

**STREETS AND SANITATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

May 9, 2011
6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dave Soeldner
Jason Sladky
Jim Brey
Allan Schema (arrived 6:54 p.m.)
Alex Olson

STAFF PRESENT

Val Mellon
Greg Minikel
Sonja Birr
Mike Huck
Randy Junk

OTHERS

Mike Check, 9140 Hilltop Rd

Approval of the Minutes from 4/11/11

J. Brey made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 25, 2011 meeting. J. Sladky seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Discussion and possible action regarding operational issues associated with reduced staffing levels

R. Junk was present to review the daily job assignments and how the employee layoffs have affected the crews and assignments. Just in one week of the layoffs, they are feeling it. R. Junk said that the mandated things will be high priority (street sweeping, weed cutting). There are 2 sewer crews that will continue flushing every Friday. He informed the Committee that crews will be rearranged as needed to create asphalt and concrete crews. There will constantly be switching crews around in order to get through each week and/or each day of the summer.

The fall brush pickup will be tough as the leaf pickup will take place during this time. We might possibly have to cancel the brush pickup this fall; however, V. Mellon said that we need to concentrate solely on leaf pickup as we don't want them blocking the sewers.

R. Junk further updated the Committee of the upcoming retirements that will take place. He said that he updated the vacation policy to only allow 3 employees off at one time. Some vacations had to be cancelled.

V. Mellon explained the list of projects for 2011 that DPW has committed to this year. R. Junk needs to figure out what we need to do. V. Mellon distributed a copy of the State Statute, which explains the weed Ordinance as well as the City's Municipal Code, which allows the maximum weed/grass height to be 8 inches. Beyond 8 inches high and the City sends the property owner a violation notice.

In regards to the Parks properties, tree cutting is first and then the City will concentrate on cutting grass.

J. Sladky said he has a problem with DPW crews cutting lawns. He recommended checking with Deb Geiger to allow the City the ability to contract grass cutting. R. Junk explained that we assess the property owners. J. Sladky does not want the skilled personnel cutting lawns. R. Junk explained that typically one skilled worker cut lawns with the summer help. J. Brey doesn't remember a contract that doesn't allow Parks Dept to cut lawns and said that we should utilize the Parks Dept to cut lawns. V. Mellon explained that she and K. Glaeser determined the Marina to be a park and will utilize the parks seasonal employees to do the cutting.

J. Sladky said that if there are service cuts, the City Council will stand behind these decisions. He understands that we will need to prioritize.

V. Mellon explained that traffic control, sign fabrication and pavement marking crews were eliminated, except for completing the signage and pavement markings (painting) that were already previously approved by one of the Committees/Council.

Discussion took place regarding if the Walker Bill passes through and what can be done to utilize both Parks and DPW crews. V. Mellon also mentioned the possibility of utilizing local jail inmates to do lawn cutting.

No further discussion.

Discussion and possible action of the level of effort and pricing regarding wreath laying ceremony at Sailor's and Soldier's monument on June 18th, 2011

R. Junk was available to discuss the traffic control for the wreath laying ceremony and close the northbound lanes of N. 18th Street. This is a Saturday event that will be overtime. The Committee does not want to charge the Veterans for the traffic control.

Discussion and possible action regarding the Broadway Bridge deterioration

G. Minikel explained that this is more of a slope failure issue than a bridge failure, at this time. The bridge was built in 1984 and repairs were made in 2002, which included the sheet piling. Typically, there has been movement of an inch or two every year and the City patches the sidewalk area nearly every year. However, there has been major movement of 1.5 to 2.0 feet in the past few weeks due to the build up of water behind the bridge abutment and the sheet piling. This has been a problem ever since the bridge was built. The ultimate design solution is to pull the existing sheeting and install new sheeting with the proper tie backs and anchors and also installation of the appropriate

drain tile system. The estimated cost for this repair project is approximately \$250,000 to \$300,000.

V. Mellon said that we are very concerned and will need to hire bridge experts to study and give solution.

G. Minikel said that he is concerned, but the bridge itself isn't damaged yet, however, the backwall of the east abutment has moved and is leaning on the outer beam. If the abutment continues to move, we may start seeing damage to the beam.

If the hillside should completely slide down the hill, then the material under the roadway may be lost as well, which could cause the approach pavement to settle and leave the abutment exposed. Then, the roadway would need to be closed.

Our consultant, AECOM, stated that the most important thing the City should do as soon as possible is to get the sidewalk area covered to prevent water from getting behind the sheeting and causing more movement.

The DPW is currently trying to figure out a wood framing design with plastic to keep water out of the area. However, due to the layoffs at DPW, G. Minikel received a quote from Vinton Construction to build a cover for this area. The quote is for approximately 3 days of work at \$6,800. D. Soeldner asked the timeline to replace sheeting. AECOM is currently working on a design proposal. They are also putting together an interim bridge inspection report. Hopefully, the design engineering contract from AECOM could be brought to the Council meeting on June 6th. Then, it will take a few months to design the project, develop plans and specifications and then bid out the project.

Discussion ensued regarding how to move forward with protecting this bridge. The Committee doesn't feel the way the covering that the City proposed would last 2-3 months and the DPW crews are working on other projects.

J. Sladky made a motion to hire Vinton Construction to construct a wooden framed cover (plywood/tar paper) to protect this area for the cost of \$6,800. J. Brey seconded the motion.

Discussion took place as to where the money would come from. The Committee recommended putting the funding of the bridge on the next agenda.

Motion carried unanimously. No further discussion.

Discussion and possible action regarding installing a "Hearing Impaired" sign in the 1100 Blk of S. 25th Street

J. Brey explained that a constituent in his District has a hearing impaired child and is requesting a sign. They own their house.

D. Soeldner asked the research with the hearing impaired signs. The Committee feels that people do notice them and they aren't a sign that is used often. G. Minikel explained that when there are too many particular signs, it goes by unnoticed.

G. Minikel said that typically these signs don't come down and would be nice if when these signs are no longer needed they should come down.

J. Brey made a motion to install the "Hearing Impaired" sign in the 1100 block of S. 25th Street. J. Sladky seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Discussion and possible action regarding billing for street light on Hwy 151 at the east drive of Luigi's Pizza

V. Mellon explained to the Committee that there is a street light that is in the east drive of Luigi's Pizza. WPS is questioning who to send the invoice for this light to. During an internal street light audit it was found that a 150-watt street light in front of the east drive by Luigi's Pizza has not been billed to any party. WPS street lights over roadways are normally billed to the municipality in the service area. V. Mellon said that she reviewed the location and in her opinion it is not the City's street light, since this light is for a driveway and the City would normally only light intersections on rural highway locations.

A. Olson made a motion to table until the next meeting.

The owner of Luigi's is not available on Monday's for the meetings.

A. Olson rescinded his motion.

J. Sladky made a motion to contact the owners of Luigi's and offer them the option to either establish an account with WPS or the sign will come down. A. Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Communication (10-064) from SMI requesting that Streets and Sanitation Committee take action on various issues relating to storm water pond maintenance costs

M. Check would like to discuss at the next meeting May 23, 2011 and would like the City Attorney to be present as well.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.



Valerie Mellon, P.E.
Director of Public Works
and City Engineer