

Minutes of the Public Works and Public Utilities Committee for Monday, May 3, 2010.

The meeting was called to order by Alderman Million at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Grenke, Aldermen Bormann, Orsini, Simmons, Parmeley, and Angell. Also attending were Lynn Behrns, Mike Forsee, Phil Hoffman, Mark Mustain, Steve Oberman, Tom Fair, Larry Dudgeon, Greg Grenke, Linda Maddox, Justin Romine, and Nathan Chitwood.

Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Street and Sanitation Department

Committee reviewed the activity report and future work schedule for the Street and Sanitation Department. Hoffman told Committee that 17 roll-off dumpsters had been used for Cleanup Week. Three others were sent back empty. Rainy weather slowed collections on the second weekend, but this year continued a trend of diminishing participation. Behrns thought more people were using their regular weekly pickups. Hoffman did not yet have tonnage numbers.

Committee addressed a previous citizen complaint about basketball goals obstructing street traffic. Orsini said that she had talked to residents in the neighborhood of the cul-de-sacs of the Southwest Country Estates Subdivision. Most did not think this was a regular problem. It was more of an issue in the winter, when snow piles narrowed the driving surface. Hoffman agreed, say access was not usually a problem except when sweeping or removing snow. He would prefer that the goals be behind curbs, at least when not in active use. Behrns said there is not really a specific ordinance violation. Angell thought one section of the City Code applied: a part of the Street and Sidewalk chapter which related mainly to obstructions because of litter, another section specifically targets obstructions for sidewalks. After discussion, Committee was agreeable to letting police officers monitor and make informal first contacts. Dudgeon will return to Committee if that is not effective.

Behrns reported a request from one or two citizens who do not have a truck and would like the City to deliver mulch and compost to their properties. He had denied the request, but promised to report to the aldermen. The City has a large volume of material on hand. Curt Kelly has been able to truck much to his subdivision with his own vehicles. The street crew will fill trucks at the old landfill, but they lack manpower to spend much time on trucking. Also, most residents would not like the material just dumped out on their driveways. After consideration, Committee thought it best to not make deliveries unless stockpiles become an issue.

Hoffman reported that Ryan Enterprises, which accepts almost all plastics for remolding as rails and fence posts, has an oversupply and spends much time cleaning out contaminants. Ryan intends to ask for a fee of up to \$250 a month, starting the first of June. Behrns and many of the Committee were not happy. In discussion, they did note that the industry margin is very small and it actual can cost more to use recycled material rather than virgin plastic. Hoffman said that we currently take 2 to 4 loads to Ryan each month. If the City were to go back to the old arrangement, we could only collect beverage bottles; citizens would be confused. Bailing and sorting would also cost the City up to \$3,900 for labor. If we continue to use Ryan, it would generally be possible to pick up a load of aggregate for the return trip, and save several hundred dollars a year in equipment use charges. Hoffman will relay Board reticence to Ryan and report back. Perhaps Ryan would consider a compromise charge.

Orsini said she had investigated Don Bagley's complaint about Brick Street and thinks the City should attempt to add it to the summer overlay list. Hoffman will determine if there is a need to scrap gravel and crumbled asphalt before hand. Hoffman agreed to replace a faded street sign at the intersection of Barr and January.

Water and Sewer Department

Committee reviewed the activity report and future work schedule for the Water and Sewer Department. Forsee said that the number of non-reading meters was down this last month. The vender had been present and has furnished some software fixes. He is providing some immediate replacement of the radio heads and agreed to back credit on some past replacements.

The cable was repaired on the sewer camera and it is back in service. The camera showed several problems with the sewer main in Sappington that morning.

Ozark Applicators should start work on the west water tower on about May 10th.

Repairs on the Well #4 pump have greatly enhanced performance. We are still awaiting DNR approval of the plans before we can let bids on the refurbishing of Well #3.

Electric Department

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

Work on the new substation project is moving slowly because of the weather, but is expected to be ready about July

1. Final permits for stringing wire across the railroad tracks are not yet in hand, but the rest of Kiowa's work is done.

Mustain said that brown outs on Thursday were because of high winds in tree branches.

Mustain presented bid tabs for 9 in-line switches. Low bid was from HD Supply. Since the City does not have any in inventory, Borman moved that the City purchase the switches from HD Supply for \$1,564.02. Orsini seconded the motion. All aldermen voted in favor and the motion passed.

