

**Public Works Committee
Minutes
6:30 P.M.; May 29, 2007**

DRAFT

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Public Works Committee of the City of O'Fallon, held in the Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall, 255 S. Lincoln, O'Fallon, Illinois on May 29, 2007.

CALL TO ORDER: Time: 6:45 P.M.

ROLL CALL: MEMBERS: Medford, West; Absent: N. Drolet, True, Renner

STAFF LIAISON: Denton, Funk, Sullivan

NON-COMMITTEE ALDERMEN: Albrecht, Reckamp, Schmidt, Polites, J. Drolet, Bennett

GUESTS: Dan Toberman, Dave Pfeifer, Mark Craig, Bill Schaefer, Patrick Hedger, Rhonda Gerstner

Minutes from April 23, 2007 were not approved due to lack of quorum.

Item 1. No Action/Deferred Items:

Water Conservation Ordinance

E. Washington Street (Behind Dairy)

Crown Pointe Subdivision Infrastructure

Vehicle Weight Restrictions on Local Roadways

No Action on the above items was reported. (Open)

Item 2: **AI:** Church of Christ Request for Storm Sewer Installation – Action was deferred on the item due to the lack of quorum. (Open)

Item 3: **AI:** Water Rate Ordinance Change – Mark Craig (Castle Acres Park), Bill Schaefer (PET Dairy), Patrick Hedger (Prairie Farms Dairy), and Rhonda Gerstner (Ramada Inn-Fairview) spoke to the committee on the impact of the proposed rate change to their respective businesses. A long discussion amongst the Aldermen in attendance followed. Staff responded to questions as did the guests. The proposed change only affects customers using over 8,000 gallons per month and most significantly affects customers using over 200,000 gallons per month. For customers using 200,000 gallons or more, the rate change varies from approximately 1.4% to 26.8%. In the end, consensus was not reached, and with a lack of a quorum, the issue was deferred until the next committee meeting. (Open)

Item 4: **AI:** Sanitary Sewer Rate Ordinance Change – Staff presented a draft ordinance change that increased the usage rate by 15% from \$4.25 to \$4.90 per 1,000 gallons. The base user rate would change from \$3.83 per month to \$4.25. The need for the rate change is to support the current sanitary sewer system operation, and create funding for needed maintenance, repair and alterations. The system has operated in the red

POI: Point of Information

AI: Action Item

for the past two years and the projection for the coming year is no better. Currently, staff is working with the just closed FY2007 data to ensure that the 15% proposal based on FY2006 data is adequate. This is of course not good news, but the City's trunk mains to the wastewater treatment plant have had almost no maintenance since construction in 1968, and the wastewater treatment plant is facing ever more stringent Clean Water Act implementation standards and is approaching the 10th anniversary year of an upgrade that would get the plant through 15 years before the next multi-million dollar upgrade. Staff will have at the next meeting the results of the rate analysis based on the FY2007 data. (Open)

- Item 5: **AI:** Damaged ERT Procedures Policy – Staff presented the Public Works Department's policy on handling damaged electronic read transmitter (ERT) cases. The ERT sits atop the City's water meters providing radio read capability. The ERT reduces manpower requirements, workman injury and compensation claims, and allows for monthly billing. Unfortunately, due to it sitting atop water meters, it is subject to damage by lawnmower blades and lawn aerators. The cost of an ERT replacement currently runs about \$150. After much discussion about protection of ERTs and the location of water meters, the consensus of the Aldermen present was that the staff should implement the policy based on their best judgment. (Closed)
- Item 6. **AI:** Personal Item Replacement Policy – Staff presented the Public Works Department's policy on personal item replacement. After some discussion, the consensus of the Aldermen present was that the staff should implement a policy based on their best judgment; however, the policy should cover all departments and not just Public Works. As such, the final policy shall become part of the Personnel Code that is currently under review by all departments. (Closed)
- Item 7. **AI:** Parking Lot Sealing Bid Tabulation – Due to time constraints and lack of a quorum to make a motion on action regarding the bid tab, it was not covered in the meeting. As it is a rather straightforward compilation of the two bids received, it will be passed to the full Council for review and approval. (Closed)

ADJOURNMENT: 8:35 P.M. PREPARED BY: Dennis Sullivan

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 25, 2007 at 7:00 P.M., to be held in the Mayor's Conference Room or Council Chambers at City Hall dependent upon the number of visitors at the meeting.

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