

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
Tuesday, April 27, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Public Works held on April 27, 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	Present
Member	Mike Radetic	Present
Member	Steve Richardson	Present
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	Absent
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 Mr. Richardson and seconded by Mr. Radetic to approve the minutes from the regular March 23, 2021 meeting. The motion passed without dissent.

Priority Items

There are no priority items.

Wastewater

We need to approve the blower at the treatment plant. Air is probably the most important thing at the plant. If you do not have good steady air flow bacteria will float up and down and change. Some dies when not given enough air and some dies when you give it too much air. We have been struggling when the plant was built, they did as much low budget as they could.

In 2017 they installed variable frequency blowers (VFB) so as more air is needed they ramp up and as the air is less they needed to ramp back down at a more smooth air flow to the bacteria. We will have two of the blowers in the plant running today to help offset the need of the air from the first frequency blower installed. This one is a mirror of the blower. It has been budgeted so we can get it in and installed and this will actually help the bacteria better the process and save energy down the road. Right now when one of these blowers kicks on it is an energy hog. This just draws the energy out. This is a constant on and off, we are spiking on energy and they charge different prices from Ameren when we use energy at different times, so this will offset. This is budgeted \$77,000.00 and it is coming in at \$73,592 and some change. Ameren is giving us a rebate of just under \$10,000.00. The first blower they gave us just at \$20,000.00 but you do not get that on the second blower because it was the primary blower, but they are giving us something, which is what is keeping it under budget. Just need a motion for approval.

Mr. Richardson made a motion to approve and move on to Council.

We have to separate out the installation, one contract for the electrical and a separate contract for the mechanical plumbing. You will see that at Council, I did not really feel the Board needed to see that. The biggest thing is to get the approval on the blower since it is pretty time sensitive. Ameren only gives us a short window to get this done. This is why I only brought the blower here today it is the most important part of the project. The others are incidentals. I would have rolled them all into one but the way we have to pay them out has to be on separate ordinances for each.

These will be the last of the blowers replaced. The plan is to keep one of the older blowers on line just for when we have to do maintenance on one of the other two (2) blowers. We will still have the air we need.

Mr. Mitchell second the motion made earlier to move forward to Council. All in favor aye, those oppose – Motion passed, send on to Council.

Last meeting we talked about getting an informational flier together on foreign objects in the sewer system. It has been a struggle, baby wipes, things that are not toilet paper. We started a bit last week by putting a few Facebook posts out. We will continue to do so. We put something together last March. We also followed up with one from EPA toward the end of the week. We have to get with Mark Piontek on copy write laws and others like EPA. As far as a schedule, really need to talk with Kevin's staff. We cannot control what people put in the system, we can only handle it once it is in the system. This truly is a problem and we need to address it.

It was ask if we had ever thought about going and talking at schools. As this is somewhat new to us, we need all these ideas and will definitely look into it, might be good to talk at some of these career fairs and give generic speeches about what it is that the City does. Talking with 8th graders and other about this problem, not the most glamorous but could prove to be educational.

When a sewer backup happens in your home, it can cost you up to \$20,000.00. The City is not necessarily negligent on that and if you do not have insurance. This a real problem as a homeowner and we need support from the public to not do these things. The sewer system is designed for one thing technology of toilet paper is the best thing. Of course, manufacturers are advertising these as flushable, however, if you have ever rubbed one of these across your callus hands you will feel it grab on your hand. This is what it does in the sewer system. Now take the wipe and try to tear in half, it does not tear. Do a side-by-side test, put toilet paper in a cup of water and do the same with a wipe, let set a day and see results. Wipes are flushable, but not biodegradable. That is the industries statement, they do not say they are biodegradable, they say they are flushable.

The thing is when a backup occurs the obvious thing to do is to call the City to clear the backup but then you look at liability and things and there again, that is an insurance discussion. The City does not know what the users put into the system. Some may think we can clean the sewer line out today, but tomorrow someone may put baby wipes in there and tomorrow there is another issue. So it is dynamic not static, never guarantee there will not be a backup. We can only approach zero and we need the help from the public to reach that zero.

