



PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

4:00 PM August 9, 2023
City Hall 2nd Floor Large Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Members Present: Councilor Gary Bode, Ron DeValois and Jerry Kuiken

Council Present: Kyle Strengholt

Staff Present: Mayor Scott Korthuis; City Administrator John Williams; Public Works Director Jon Hutchings; Programs Manager Mark Sandal; and Sr. Admin. Assistant Jessica King

Public Present: Marty Gehring, David Vos

ACTION ITEMS

1. Review Minutes from June 7, 2023

Action

The minutes from June 7, 2023, were recognized and accepted by the Committee.

2. Review Minutes from July 5, 2023

Action

The minutes from July 5, 2023, were recognized and accepted by the Committee.

3. Recommendation to Award Bid - 3rd and Main Street Intersection Overlay

Bids were solicited for the 3rd and Main Street Intersection that includes the intersection and extending down each intersection leg, with minor pedestrian ramp reconstruction. This project will be funded in part by a grant from the Transportation Improvement Board. Granite Construction Company was the lowest bidder in the amount of \$324,192.50.

Action

The Committee concurred with the staff recommendation that City Council award the bid for the 3rd and Main Street Intersection Overlay project to Granite Construction Company in the amount of \$324,192.50.

4. Request to Bring Guide Meridian Sewer Extension Project Directly to September 5 City Council Meeting

Hutchings explained that staff would like to open and approve bids before the next Public Works Committee meeting. Bid advertisements are August 9th and 16th with the bid opening scheduled for August 24th.

Action

The Committee concurred to have the Guide Meridian Sewer Extension Project bids brought directly to the September 5 City Council meeting for approval if the bids can be offered to Public Works Committee members by email for review prior.

INFORMATION ITEMS

5. Wastewater Treatment Plant Capacity Upgrade Project Update

Hutchings reminded the Committee that pros and cons for the design-build process were presented at the July 5th meeting, with the Committee concurring in preference of the traditional design-bid-build delivery for the maintenance building relocation phase of the project.

He explained that the main body of the project is now ripe for decision about delivery. To that end, the project team reviewed the preliminary engineering analyses to date and verified that (1) the original scope of improvements is still optimal for the desired increase in capacity, (2) the project elements can be most cost effectively delivered using a mix of design-build and design-bid-build options, and (3) retaining a prime contractor for the highest-risk improvements is clearly in the City's best interest. The team refined the phasing and delivery plan accordingly. The next phase to contract will be the MLE retrofits using a progressive-design-build delivery contract managed by the Washington Division of Enterprise Services at \$12- to \$15 million. Construction of this phase will rely on a State Revolving Fund loan (\$1.9M is already borrowed to finance design). With the committee's affirmation, the team will (1) amend BHC's consultant contract to submit a SRF application in September and (2) bring a contract to the full Council to secure a prime contractor to prepare a 50%-design Investment Grade Audit/Construction Cost Estimate. The next decision point for this project phase will be a construction contract in Spring 2024 and followed by construction in 2025-2026.

Sandal clarified that under the design-build process, the prime contractor has a financial liability/responsibility to maintain uninterrupted operation of the plant.

Hutchings noted that this progressive-design-build process delivers a guaranteed maximum construction cost based on 50% design. That cost is the basis for the construction contract. There is a third-party manager from the Department of Enterprise Services to oversee and help administer the contract, offering additional comfort and protection for the customer.

6. Projects Update

The Committee briefly reviewed the current projects.

NEW BUSINESS:

7. Cedar Drive Project Update

Residents from Cedar Drive attended the meeting. Hutchings observed that the City is working through the various sewer utility questions, including the unresolved property boundary where a sewer pump station was proposed. At question is whether the pump station solution makes sense given the \$1.5M cost estimate and property question. Given those constraints, it is likely that the City will resort to repairing and continuing to use the existing pipe that currently crosses the creek in this area. He noted that if it is

determined that a pump station is not needed, then the project will go to construction in early 2024.

Vos asked about the previous minutes' reference to a 30% design completion. Korthuis explained how that reference was based on a typical design time frame. Unfortunately, the City's engineering firm has been backlogged which has delayed the process. He expressed disappointment that the project has been delayed further.

Bode said the City shouldn't place the pump station cost burden on the taxpayers.

Gehring asked what the City needed from Washinton Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to move forward with the project and what the timeframe would be, and if the design would be complete by Spring 2024. Bode explained that the City must wait for WDFW approval first and isn't sure of the timeframe for that. Hutchings added that the WDFW participation is the determining factor in proceeding before getting a clear timeframe to deliver the project.

8. Fallen Tree in Fishtrap Creek

Bode asked the status of removing the tree from Fishtrap Creek. Sandal said he surveyed the problem and that he is hoping to meet at the site with the engineer working the bank stabilization for the trail project to investigate options. Korthuis asked if the tree could be removed from the creek behind VanderGriend Lumber so that the affected homeowner's property is not eroded more. Sandal responded that he believes that a solution along those lines is forthcoming.

9. DNA Testing for High Fecal Coliform Counts near Fairgrounds

Strengholt asked if testing had been completed. Korthuis said that testing was done but was not sure what samples were tested recently. Hutchings added that additional testing has been done by the County but had not been given the results on that yet. He explained that there are DNA nuances that can determine whether the contamination is due to wildlife, but not specifically what type of animal. DeValois asked what control the City has if it's wildlife contamination. Hutchings said that there is no way to regulate this.

10. Fluoride Water Testing

Bode said he had asked Mike Kim at the Water Treatment Plant to see how much natural fluoride is occurring in the water before the water is treated. He was provided with test result of a .07-.10 ppm of naturally occurring fluoride. The target for finished water is 0.7 ppm. The naturally occurring amount of fluoride is approximately 1/10 of final fluoride level.

Bode said that there is state law for proposing fluoride change requiring a 90-day delay to notify people. Korthuis suggested more internal research before starting the 90-day window. Williams said that the City attorney has been conferred with for the correct process of proceeding with the new law based on the 90-day period.

Action

The Public Works Committee acknowledged that more educational research should be done.

11. Crosswalk Safety

Committee members expressed concern about crosswalks on City streets. Kuiken asked about crosswalks on Bender Road and Strengholt asked about crosswalks on 19th Street. Williams said he spoke with the police chief and that there will be crossing enforcement starting soon.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm.

NEXT MEETING: September 6, 2023

DRAFT