

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS
Wednesday, April 15, 2015
Government Center Room 204

Members Present: Tom Fennessey, Mike Herrick, Bob Finsland

Absent: Dan Olson

Also Present: Todd Janigo, Steve Roberts, Mary Morgan, Jamie Mehle

Bob Finsland called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Approval of March 18, 2015, minutes.

MOTION by Herrick seconded by Fennessey, and carried to approve the Public Works Committee minutes of March 18, 2015.

1. Held in committee from 3/18/15: Request from Councilor Herrick requesting review of lighting in the area of 20th & Butler, north. Herrick would like to hold in committee for another month as he continues to work with his constituent to explore the idea of neighbors pitching in to pay for the installation of a security light.

MOTION by Herrick, seconded by Finsland, and carried to hold in committee for another month.

2. Held in committee from 3/18/15: Acting Director of Public Works Janigo requesting approval of two ordinances amending City Code Chapter 114, Utilities, Article VI, Public Water Utility, relating to cross connections and wells. Jamie Mehle from Superior Water Light & Power (SWLP) was present and explained that the ordinances need to be amended so that the wording matches what the DNR is requiring. Herrick questioned a sentence in Section 114-165 relating to the utility charging fees for the Comprehensive Cross Connection Control Protection Plan. He was concerned that an additional fee would be charged. Mehle explained that there is not a separate charge for this at this time. Fennessey noted that this sentence is already in our existing code. Janigo indicated, and Mehle confirmed that if there were to be a fee charged at some point in the future, it would need to go before the Public Service Commission. Mehle went on to explain cross connections to the committee and the process that SWLP will use to inspect homes, issue citations and re-inspect. SWLP will be providing adapters to customers as a courtesy. The commercial and industrial cross-connection program has been in place for a few years and the residential will start in the next few months.

MOTION by Fennessey, seconded by Herrick, and carried to approve two ordinances amending City Code Chapter 114, Utilities, Article VI, Public Water Utility, relating to cross connections and wells.

3. Referred from 4/8/15 Council meeting: Councilors Herrick & D. Dalbec requesting installation of two stop signs at 19th Street on the north and south sides of Wyoming Ave. (Cooper School site) in anticipation of increased traffic due to construction of the round-a-bout. Herrick explained his request indicating that it is anticipated that Wyoming Avenue will be more heavily traveled due to the road construction, and speed and safety are a concern because of Cooper School being in that area.

MOTION by Fennessey, seconded by Herrick, and carried to approve the installation of two stop signs at North 19th Street on the north and south side of Wyoming Avenue.

4. Referred from 4/8/15 Council meeting: Councilor D. Dalbec requesting installation of a stop sign at the corner of Billings Drive and North 21st St. in place of the existing yield sign due to the pedestrian route that is being constructed this summer to connect Billings Park (proper) to the sidewalk on the north side of North 21st Street.

Mary Morgan, Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry highlighted the construction that will occur in Billings Park this summer. She discussed the need for a pedestrian connection into the park. The sidewalk is on the north side of North 21st Street (no sidewalk on the south side). The plan to connect pedestrians to the park includes striping the street for pedestrian crossings, building a Hollywood sidewalk and installing a stop sign where there is currently a yield sign. (Morgan and Janigo met with a homeowner in the area who indicated vehicles do not obey the yield sign). Traffic Sergeant Kiel indicated that the police department does have pedestrian stanchions that could be used in this area as well and Morgan stated that these could be placed after construction is completed at the park, around the third week of July. This will help alert motorists of the crossings.

MOTION by Herrick, seconded by Fennessey, and carried to approve installation of a stop sign at the corner of Billings Drive and North 21st Street.

5. ESD: Faxon Creek Watershed Study Final Report (to be received and filed).
(Motion under 6.)

6. ESD: Stormwater Alternative Study for the Central Business District (to be received and filed).
ESD Director Steve Roberts summarized both studies indicating that the two reports cover about 500 of the 700 homes that were impacted during the storm in 2012. Roberts fielded questions from the committee and councilors expressed their satisfaction with both reports.

MOTION by Fennessey, seconded by Herrick, and carried to receive and file both the Faxon Creek Watershed Study Final Report and the Stormwater Alternative Study for Central Business District.

7. ESD Director's Report

Roberts reported that the mild spring and less snow this winter has been helpful to operations. There have been zero sanitary sewer overflows this year. There have been a couple of issues at the treatment facility. They had a whole effluent toxicity test which they passed and there were a

couple of permit violations. Roberts will bring further information on the test and an update on permit violations to the June meeting. Conditions at the plant right now are quite good. The lift station at Cumming Avenue and North 3rd or 4th Street has a force main that sustained a series of ruptures over the last four or five years. It's a 70 year old force main, which typically lasts 50 years. Replacement of this line has been planned and it is expected to go out for bid in the next couple of weeks.

MOTION by Herrick, seconded by Fennessey, and carried to receive and file the ESD Director's report.

8. Acting Public Works Director's Report

Janigo reported that the RFPs for the landfill collection and sale are in the final iteration and should go out next week. Quotes are out for milling, asphalt pricing and a sidewalk bid should be coming out soon. The sidewalk program will be smaller this year and will include the east side of East 10th Street between 18th Ave East and Stinson and Oakes Avenue from North 53rd Street to Central Avenue. Letters will be sent to homeowners at the end of the week with a link to maps on the city's website.

The Animal Shelter continues to progress with commissioning set for July.

The landfill cap construction isn't completed yet; there are 3 – 4 weeks of work left which should be completed by late May.

Regarding traffic at Northern Lights Elementary School, the MIC has spent a couple of days observing traffic there. They felt that some of the ideas we had proposed were good and they will formalize their notes for us. The city will try to meet with school officials before school is out for the summer to start moving forward with some changes.

MOTION by Fennessey, seconded by Herrick, and carried to receive and file the Acting Public Works Director's report.

MOTION by Fennessey, seconded by Herrick, and the meeting adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

The next Public Works Committee meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2015, 2:00 p.m., in the Government Center Room 204.

Minutes submitted to the Council Meeting of May 5, 2015