

## **Minutes of the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee for Monday, November 2, 2009.**

The meeting was called to order by Alderman Million at about 7:20 p.m. Present were Aldermen Hensley, Parmeley, and Bormann. Also attending were Lynn Behrns, Mike Forsee, Phil Hoffman, Mark Mustain, Steven Oberman, and James Smith. Mayor Grenke listened by phone, but did not cast any votes.

### Electric Department

Committee reviewed the activity report and future work schedule for the Electric Department.

Mustain reported that the City is advertising for bids to construct the concrete pad for the new transformer for the second substation. The transformer is going to arrive just after the first of the month, much earlier than anticipated. This part of the project was split off and the bid opening will be on Thursday, November 12. The City will need to pass an ordinance to approve the contract at the regular Board Meeting. Staff is concerned that weather may make meeting the time line difficult. We have already contacted several local contractors who could do the job.

Also on the Board Agenda will be an ordinance to approve purchase of a letter of credit from Boone County National Bank. A letter of credit is the financial guarantee required by the wholesale power supply contract with Ameren Energy Marketing. This is the second letter; that for last year was in the amount of \$300,000. This year, because of the mild summer, the projected bills for the coming year are calculated to be lower and the Letter of Credit will be for about \$257,000. Since the fee for the letter is 1%, the cost will thus be about \$430 lower. A third letter of credit will be required for 2011.

Mustain described the details of a proposed work schedule for preventive maintenance and to replace the leveling cables. These stabilize the aerial bucket on the older Altec truck. Altec recommends replacement every eight years, but that has already passed. Mustain said that there is no "certificate" following the preventive maintenance, but Altec does provide a full log of tests and findings. There is a documentation of the regular dielectric testing. Mayor Grenke asked if the expense was budgeted and if it could be deferred until year. Behrns said that such expenses were considered repairs and paid out of the unbudgeted equipment use fund. This fund receives revenue from the charges per mile or per hour of City vehicles and equipment. The fund presently has a good balance because fuel prices were down during the last nine months. After discussion, committee members decided that it would be best to follow the manufacturer's recommendation and have the full course of work done. Parmeley moved and Bormann seconded a motion to have Altec perform maintenance work according to the submitted proposal for a fee of \$4,986.03. On roll call vote, members present voted aye and the motion carried.

The remainder of installation work and the construction of the express circuit between the substations should be put out for bids in December.

### Street and Sanitation Department

Committee reviewed the activity report and future work schedule for the Street and Sanitation Department. Hensley inquired about the entry for transporting some two-yard dumpsters to Herndon's for repair. Hoffman said that the dumpsters belonged to customers, who were paying for the repairs. Much of the department's time was spent on drainage matters. The department was frequently short handed because of illness and scheduled leave. The volume of trash was high for the month.

### Water and Sewer Department

Committee reviewed the activity report and future work schedule for the Water and Sewer Department. Forsee said that a significant amount of time was spent on tracking and repairing infiltration of the sewer

mains. The long period of rains had been an optimal time to discover problems. Manual reading of water meters was necessary for more than 300 meters because many of the meter jars were filled with rain water and their radio signals were too weak.

Other

Bormann described three emails he had received. They all related to training opportunities. He will send them to Behrns, who will forward them to all aldermen.

Bormann also mentioned the County request for potential members to a committee that will discuss the municipal share of the county's transportation sales tax. Behrns has responded that Centralia will send representatives. He would like to go and Alderman Simmons would also like to attend. The Board can decide this latter, since the County will not get this together before next year.

There were no further items to be presented, and the meeting adjourned at about 7:55 p.m.