Water

We have an invoice from Cochran, this is a partial payment on work they have proceeded on so far. They are doing a lot of leg work right now, ground work. We are now at a point that we are trying to get numbers together. Dave is working hard on that. He has been in contact with some tank painting companies and moving forward. We are looking at possibly getting one done this fall and one in the spring.

The painting contractor; those funds are in the budget for this year. It does depend on how the numbers come out prices are starting to go up. We have one project, the bed for a dump truck. We started three (3) months ago. We have talked to the managers and the bed has gone up eight (8) % since March. We would like to lock these people in at a certain price but there is no guarantees that it will stay that price by the time we do the work.

Need a motion to approve the \$5,001.25 to Cochran.

Motion made by Mr. Mitchell and second by Mr. Richardson to approve Cochran Engineering invoice.

Meadow Lake

Fusion is going wonderful. The guys are enjoying the heck out of running the machine and putting the pipe together. All that is going great, however, we have run into rock. This has slowed us down a bit but we will just keep chipping away, may take a little longer than we had hoped but hopefully by the time we get to Old Pottery Road but it may be rock all the way around the cemetery. We just keep moving forward, may take a little longer than anticipated. We are working with traffic, we wait till about 8:30 to get rolling good because traffic on Pottery is pretty heavy up until then, we stop working somewhere around 3:00 o'clock as far as the ditch line work and we clean up finish up, traffic pickup pretty heavy around 3:15 – 3:30 we just have to deal with that. When we get up to where we are working in the road, we will be using Traffic Control to do our traffic. We will be dropping a lane every day roughly between 8:30 – 2:30 every day to do the work. We will opening it up in the evenings, and then turn around the next day and do it again.

The City owns the two acres upon the hill at South Pointe where Kurt Unnerstall is doing some blasting for some commercial developing, we do own those two (2) acres and will continue to own. The concept is to build a water tower that will be partially be funded by Capital Improvement Sales tax on the two (2) acres. We worked diligently to find an alternate location to the South. I did get a grading plan of what that will look like and will bring to the next meeting. Got a grading plan got an updated estimate, those dollar numbers are going down with the construction of the tank, all positive. There will be an agenda item at the next meeting. I know the City has not purchased the property yet. We are under contract, and are about out of the due diligence period, so we will be moving forward with the purchase. We are also working with the Special Road District there are some conversations of them maybe doing some work on South Point Road just to make sure we get our crossing underneath the roadway and those of type things up front. That way we do not cut into a road just paved. We have a plan, and will bring to the next meeting. Capital Improvement Sales Tax, we do have \$600,000.00 identified for that water tower that is partially funded, that was an item during the water rate increase to generate some of this revenue to pay for some of the tower. Talked with Mary Sprung the Finance Director about a month ago to see where we were at with that and she did not have numbers for me yet. She felt more comfortable waiting for the budget process. We know what the projections were of expenditures before we started talking about that. I do feel good about this just wanted to give everyone a heads up. We are looking ahead on getting that tower built.

Mr. Wessels asked if they started doing the drilling process up there, testing the soil. Cochran did a couple. The biggest thing here is that we have the Hydraulic Study and part of this will be just making sure that there will be a dedicated feed line to the tank that we believe from the well out there is making sure these pressures and things are taken care of, the water pressure. We work through those things. There are products out there that you can put on the service line going in, booster pumps that technology exists for the individual home.

Lawn Care – Water and Wastewater are taking over the lawn care maintenance so to make this easier, it was contracted out and we have decided to stop this contract and do things in-house. I guess I misunderstood the contract, the conversations and we did not mow our grass the first time around. Chad did bring his mower in so we got it done. However, we need to purchase an industrial grade lawn mower. Chad went out and got prices on mowers, local prices, we want to keep it as local as we can. We have a bid from John Deer (Sydenstricker) across the river and Hillermans. I was unable to get all the information in the packet this time.

This is a zero turn and the price from John Deer is \$7,279.00 that is for a 54" ZTrack zero turn mower. We do not have any of these in the fleet. These are really good mowers. What we do have in the fleet is Xmarks from Hillermans, so we got a price from them and the Xmark from Hillermans is a 52" mower and it came in at \$8,499.00. So, the John Deer is actually the cheapest of the two. They are both equal to quality, performance and warranties. We will be splitting this between both department budgets, water and wastewater since we are doing the wells and lift stations. It would just be a hair over \$3,600 from each department. I do have this in small tools right now. This was not budgeted. I could do a budget amendment and take it from equipment. There is money in both departments. There is funds there to pay for it, just need your approval to move forward.

