

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Tuesday, September 27, 2022

Commission members present: Alders Bartz, Ruetten, Wetzel, Commr. Thompson

City employees present:

Public Works Director/City Engineer Jaynllen Holloway

Assistant City Engineer Andrew Beyer

Wastewater Treatment Manager Peter Hartz

Assistant Wastewater Treatment Manager Tim Hayden

Storm Water Project Manager Maureen McBroom

1. Chairman Wetzel called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. Comments and suggestions from citizens present - None

3. Review and approve minutes from September 13, 2022

Motion to approve Ald. Bartz

2nd Ald. Ruetten

Carried by unanimous voice vote

4. BUSINESS

Agenda item 4. I. was moved ahead

I. (Item moved to accommodate a guest and Maureen McBroom as one agenda item involved them). Review and take possible action: Development of Water Quality Trading Program to meet Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Pollutant Reduction Requirements of MS4 Permit. Patricia Cicero from Jefferson County Land and Water Conservation Department was in attendance to answer any questions. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) released the Rock River Basin Total Maximum Daily Load study in September 2011. In 2014, it was determined that it would be cost-prohibitive to meet the TMDL requirements as found in the MS4 Permit through traditional stormwater treatment Best Management Practices (BMPs). In the 2014 Water Quality Master Plan, it was estimated that spending \$13 million on traditional stormwater treatment BMPs would not get the City close to meeting MS4 permit TMDL reduction requirements. City staff, consultants and elected officials continued to evaluate alternatives to meet the TMDL requirements of the MS4 Permit over the next few years and determined that a water quality trading program was the best, most cost-effective option.

The City reported the choice of the water quality trading option to WDNR in 2017, per the MS4 Permit requirements. City staff have and will continue to maximize the stormwater pollutant reductions available through traditional BMPs and new technologies inside City limits. However, a portion of the pollution reductions that are required will need to occur through the long-term installation of nonpoint source practices in the surrounding watershed in order to meet the City's MS4 Permit requirements in a cost-effective manner.

City staff are working with Jefferson County Conservation Department and the Rock River Coalition to develop a water quality trading water quality trading project, including a formal partnership with these entities, funding and implementation structure.

McBroom presented a detailed PowerPoint showing the involvement and progress of Watertown's TMDL program since 2011. Commr. Thompson asked which gov's entities this phosphorus reduction involves i.e. City of WTTN, county, surrounding towns, etc. McBroom stated that counties and towns are exempt from MS4 permitting but have their own regulations. However, the City is the driving force for the project.

Thompson then asked if the farms are the main largest polluter outside the City and McBroom stated that that is where county regulations come into play.

Another presentation will be presented to the Council in the near future.

The Engineering Division and Storm Water Utility are seeking approval to continue working with partners to develop a water quality trading program. Pending approval, an intergovernmental agreement will be brought before the Public Works Commission and the Common Council at a later date.

Motion to approve Ald. Wetzel

2nd Ald. Ruetten

Carried by unanimous voice vote

A. Review and update – 2023 annual capital improvement project supplies for underground infrastructure replacement have been ordered from Core - Main.

Ald. Ruetten asked if we are going to continue to buy for 2024 projects. Pete would like to finalize before his budget is completed for next year.

B. Review and update – Private Lead Service line replacement program changes for 2023 and beyond. Tim Hayden attended a meeting with MEG (Municipal Environmental Group) and Pete had him update The last two years we have received a principal forgiveness loan i.e. grant. DNR has used up the funds for that type of private lead service loan. There are going to be changes in 2023 and beyond for those municipalities who wish to continue to replace private lead service laterals. We are doing all the homes in next year's project this year.

Tim shared that the new funding is part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (BIL). This focuses on communities that are impoverished i.e. those that meet certain criteria. To qualify for these funds a community must score a minimum of 60 points and WTTN scored 55 points. Not one community at the MEG meeting qualified. If the city as a whole doesn't qualify then one could focus on an impoverished area of said city. However, the PSC said you cannot spend money on one part of a city but must equally qualify the entire city. So a consultant must be hired to help guide the city through the process. Because of the City's proactive work on the lead lateral replacement WTTN is ahead of the game.

