

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
Tuesday, May 25, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Public Works held on May 25, 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	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. Radetic and seconded by Mr. Richardson to approve the minutes from the regular April 27, 2021 meeting. The motion passed without dissent.

Priority Items

There are no priority items.

Wastewater

The wet well influent pump has been pulled and taken to the shop. Price of what it would cost to rebuild and what it would be to purchase a new one. These are the original pumps from the plant that were installed in 2008 when it was built, so they are 15 years old. To rebuild the pump will be \$29,000.00 to replace would be \$40,000.00. So we will move forward with the rebuild this year. We need to start over the next three budget years on replacing each of the other pumps all four, one year at a time. When one goes out with the age of them, all the rest will start going. We also have four in the effluent wet well side that when it runs during the high wet weather stage which runs infrequently so those should last a long while it is just the influent ones now. Those are the main pumps into the plant. If we do not have, we cannot treat the wastewater.

We are still having rag issues, out at our Fairfield Lift Station, which is out in the Thoroughbred Subdivision area. Last week we had to pull the pumps, the rags have been so bad that we think this is why it is destroying our pumps. We have a pump from our Landfill operating out there now to keep it running. Just got a quote on getting that station rebuilt which we are going to have to do. It is going to be right at \$12,000.00. There is only the one quote at this time.

Hand wipes are just destroying the system and it is a battle we continuously are fighting. I know we have put out public notices and it has been on Facebook. This is really becoming a very big problem. If this continues, we will have to go up on wastewater rates because when we have to start paying for this equipment it will have to happen. We cannot keep operating this way. Our Wastewater Treatment Plant, a \$40,000.00 pump. You know \$12,000.00 a year on equipment because it keeps getting destroying and that is just one station. We have 14 stations that carry wastewater for the City of Washington and all have issues. Just not as bad as the Fairfield station, but they all do have issues.

We are pulling the big pumps every couple of weeks to clean out rags and now this becomes a maintenance issue. It has just gotten out of hand. With the Fairfield situation we can look at doing door hangers, there are potentially 35 residents. We could put it in the newspaper but only the readers will see it. We can also put it in the mail, but again its good public education, you just do not know. My own son up in New York had a couple of problems like this and the wastewater guy talk to them and said, so do you guys do anything any different with wipes or with your kids? My daughter-in-law told him, yeah, we use the baby wipes. I told them I really would not have known myself unless I had been on the Board talking about it, people just do not understand.

What would happen if a Public Service announcement had a full page and for about three (3) weeks in the Missourian. Especially hit the idea, your rates are going to go up unless you do something. We need your help. These are all good ideas. The strategy we are trying to get out there was to make sure everyone understands the issue. I agree utility flyers are one thing and that is the next step in that, I also like the idea, Fairfield door flyers.

We deal with insurance claims and things like that and investigations on sewer backups. The vast majority of those are foreign objects in the sewer main. The problem with that is we do not know where they came from, how to define liability, who it belongs to in the first place. We spend a lot of time just investigating sewer issues due to foreign objects being in the sewer. This is a small subdivision with a lot of young people and families, so a door to door would be simple, easy and effective way.

As it goes further into the sewer system, it is more difficult because it becomes a bigger area served. These are all concepts we can do, the flyers and Facebook social media is just the first step in the sense that if you see something, directing somebody to do something they will not care. You have to make it with a little humor, did you see that ridiculous post. It is all in how you market it. This is a little new to us, but these are all great ideas. I will get with the Missourian, all are good investments for what we are dealing with. It is an education thing, people are not doing this maliciously and the manufacturers do not help by putting this on their packaging that they are disposable.

Mr. Richardson was ask to approve the minutes from earlier. Mr. Richardson second the approval of the April minutes.

Water

Grading Plan for new water tower, South Point and Goodes Mill Road.

Preparation for the construction of a new water tower on the Southeast side of town. We did due diligence about four months ago looking at the location at South Point coming up the hill, the City acquired two (2) acres of property. We actually own that with the county. Kurt is blasting off the hillside behind Riechers, so we did some due diligence, and got some surveying done. We looked at the heights of our existing water tanks and then looked at some areas south of town, which there were a few hillsides there but higher than what the average is for Washington.

We looked at that and then did a few cost estimates on what the cost of a tower would be at that location. Then we looked at some other areas in the general location southeast and we identified this area at North Goodes Mill Rd and South Point, it is approximately 30 feet higher in elevation than the South Point property we were looking at. What that does is allow you to store more water at a higher elevation and you do not have to elevate the tack, so we are obviously looking at ways to save some money. This is also fairly close to an existing water main that is at the end of the Stone Crest Subdivision, there is a well out there. We feel they could have a direct essential feeder line to the tank, which has benefits as well.

We have worked with the property owner, been negotiating for a couple of months got a contract, did due diligence, long story short this is an accumulation of all that. The property has been acquired it is about an acre that leaves about two (2) acres up at South Point. A firehouse is proposed to go up there but that lot will not be utilized for a water tank at this time. This will just be an additional property next to commercial property that will have a future use. We felt this location was the highest and best for the tower. It is only a triangle acre, where the two acres on South Point right next to commercial has a different use. Long story short this is where the tank is proposed to go. We will have to go out for qualifications to get a design team to put together a

design. We are hoping by the fall is when we will get it going. This gives you a feel for what it looks and not a lot of grading work.