Water and Wastewater not sure what they were paying but pretty sure it was doubled. So, there was a price of \$15,000.00 around that out of contracted services. So, if you recall when the solid waste department essentially went to contract, we wanted to make sure that we could keep the employees. Since all departments were running lean, they were not filling any positions for an extended portion of time when it did transition over in June of last year. We were able to identify the individual where they would best fit in each department. So, they went into Parks, Streets and Water. So part of the discussion was since we run a very lean operation across the City. There is a way to get this done without adding people. What could we do to save money? So, the grass mowing was an offset of that. We can take this service over with this individual and grant it they would be mowing grass, which was an extra role put on them for seven months, then we have that person for the remaining five months. That was the concept regardless, of the cost saving measure. I will tell you that the manpower situation still exists. We are still running a very lean operation and it does make it a challenge at times to get projects done.

We have the ability to add onto the mowing contract, the City still has a mowing contract, the Parks Department still contracts out some mowing. If we were ever in a pinch we could always tack on to that if needed, but that is not what we want to do. We do have a list of guys that want to mow. It is just the well buildings, water towers and lift stations. It is important and I want to get our skilled people working on the water system and not mowing grass.

Years ago we used to mow our facilities and we always seem to do a better quality job when we did it ourselves than when we had other people doing it. I am not cutting anyone down its just the differences that the responsibilities are a little more. You take more pride when it is your own. We would like to get a motion to spend \$7,279.00.

A motion made by Mr. Radetic and second by Mr. Mitchell. All in favor aye all oppose.

So moved to go forward. In fairness to all the suppliers, they do have zero turn radius but they are all residential grade and not commercial grade. We did talk with others.

Anything else for the good of the department?

Next Scheduled Meeting Date

The next scheduled meeting date is May 25, 2021.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting adjourned on a motion by Mr. Richardson and seconded by Mr. Mitchell. 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: 5/25/2021 Signature: MPLA DPS
Secretary

Memorandum

TO: Darren Lamb, City Administrator
Board of Public Works

FROM: Kevin Quaethem, Water and Wastewater Superintendent

DATE: May 21, 2021

RE: Work Performed by the Water and Wastewater Departments

STATUS OF MAJOR CONTRACTS – APRIL 2021

PROJECT	VENDOR	CONTRACT AMOUNT	PREVIOUSLY APPROVED	CURRENTLY APPROVED	BALANCE
Enduro & Clay St Water Storage Tanks	Cochran Eng.	\$54,000.00		\$5001.25	\$54,000.00

APRIL 2021

Water Pumped April 2021. 56,896,460 1.90 mgd

Wastewater Effluent Flow April 2021. 84,920,000 2.83 mgd

Missouri One Call Locate messages received April 2021308

Meters Issued as new.23

Meters Replaced.....1

Meters Issued as new for irrigation systems0

Service Requests/Work Orders Completed April 2021.....42

Sewer Routines78

Delinquent Accounts actually shut off in April 2021.....32

WATER DEPARTMENT FIELD WORK PERFORMED – APRIL 2021

- | | |
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| <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 @ 1205 W. Main 9. Water Break @ 639 W. 3rd St. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Water Leak @ Borgia 11. Water Leak @ 3rd & Frank 12. Cut Grass @ Well Bldgs. 13. Painted Hand Rail Well #4 14. Flushed Hydrants 15. Cold Patch – Water 16. Fuse Pipe @ Clay |
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WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT FIELD WORK PERFORMED – APRIL 2021

1. Sewer Routines
2. Daily lab work and routines.
3. Cleaned belt press.
4. Clean Process Filters
5. Run belt press.
6. Sewer Backup Martina Dr.
7. Sewer Backup @ 1904 Wishwood
8. Sewer Line Backup @ 11th & Jefferson
9. Sewer Backup @ 2313 Brookview
10. Pump Work @ WestLink Lift Station
11. Sewer Lateral – 806 James St.
12. Haul / Spread Sludge
13. Worked on Aries Pathfinder Camera

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.