There are over 150 cities in the MEG. We rely on them on a number of issues.

Commr asked where we are with the contractor and Tim stated that 100 houses are complete and is confident to get the 500 houses completed before the end of the year. The DNR has extended the time period for completion of the project. Both Pete and Tim praised the work of MJ Construction.

C. Review and take action - submittal of documents for 2024 Private Lead Service Line replacement project thru the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program - Notice of Intent to Apply (ITA) & Priority Evaluation and Ranking Form (PERF); both due October 21, 2022 and the application June 2024.

Pete Hartz shared BIL funding is not available as quickly because of the change in the program. In order for the City to move forward in 2023 we would need to find seed money for the homeowners as our ordinance allows for citizens to take out a loan from the water department, but the department has no money to loan right now. 2023 may be a "pause" year, but we can put in an ITA for 2024 for the safe drinking water loan. This will allow discussion as to what to do for 2023, communicating with the PSC about using rate funded dollars to continue to move the program forward, which is something that can take up to a year to get in place. This is all new to us since September 15. Since we are doing 2023 services this year, we are somewhat ahead of the game.

Looking for approval to submit the ITA and the application. This is an online application.

Motion to approve Commr. Thompson

2nd Ald. Bartz

Carried by unanimous voice vote

D. Review and update – Purchase of new emergency generator & automatic transfer switch for the Spaulding Lift Station from United Electric, Inc. for \$31,440. There is money in the 2022 budget.

E. Review and update – Purchase of new lift station control panels from Energenecs Inc., for \$39,900 (Lift Stations for controls; N. Water St., 5th Ward, Fox Creek, Country Club Lane, Hintze)

F. Review and update – Purchase of new liners for the sludge conveyors from Drydon Equipment Inc., for \$26,960.

The Wastewater Department owns and operates a dewatering system at the wastewater treatment plant. After twenty years of life the liners were recently found to be worn out and need replacement before damaging other parts of the sludge equipment and conveyance system. The equipment make is by Parkson and Drydon Equipment Inc., is the regional representative of Parkson Equipment. Drydon Equipment Inc. provided a quote which was considered reasonable by staff. The Wastewater Department would like to purchase new conveyor liners from Drydon Equipment Inc. not to exceed \$26,960.

G. Review and take action – Purchase new rotary screw air compressor and controller from Kaeser Compressors, Inc. for \$10,761.

The Wastewater Department owns and operates an advanced wastewater treatment process which includes primary sludge pumps as part of the treatment plant. The primary sludge pumps play a critical role in transferring waste from one process to another at the wastewater treatment plant. One of the screw compressors was found to be worn out and is no longer in production so needs to be replaced in order to have a back up to the other screw compressor to supply air to the primary sludge pumps. The entire air system and equipment are made by Kaeser Compressor Inc. Kaeser Compressor is their own representative of the equipment, and WHEREAS, Kaeser Compressor Inc. provided a quote which was considered reasonable by staff.

H. Review take action - Approve planned service agreement from Johnson Controls for the water and wastewater HVAC computerized control system.

The Water/Wastewater Departments operate a HVAC system that is controlled with a virtual machine (computer software linked in the cloud) as part of the process to control for the indoor environment in all the buildings (10) at 800 Hoffman Drive. The service contract with Johnson Controls was first incorporated in 2011 and recently updated in 2021.

This is a three year service agreement dated: 11/1/2022 through 1/31/2025.

Ald. Bartz asked if it has always been a three year agreement

Pete Hartz stated that it appears to have always been a three year agreement and while they have shopped around the software is proprietary.

A resolution will be presented.

Motion to approve Commr Thompson

2nd Ald. Ruetten

Carried by unanimous voice vote

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn Ald. Bartz

2nd Ald. Ruetten

Carried by unanimous voice vote

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Wetzel

Public Works Commission Chair

Note: These minutes are uncorrected, and any corrections made thereto will be noted in the proceedings at which these minutes are approved.