

**Public Works Committee  
Minutes  
7:00 P.M.; January 25, 2010**

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 January 25, 2009.

CALL TO ORDER: Time: 7:06 P.M.

ROLL CALL: MEMBERS: Reckamp, True, Polites, Snyder; Absent: Engler

NON-COMMITTEE ALDERMEN: McCoskey, N. Drolet, Cozad, J. Drolet, Bennett, Albrecht

STAFF LIAISON: Bell, Sullivan, Bowman, Denton, Rich, Funk

GUESTS: Dave Pfeifer, Herb Roach, Bill Schaefer

Minutes from November 23, 2009 were approved.

**Item 1.**     **AI:** Surplus Property – Carbon Hill, Hartman Lane and Main Street – Committee discussed listing the properties as excess to the City's needs. After some discussion, the committee consensus was the properties are surplus. Discussion as to whether or not to advertise the properties for sale did not gain consensus at the time. A discussion as to the value of the property based on the appraisals received, ended with staff reiterating that City must receive at least 80% of the appraised value if a property is sold. (Closed)

**Motion:** Committee recommended Council action to make the properties surplus.

**Item 2.**     **POI:** Mowing of Riparian Areas along Engle Creek - Alderman Albrecht is to report back to the Committee after the next Winding Creek Homeowners Association meeting. (Open)

**Item 3.**     **POI:** IEPA's Notice of Intent to Pursue Legal Action, Water System Upgrades – Elevated Storage Towers and Booster Pump Station – The IEPA Attorney had asked the City to complete 5 actions to mitigate the need for further action on the agency's part. Staff completed all 5 actions within the timeframe required by IEPA. The Towers and Booster Pump Station are now in service. (Closed)

**Item 4.**     **POI:** Analysis of Current Infrastructure Funding (Including Facilities) – Staff presented a spreadsheet based on a White Paper on the City of O'Fallon's Infrastructure Maintenance Requirements. Staff is concerned that there will be a steady decline in the City's infrastructure in future years if local funding mechanisms are not put in place to correct the downturn. The federal and state governments do not have the funding capacity to assist in any turn around. After some discussion, staff will provide O'Fallon information to surrounding communities and area consultants via the next local APWA

**POI:** Point of Information

**AI:** Action Item

(American Public Works Association) meeting to determine how O'Fallon's infrastructure and its future compares to other cities in the area. (Open)

- Item 5. POI:** Transportation Utility Fee (TUF) – The formation of a transportation utility with its accompanying fee for transportation improvements is being used more often in communities, especially in the western United States. Staff presented a briefing by University of Wisconsin faculty to the City of Milwaukee Council on the initiative. After a short discussion, the consensus of the committee was that enactment of such a utility in O'Fallon would not be well received until other communities in the area had put a transportation utility in place. (Closed)
- Item 6. POI:** Street Maintenance Sales (SMS) Tax – Staff presented the possibility of placing a ¼ % sales tax on general merchandise bought in the City of O'Fallon as a means to fund street maintenance. Such a tax would generate \$700,000 to \$800,000 a year based on current sales. After a short discussion, the consensus of the committee was that such a tax would not be well received. (Closed)
- Item 7. POI:** Jamestown Culvert Pipes Lining – An anticipated proposal from a consultant has not been delivered. (Open)
- Item 8. POI:** Milburn School Road Reconstruction Land Acquisition – Council has already acted on this holdover item from the November 23, 2009 Committee meeting. (Closed)
- Item 9. POI:** New Law on 80,000 lb. Trucks – Staff reported that they had not had time to complete the review requested in the last Committee meeting. (Open)
- Item 10. POI:** Howard and Estate Drainage Problem – Joe Obal, owner of property, near the intersection of Howard and Estate had contacted Alderman Polites requesting a ditch between his property and PET Dairy be cleaned and that the City correct the drainage problems at the intersection. Staff informed the Committee that the ditch has been cleaned. However, water still sits in the intersection after a heavy rain. A large portion of the eventual drainage goes into a sanitary sewer manhole and is pumped away by a nearby lift station. The situation overall is not good. History of drainage (1940-era) in this area was west to east. When the area was built up with housing it stopped the natural flow of the drainage. This problem has existed for a long time. The area will require a permanent storm water lift station in the future to clear of the numerous problems there. The lift station alone would cost a minimum of \$150,000.00. Funding is not available at this time. However, a consultant working on drainage problems in a nearby subdivision has been asked to