We are envisioning a tank similar to what you see at Clay St. We need to make sure the tower is tall enough and have some bars around it to protect it. There was also a presentation at City Council last week. We only have \$400,000.00 identified in the Capital Sales to pay for this, maybe 25% of what we need. We increased water rates in January to try to catch up. I do not think we will be caught up and need to make sure that we can pay the difference. There is some ARA Funding with COVID identified that we will put together. I believe it is \$250,000.00 so we are getting closer.

There are some decisions that will need to be made in the fall, once the new budget comes out and we can get a better feel for revenues coming in and how the water rate increase positively affects the fund balance to pay for this tank. I did ask Mary, our Finance Director about where it is at today and she could not give me that information she wants to wait until the new budget is complete.

Best guess of when this will go on line, ideally its budgeted in the Capital Improvement next year, so we have until about 2023 to get it built. Ideally, I would hope we could have something on line by the end of 2023. Development drives that a little bit, I think we would try to push it out as far as we could because we have to generate money to pay for it. With the way we have operated the water fund, I think it is a reasonable way to do it. When you only spend what you need. The problem with that is when you do not have a big fund balance to pay for a big item some decisions have to be made, so I think we are a little late in the game on getting that done. So pushing that out does help get that tank paid for rather than look for more sources.

Those elevation lines, are they natural or do you have to build them up? No, the lines for elevation will have to be built up. These are proposed contours so yes, it will need to be built up. So this is 655 contour that tank is at 655 so this is your cut fill line. This is natural grade, this all gets built up behind it cause the hill side does slope off. There is about four (4) feet of fill, nothing major. When that tank is built and you go out and watch it. What they will do is dig about 15 feet in the ground and then build it all back up. They have to pack the base of that tank to meet certain earthquake criteria and all kinds of other stuff. So, when they work out there all that is going to look entirely different, you are going to see them digging down. This is just a site plan they give you the basic information, you will be amazed once they do get started. The diameter of this is 60 foot. This will all change once designed, we do not have a design for board yet. It will be a 12" main, a feeder main, and supply main, on the west side of South Point that will come from the existing well and then tie back into the system. Also working with the Washington Special Road District from Stone Crest Drive to northern of the South Point property. There is an area on South Point Road that does not have a line connected, so we will loop that line to the project as well. Currently Stone Crest has one line going into service the subdivision in the well. So if there is an issue with one of those others you kind of lose some of that redundancy. Again, this will help with future development. I will know more information in the next couple of months just regarding cost estimates.

Cochran Engineering – They are doing a great job, they are staying on top of things. This is just a partial payment to pay for the work they have done. By fall we should have painted towers, this is the plan. We have an invoice is the amount of \$3,742.50.

Motion made by Mr. Richardson and second by Mr. Radetic to approve Cochran Engineering invoice. All in favor aye, all oppose. So moved to pay \$3,742.50.

Other

Mr. Richardson's term expires in June, would you like to proceed on with the Board. Mr. Richardson said yes, he would do another term.

Old Business

Blower Motor – WWTP

It is moving forward, we do have to have an ordinance change. The contract needs verbiage stating the PSI Power Supply Industry will get the rebate from Ameren UE. The reason why is that the rebate is to the City of Washington's name and not their name. Just a little technicality, not a big deal, so this will go to Council hopefully the first week in June.

Finally got another quote on electric for the blower. Its from BOCO, so we have one from Washington Electric and BOCO, there were no other bids so we are going to move forward on this an send to Council.

As far as mechanical work the only bid we have gotten are from Heggemann Plumbing out of Warrenton. They did the piping on the first blower. So they know what needs to be done, no one else gave us bids so we are going to move forward with this. We can only try for so long to get bids, the prices are going up everywhere. Heegemann has now gone up \$300.00 since the first time we got the bid because of the economy. If we do not move on these things it will just keep on happening. There is a completion deadline with Ameren for the rebate so it all has to fall into place.

Meadow Lake

We have gotten to a point we are dealing with rock. We will deal with rock all the way past Holtgrewe Road so this is a slow process. We are at a point where we have to bring in Traffic Control people, so this week we are going to work on delinquent account shut offs and we have a sewer line to get fixed over in the Park that has collapsed. We plan to work on this tomorrow. Next week after the holiday, we plan on working with Traffic Control and shut it down to one lane. Moving forward there are alot of utilities we will have to work around. Have to do some pot holing to find where they are to make sure we do not break any or tear anything up. This is the goal.

Moving forward is slow and I know it is an inconvenience for the people on Pottery Road. We apologize for that but it is the only way to get the water line there. We have to get the water line there it is just a long slow process.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date

The next scheduled meeting date is June 22, 2021.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting adjourned on a motion by Mr. Radetic 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: June 22, 2021 Signature: M. J. [Signature]
Secretary