come in and do it. The guys are talented and I will have four people, two (2) crews trained that will be working together so when one crew is gone the other crew will be able to continue working. Hoping by the middle of April we will get started. We will use Traffic Control to do traffic off Pottery Road. We will shut one lane down on Pottery every day to work and then reopen it back in the evening. Hoping two or three weeks we will have it done that's the goal. The hours will probably be 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the closure.

Fusing is a better way to install a transmission line. When you can eliminate any type of connection that is a movable connection. On PVC pipe you have a bell and spigot, a bell on this end and a spigot on this end, you slide them together to put the pipe together that all movement in place that can expand and contract there's a certain point you have to stop. When you come to a corner, a MJ fitting you're movement point comes to be about 2", where you slide the pipe on, if you don't get it exactly right then you have a point that could possibly leak if you don't get it just right. With Fusion you take two pieces of pipe and literally heat and press and fuse them together, they become as one piece of pipe. So, as we got through this project, anywhere we have a bend it is called HDPE pipe High Density Polyethylene pipe. It is flexible, forgiving and can actually be

flexed to go around a bend. We have now made that pipe, no stress, no structural stress, no fatigue. We are taking water from Clay St and taking it to Meadow Lake Farms. We do have one connection to get it into the new development there, but we will actually fuse in a fusible tee as we are going through and then go from there with a MJ valve and they will take it from there. The water industry has just started using fusion pipe with in the last five years. It is not readily used a lot and people do not trust it, whatever, I trust it I like it, we have used it under creeks crossings it works great for that and it's going to work great for this.

No further discussions on anything.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date

The next scheduled meeting date is April 27, 2021.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting adjourned on a motion by Mr. Radetic and seconded by Mr. Vietmeier. 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: 4/27/2021 Signature: MFWA DDS
Secretary

Memorandum

TO: Darren Lamb, City Administrator
Board of Public Works

FROM: Kevin Quaethem, Water and Wastewater Superintendent

DATE: April 23, 2021

RE: Work Performed by the Water and Wastewater Departments

STATUS OF MAJOR CONTRACTS – MARCH 2021

PROJECT	VENDOR	CONTRACT AMOUNT	PREVIOUSLY APPROVED	CURRENTLY APPROVED	BALANCE
Enduro & Clay St Water Storage Tanks	Cochran Eng.	\$54,000.00			\$54,000.00

MARCH 2021

Water Pumped March 2021..... 60,375,113 1.95 mgd
Wastewater Effluent Flow March 2021.....101,160,000 3.26 mgd
Missouri One Call Locate messages received March 2021271
Meters Issued as new.....3
Meters Replaced2
Meters Issued as new for irrigation systems0
Service Requests/Work Orders Completed March 2021.....52
Sewer Routines74
Delinquent Accounts actually shut off in March 2021.....43

WATER DEPARTMENT FIELD WORK PERFORMED – MARCH 2021

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shop Maintenance 2. Meter/Swapping/Repair 3. Repair/Replace/Number Hydrants 4. Check Wells/Lift Stations/Heaters 5. Missouri One Call Locates 6. Hydrant Flushing/Painting 7. Maintenance on Wells 8. Water Break @ 553 W. 2nd 9. Water Break on Lexington Ln | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Water Break @ 308 High St. 11. Water Leak on 9th St. 12. Well 3 & 10 Chlorine Room 13. Pipe Fusing Training Owensville 14. Flushed Hydrants 15. Install Manhole 42" @ 4 E 2nd St 16. Repair 30' New Sewer Line |
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WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT FIELD WORK PERFORMED – MARCH 2021

1. Sewer Routines
2. Daily lab work and routines.
3. Cleaned belt press.
4. Clean Process Filters
5. Run belt press.
6. Televis Anniston & Emily Ct.
7. Victorian Manor Lift Pulled Pump
8. Sewer Backup @ 2209 Brookview
9. Televis Sewer @ Horn & Frank
10. Sewer Backup @ 13 Brookshire
11. Sewer Backup @ 401 Lafayette
12. Televis Sewer @ 1026 Karen Ln
13. Televis Sewer @ 1320 High St
14. Televis Sewer 3411 Spring Crest
15. Sewer Backup @ 3 Winchester
16. Repair Sewer Line @ 2029 Rose Brook

ROUTINE FIELD WORK

1. Performed rereads as necessary.
2. Performed read-outs on meters (persons moving in and out)
3. Installed reading device receptacles on houses where new/replacement meters were installed.
4. Issued meters and materials to contractors, owners, etc.
5. Took necessary water samples of the distribution system.
6. Flushed hydrants – scheduled routine flushing.
7. Wastewater lab work.
8. Root-sawed and/or cleaned sewer lines where necessary.
9. Hauled sludge.
10. Televised sewer lines.
11. Performed river gauge measurement.
12. Performed sewer and water service main inspections.
13. Located water and sewer lines.
14. Monitored construction of water and sewer mains in new developments.
15. Responded to service call requests.
16. Invoiced for meters, materials and other charges as necessary.
17. Performed maintenance and repairs on buildings, vehicles, and equipment.