

**Public Works Committee
Minutes
7:00 P.M.; July 27, 2009**

Minutes of a meeting of the City of O'Fallon's Public Works Committee, held in the Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall, 255 S. Lincoln, O'Fallon, Illinois on June 27, 2009.

CALL TO ORDER: Time: 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: MEMBERS: Medford, Reckamp, True, Polites; Absent: Engler
NON-COMMITTEE ALDERMEN: Cozad, Albrecht, J. Drolet, N. Drolet
STAFF LIAISON: Bell, Sullivan, Bowman, Funk, Rich
GUESTS: Dave Pfeifer

- Item 1. **POI:** Wesley Pond Easements – Replacement of the culverts in this location and the cleaning of the pond has begun. (Closed)
- Item 2. **AI:** 6829 Ridge Pointe ERT Damage – The homeowner is appealing the ERT damage charge. Faber Construction purchased the tap associated with the new meter, and the new owner did not change the account into his name until May, several months after his occupation of the home. The letter informing the account holder of the damaged ERT was sent to the contractor, and the contractor passed the letter onto the homeowner. The homeowner is contending that the damage occurred prior to his owning the account and was done by a piece of construction equipment not under his control. The owner feels he should not have to pay for the ERT damage. After discussion by the committee the vote was 2 yes and 2 no to charge the customer. Motion failed to pass. The ERT replacement fee will be waived. (Closed)
- Item 3. **AI:** IDOT Supplemental Resolution – Hartman Lane Project Close out – Staff has been in contact with IDOT on closing this project out. Although, the project has been completed and the MFT money approved and spent, IDOT requires this supplemental form to close out the project and square up the books. (Closed)
- Motion: Committee recommended approval of the IDOT MFT Supplemental Resolution in the amount of \$61,392.69.
- Item 4. **POI:** Illinois Water and Wastewater Agency Response Network (ILWARN) – Staff presented information on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) which has led to the formation of ILWARN in Illinois by the American Water and Wastewater Association (AWWA). Fire and Police Departments are already trained as being first responders under NIMS standards and assist each other under MABOI and ILEAS, but Public Works employees were left out of the initial surge of NIMS training which was rushed into place as a result of hurricanes in Florida, Louisiana and Texas. However, Public Works personnel were left out of this rush. Everyone can appreciate that these emergency services are important in the period after a natural or man-made

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disaster, but Public Works is the fixer of the problems left behind and need a system to facilitate mutual aid in response to a disaster. Therefore, AWWA has created such a system and is promoting NIMS training for Public Works types. They have assisted 46 states in the creation of mutual aid pacts such as Illinois' ILWARN. For years electrical utilities have rushed to each others aid in disasters, now water and wastewater utilities have recognized the need for assistance in natural disasters. If the lights are on and there is no water, life in the disaster area is not going to return to normal any time soon. ILWARN's members are water and wastewater utilities, private and public. Once a member, provision of aid or acceptance is completely voluntary. Reimbursement for costs incurred in providing aid to a requesting utility starts immediately. Staff will do more research on this issue and bring the findings back to committee; however, the system in effect is a no cost insurance policy and makes mutual aid available. Not being a member would delay mutual aid assistance from the outside for days. (Open)

Item 5. **POI:** Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network (IPWMAN) - Staff presented information on IPWMAN. IPWMAN was formed by the Illinois American Public Works Association again as an outgrowth of NIMS. The three major difference between IPWMAN and ILWARN are: (1) IPWMAN's membership is for public entities only (municipal, township, districts and county), (2) reimbursement for aid provided does not start until the 5th day of assistance, and (3) the network was set up to provide assistance in all public works areas, not just water and wastewater. IPWMAN does have an annual membership fee used to maintain the database and other administrative functions. Staff will do more research on this issue and bring the findings back to committee. (Open)

Item 6. **POI:** Deduct Water Meter – Alderman Reckamp requested this item be placed on the agenda for discussion. A deduct meter is a second water meter to track usage of water that does not end up going into a sanitary sewer system. Staff presented information from 3 Illinois cities with varying slants on deduct meters. Mokena is a village utilizing a true, deduct meter system. Residents wishing to participate in the deduct program are required to fill out a permit and obtain a licensed plumber to install a meter provided by the city (paid for by the resident). The meter is installed on the user's side of the main water meter and services only areas exterior to the home or business. The meter is in a pit similar to the ones in O'Fallon and is read by the Mokena water meter readers. This would possibly be a cheaper alternative than O'Fallon's second meter which requires a tap of our main. Swansea utilizes a second water meter (purchased from a local hardware store) that is portable and affixes to an exterior faucet. To get the deduct advantage on the sewer bill for water not going down the drain, the customer has to call in the reading to the utility billing office every two months prior to their billing cycle. In effect, the customer is on an honor system with readings by the village on a random basis. Swansea's system would provide savings compared to the current O'Fallon system where a second in-ground meter is required, but it would further complicate tracking of costs in the billing system and may not be compatible with the second meter