Behrns presented a draft contract for the Missouri Joint Municipal Electric Commission to prepare applications for the City to secure its Auction Revenue Rights (ARRs) and Financial Transmission Rights (FTRs) that will accrue to it because of participation in the Prairie State Power Plant project. A final contract should be ready for approval by ordinance at the regular Board meeting. This contract is important as a hedge mechanism for transmission charges from Prairie State and should be much cheaper than the proposal from Ameren Energy Marketing. MJMEUC is already performing such work for the MoPEP members who have Prairie State interests. Behrns believes that the City should actually make money from the FTRs over the long run.

Behrns reported that he also expects to receive a wholesale power supply contract in the next few days. Negotiations and legal review are almost complete. The term is for 2012-14 and the best vender price is cheaper than our present price. Behrns will distribute the new contract when received. There should be an ordinance to approve the contract to be on the regular Board agenda. The contract will have to be executed quickly.

Other

Committee received bids on two replacement pickup trucks. They also agree that they would delay opening bids for the 3/4-ton pickup truck for the Water Department until the Chevrolet fleet bid is available, after June 1.

Ford bids are from Joe Machens Ford, and represent the Ford fleet bids for MoDOT, with the options selected by each department. Forrest Chevrolet submitted bids based on the Chevy fleet bids to MoDOT ordered through another vender.

For the Electric Department, the Ford base bid was \$22,269. Add-ons for a Knapheide bed and line and break control brought the bid to \$27,584.00. The Forrest bid was inclusive of the add-ons at \$28,772.00. Several board members thought that, over the next ten years, the better mileage which would come from the Chevrolet engine, and the savings from having a closer location for vender service would more than balance the extra cost.

For the Street Department, the Ford bid was \$20,128.00 plus \$500.00 for a spray-in bed liner for a total of \$20,628.00. The bid from Forrest was reported at the meeting as \$20,823.00. However, analysis after the meeting showed that the Forrest bid would have to be increased by \$525.00 for a spray-in bed liner to be fully comparable. This brings their bid to \$21,348.00.

Both vehicle purchases will be on the agenda of the next regular Board meeting on May 17.

Dudgeon presented an application for a Highway Safety Grant, which would pay for two replacement in-car cameras and for overtime for patrol officers to conduct safety projects. Orsini moved that the Board authorize the application in the amount of \$16,686.48 and payment to Joseph Easton for preparation of the grant application. Simons seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion and it passed.

Linda Maddox inquired about disposal of recyclable solid waste. Committee was agreeable to letting her add her recyclable materials to those at her mother's residence for regular bi-weekly collection.

Oberman was present to ask for support by the Board and individual aldermen for continuing State assistance to the Boone County Community Partnerships. This agency was recently de-funded because of serious management problems. Oberman said that the need for services from the agency was great. Mayor Grenke said that agency had been valuable to both the Centralia Accessibility Committee and to the City. He noted that Partnership representatives had been at several recent Board meetings and helped with the Chamber's Job and Business Expo. Orsini cautioned aldermen to research the background and nature of agency problems. Oberman said he hopes for City support before a Grass Roots Transition Team presents petitions to the controlling state agency on June 17 or 18.

As May Arise

Dudgeon requested permission to prepare an application for a COPS grant to fund the salary for a School Resources Officer. Budget concerns have caused the Centralia R-6 School District to cut its SRO (Tom Fair) to half time. The grant would essentially duplicate a previous grant that first allowed for the creation of Centralia's SRO position, before it was taken over by the District. The grant would pay for salary and benefits for the SRO for three years, with the condition that the grantee employ the officer for at least one additional year. Committee was very supportive of keeping the position for the students. Dudgeon said that the SRO would be coming back to the City and be fully under his control. Committee members asked about School participation in the expense for the fourth year. School Board members Chitwood and Romine said the dedicated, used patrol car for the SRO could be returned to the City without charge. They made no commitment to other District financial participation. Behrns was asked if the City could pay for the fourth year. Behrns said that he did not expect the City to have the resources to fund the position without making off-setting cuts to other items. It would be a matter of City fixing priorities. He estimated that the position would cost at least \$40,000.00 (later revised to \$43,000) for the final year. Angell suggested that the District could pick up half the cost and still come out ahead of the expense for a half-time SRO. Dudgeon said he

was confident that, with three years to prepare, he could find ways to address the expense within his department. Behrns said that he would provide copies of the initial and revised contracts between the City and District, so that Dudgeon and Superintendent Ford could review administrative details.

Orsini moved that the City employ Joseph Easton to prepare and submit the application for the COPS grant. Simmons second the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion and it passed. The matter of City funding will be addressed later, if the grant is awarded to Centralia.

Mayor Grenke read a letter from Patricia Stout, thanking the Centralia Police Department, Chief Dudgeon, and SRO Fair for their help in the prosecution of a criminal act against her family.

There were no further items to be presented, and the meeting adjourned at about 8:55 p.m.

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