

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

Tuesday, August 26, 2025

5:30 p.m.

The Public Works Commission met at the above date and time. The following members were present: Alderpersons Brad Blanke, Dan Bartz, Myron Moldenhauer, and Tony Arnett (attending remotely); Citizen member Pete Thompson. Also present: City Staff Andrew Beyer, Pete Hartz, Richie Piltz, Maureen McBroom.

1. **Call to order.** Chairperson Arnett called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.
2. **Comments and Suggestions from Citizens Present.** MaryAnn Weiland addressed the Commission requesting support for the proposal from the neighbors of Lake Victoria to share the cost of weed and algae treatment for the lake and shoreline.
3. **Review and take possible action. Minutes of PWC meeting of July 22.** Mr. Bartz moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Thompson. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
4. **Review and take possible action: Aquatic Plant Management Policy for City-owned Properties.** Andrew Beyer presented the draft Aquatic Plant Management Policy for City-owned Properties. He also presented a staff memo with an overview the Lake Victoria request, how it falls outside the policy as it is State-owned, topics to consider if the City wanted to address the request, along with a 4-part recommendation on how to move forward. Commission members discussed the 2019 Ruekert-Mielke study of Heiden Pond and Lake Victoria, and while there was interest in looking at the dredging project outlined in the study, the multi-million dollar cost was an obstacle. As both bodies of water are State-owned, there was interest in seeing if the State would partner with the City on the proposed dredging project. Mr. Blanke moved to add the dredging project for Heiden Pond and Lake Victoria to the Stormwater Utility long-term capital plan, and to direct staff to engage with the State to see what involvement the State might take in it. Mr. Moldenhauer seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. After further discussion, Mr. Blanke moved to recommend the policy to Council and approve the 4 recommendations in the staff memo: to further explore options, legal considerations, funding mechanisms, and permitting requirements. Mr. Moldenhauer seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
5. **Review and take possible action: Award Ultra-Violet Disinfection System Replacement base bid to Rhode Brothers for a total of \$228,000.** This is the 2nd part of a budgeted 2025 capital project. 3 bids were received. The amount falls well within the budgeted amount for this project. Mr. Moldenhauer moved to recommend this bid to Council, seconded by Mr. Bartz. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
6. **Review and discuss: Sanitary Sewer West Side Interceptor Feasibility Analysis.** Pete Hartz presented the Feasibility Analysis, with overview of the multiple potential paths for the Interceptor. There was discussion of which path would be more expensive, even considering potential temporary loss of wetlands credits. No action was required at this time.
7. **Review and take possible action: Sidewalk repair order for 706 Western Avenue.** Mr. Bartz asked if this location had a tree impacting the sidewalk. Staff confirmed that is the case and the tree would be examined. Mr. Bartz moved to approve the order, seconded by Mr. Thompson. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
8. **Review and take possible action: East Haven Estates Stormwater Pond ownership and maintenance request.** Wilbur Miller, the property owner who contacted the City about this, briefly spoke to give an overview and express his concern about bearing the cost of pond ownership and maintenance. Staff

provided additional information about the history of the development and how the pond ended up being in private ownership due to laws in place at the time. There is a small number of other stormwater ponds that have the same ownership issue due to similar circumstances. Commission members inquired about the feasibility of the special assessment process, as well access to the site to perform maintenance, if the City were take possession. Commission members did not feel they had sufficient information about the special assessment process nor about potential site access. Mr. Blanke moved to table this topic until such a time as staff can provide more information about the funding mechanism needed to take control and maintain the pond, along with more information about site access. Mr. Moldenhauer seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

9. **Review and take possible action: Change order no. 1 to Bituminous Surfacing Contract #6-25 with Wolf Paving.** Commission members welcomed the opportunity to expand the streets covered for this year. Mr. Thompson moved to recommend the Change Order to Council, seconded by Mr. Bartz. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
10. Review and take possible action: Add College Street to 5-year plan for Watertown Street Repair. This item was brought to the Commission by Mr. Bartz, who had asked the previous Public Works Director about it 5 years ago. There was discussion about the streets around this location and the age of the infrastructure in and around this area. It appears some of the pipes are more than 100 years old. Staff recommended adding this location in the current plan for the year 2029. Mr. Bartz moved to add it to the plan for 2029, seconded by Mr. Moldenhauer. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
11. **Adjournment.** Mr. Blanke moved to adjourn at 7:07 p.m., seconded by Mr. Bartz. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Arnett, Chairperson