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choice now available in O'Fallon. Finally, Bolingbrook allows a second meter, but as Illinois-American Water Company is the provider of water and sewer service there, only their engineering group gets involved in the installation to ensure that it does not interfere with the roadways or other facilities. It is pretty hands off, due to their lack of involvement in water and wastewater utilities. Bollingbrook's system is not applicable to O'Fallon. After further discussion by the committee, this item will be held over until the next meeting. Staff will gather information/numbers on current meters and backflow devices in our system. All deduct meters installed to support in-ground irrigation systems must have backflows in Illinois by state law. (Open)

Item 7. **AI:** Chlorination Equipment at the Wastewater Treatment Plant – The chlorination system at the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) is currently manually operated and as such does not react automatically to variations in effluent flow. During normal shift hours variations can be anticipated by our operators, but after hours there is no control. As a result, the effluent from the treatment train does not always receive the proper amount of chlorination to kill fecal coliform in the discharge. This allows fecal material in the water discharged to Silver Creek to exceed our permit limitations. Additionally, when the amount of chlorine is increased or decreased the amount sulphur dioxide needs adjustment as well. The sulphur dioxide scrubs excess chlorine from the discharge stream to meet additional limitations. Bottom line is the WWTP needs a more sophisticated control system that operates automatically for the majority of hours it is in operation when no personnel are present. To that end, staff requested a proposal from Brooks & Associates through our consulting engineers (HMG of Carlyle, IL) for additional control valves and scales. For your information, we exceeded our IEPA limitation for fecal coliform four times during the month of June. The only other solution, besides personnel on site 24/7 is to run the chlorine at a high level to ensure fecal kill and then counteract the chlorine with sulphur dioxide at an equivalent level to ensure the chlorine is scrubbed from the discharge waters. Either of the last two options is far more expensive than the automatic controls proposed. (Closed)

Motion: Committee recommends approval of the proposal with Brooks & Associates in the amount of \$10,725.00.

Item 8. **POI:** 1102 Lorien Court Drainage – No Action. (Open)

Item 9. **POI:** 211 Howard Drainage Problem – No Action. (Open)

Item 10. **POI:** Lee & Howard Intersection & Drainage Ditch – No Action. (Open)

Item 11. **POI:** 209 Joy Drainage Problem – No Action. (Open)

Item 12. **POI:** 506 Dartmouth Drainage Problem – No Action. (Open)

Item 13. **POI:** Weber and 50 Drainage Problem – No Action. (Open)

Item 14. **POI:** 704 Oak Creek Court – No Action. (Open)

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- Item 15. **POI:** 600 Block of E. Washington Street Vacation – No Action. (Open)
- Item 16. **POI:** 1105 Elisabeth Drainage Problem - No Action. (Open)
- Item 17. **POI:** 122 Central Drainage Problem – No Action. (Open)
- Item 18. **POI:** 8525 Treybrooke Drainage Problem - No Action. (Open)
- Item 19. **POI:** Moyer School Detention (1064 Oxford Hill Drainage Problem) – No Action. (Open).
- Item 20. **POI:** 314 Joy Drainage Problem – No Action. (Open).
- Item 21. **POI:** 506 N. Cherry Drainage Problem – No Action. (Open).
- Item 22. **POI:** 878 Misty Valley Sump Pump Drain Problem – No Action. (Open)
- Item 23. **POI:** 861 Misty Valley Sump Drain Problem – No Action. (Open).
- Item 24. **POI:** 621 Wintergreen Sump Pump Drain Problem – No Action. (Open)
- Item 25. **POI:** Misty Valley Street End of Roadway Drainage - No Action. (Open)
- Item 26. **POI:** Mulberry Ditch Drainage Problem – No Action. (Open)
- Item 27. **POI:** 931 Crabapple Drainage Problem – No Action. (Open)

ADJOURNMENT: 8:05 P.M. PREPARED BY: Heide Bell

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 24, 2009 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.