



Public Works & Utilities Committee Meeting

Minutes

Monday, November 14, 2022 at 7:00 pm

CENTRALIA CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

114 S. Rollins Street, Centralia, MO 65240

The Public Works & Utilities Committee Meeting will begin at approximately 7:00 p.m., immediately following the Special Board of Aldermen Meeting. This meeting could begin sooner or later, depending on the length of the other meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Minutes:

Alderman Robert Hudson called the meeting to order at 6:48 p.m.

2. ATTENDANCE

Minutes:

Aldermen Terri Motley, Robert Hudson, David Wilkins, Harold Deckerd, Don Rodgers, and Landon Magley answered roll call. Others present: Mayor Chris Cox, City Administrator Tara Strain, Public Works & Utilities Director Matt Rusch, Police Chief Harlan Hatton, Water & Sewer Dept. Foreman Aaron Kroeger, Electric Dept. Assistant Foreman Ossen Cox, Street Dept. Foreman Phil Hoffman.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Minutes:

Alderman Robert Hudson open the floor for comments from citizens at 6:49 p.m. Alderman Harold Deckerd stated that Margie Finley had contacted him about the need for a new sidewalk on Lakeview from Jefferson street going East. The board agreed that was an area in need of a sidewalk and it will be added to the list of sidewalk projects, but we do not have the funding at this time. Mayor Chris Cox also wanted to say that he had heard numerous positive comments from the Jefferson Street paving project. Hearing no further comments, Alderman Hudson closed the comments from citizens at 6:53 p.m.

5. ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

a. Activity Report

Minutes:

Assistant Electric Foreman Ossen Cox reported that they changed out the pole behind The Bank of Missouri and have been working at North Pointe lately. He reported that they should be putting transformers in next week.

b. Generation/Purchase

Minutes:

City Administrator Tara Strain said that the contract for new transformers for 2024 should be coming very soon and she will sign it and return it. She also reported that the City will not get any for the year 2023 because supplies are so tight. Public Works Director Matt Rusch reported that we will not have enough transformers to continue with placing existing service underground, the new transformers that we have will have to go toward the new subdivisions while holding some back for emergency replacements.

Mayor Cox said that he had rode around the parks with Erle Bennett and he wanted to replace several poles that he thought were getting worn. Matt said he would talk to Erle and look at the poles he wants replaced before a decision is made.

c. Distribution

d. Other

6. PUBLIC WORKS

a. Activity Report

Minutes:

Street Forman Phil Hoffman reported that they have been busy with the Jefferson Street and Gano paving projects and they have been working on a few drainage projects before it gets cold. They also worked with the Catholic Church on an approach by providing equipment and labor. They have also been replacing some signs and doing some tree trimming. Right now they are gearing up to start the Jefferson Street storm sewer project and Phil reported that they have everything they need to do the east side of the street. Public Works Director Matt Rusch also reported that he had talked to Jim Butler about hauling off the excess dirt from their parking lot expansion which we will use for the Jefferson Street project.

b. Streets

c. Sanitation

d. Storm Water

e. Other

7. WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT

a. Activity Report

Minutes:

Water Foreman Aaron Kroeger reported that they have finished the North Pointe Subdivision and have flushed the lines. They have recently been replacing water meters to eliminate the need to do a day's worth of re reads for the billing process. Aaron said they have installed 10% of the meters, but we have only

received 50% of the meters that we ordered. Public Works Director Matt Rusch reported that the City basins are really close to being done. The testing for them looks good and the barrel test went well, but DNR still has to approve them. Bartlett & West will be at next week's Board of Aldermen meeting to discuss the allotment of \$10,000 to finish the seeding process of the project. Alderman Deckerd expressed concern because he felt certain aspects of the contract regarding the seeding process was not met, such as disturbing the surface before seeding and covering it after seeding. Alderman Magley also expressed concerns that certain aspects outlined in the contract were not met and he feels that \$10,000 will not cover getting a good stand of grass. Matt said that there is grass coming up, but he is uncertain if it will live. He also said that he and City Administrator Tara Strain were keeping a detailed list of the penalties that are being assessed and supply purchases that the City is having to make on Fischer's behalf. Alderman Hudson asked that the detailed list be shared with the board before Monday night's meeting, so the board will be prepared. Matt & Aaron gave an update on the Slaker and the heaters are not currently working. Aaron said that it threw an error message last week and he sent a picture of it to Velodyne and then shut the machine off for five minutes and turned it back on. Aaron said that it is working and the company has no idea what the error was from nor how to fix it. Aaron also reported that we are cleaning it, but the performance is still low. Alderman Hudson asked about the other company that had a smaller machine in stock, but Matt thought it was not the right size for our project. Mayor Cox said that we need to move forward with mediation to finish the litigation in order to fix the problem. Matt said the the DNR inspector indicated that they will not sign off on the project until the Slaker issue is resolved. Matt also reported that there was an issue with the irrigation installation at the Rhodes farm. A neighbor stopped Schmidt because they thought they were on their property, not the easement. Alderman Magley asked if there was an easement, and Matt assured him there was a 20 foot easement for this purpose.

b. Water

c. Sewer

d. Other

8. PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES DIRECTOR

a. Monthly Report

Minutes:

Public Works Director Matt Rusch and Water Foreman Aaron Kroeger met with Schmidt Irrigation at the Douglas farm to flush the lines to get the pivot operational. Matt said that we do not have the correct pump yet, but we are able to pump water out there if we need to.

b. Other

9. AS MAY ARISE

10. ADJOURN

Minutes:

There being no further business to discuss, Alderman Wilkins made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Motley seconded the motion. On a call by Alderman Hudson for ayes and nays the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Vote results:

Ayes: 6 / Nays: 0

Contact: Tara Strain, City Administrator (tara@centraliamo.org (573) 682-2139) | Minutes published on 11/16/2022, adopted on 11/21/2022