submit a proposal to staff for future planning purposes. When that proposal is received it will be advanced to the Committee. (Open)

**Item 11. AI:** Sewer Service Surcharge for Industrial Users – Staff presented proposed changes in the Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Suspended Solids (SS) rates for industrial users. The last time the rates were changed was 2006. The fee would go to \$0.22 for BOD per pound and \$0.41 per pound for SS from \$0.17 and \$0.32, respectively. After a brief discussion, the committee requested additional information showing the impact that the rate increase would have on the dairies. Staff will bring this information to the next committee. The rates come from the yearly analysis done for computing the City of O’Fallon’s Shiloh Sewer Rates. (Open)

**Item 12. POI:** Shiloh Sewer Rates – Staff presented the letter recently sent to Mayor Vernier of Shiloh for the yearly sewer rate adjustment based on the Village to City agreement. The rate will go down this year to \$1.08 per 1,000 gallons from \$1.47 per 1,000. This is due to variables used in the formula. Basically, a number of costs applied in the formula were at 5-year lows. Staff informed the Committee that a warning was contained in the letter that the rate could go up next year based on the current operations at the plant. (Closed)

**Item 13: AI:** Porter-Simmons Roundabout Funding Agreement – Staff presented the IDOT Local Agency Agreement for Federal Participation that IDOT had informed staff was needed. The cost share for the roundabout based on IDOT approval in 2008 and the current construction estimate is \$320,000 (federal) and \$170,000 (local). The form is in effect to allow the project to go out for bid. We have not done this in the past for this type of project.

**Motion:** Committee recommends approval of the Porter-Simmons Roundabout Funding Agreement as prepared by IDOT. (Closed)

**Item 14: AI:** Water Meter Order – Staff presented the cost of a bulk order of water meters. Approximately every 2 years, a bulk purchase is made. This allows the City to receive a significant price break on the water meters and ERTs from Badger Meter.

**Motion:** Committee recommends the bulk purchase of water meters from Badger Meters. (Closed)

**Item 15. POI:** 1102 Lorien Court Drainage – No Action. (Open)

**Item 16. POI:** 211 Howard Drainage Problem – No Action. (Open)

**Item 17. POI:** Lee & Howard Intersection & Drainage Ditch – No Action. (Open)

**Item 18. POI:** 209 Joy Drainage Problem – No Action. (Open)

- Item 19. POI:** 704 Oak Creek Court – No Action. (Open)
- Item 20. POI:** 600 Block of E. Washington Street Vacation – No Action. (Open)
- Item 21. POI:** 1105 Elisabeth Drainage Problem - No Action. (Open)
- Item 22. POI:** 8525 Treybrooke Drainage Problem - No Action. (Open)
- Item 23. POI:** Moye School Detention (1064 Oxford Hill Drainage Problem) – No Action. (Open).
- Item 24. POI:** 314 Joy Drainage Problem – No Action. (Open).
- Item 25. POI:** 506 N. Cherry Drainage Problem – No Action. (Open).
- Item 26. POI:** Mulberry Ditch Drainage Problem – No Action. (Open)
- Item 27. POI:** 931 Crabapple Drainage Problem – No Action. (Open)
- Item 28. POI:** Illinois Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (ILWARN)

ADJOURNMENT: 8:40 P.M. PREPARED BY: Heide Bell

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 22, 2010 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.