

**STREETS AND SANITATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

June 27, 2011
6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dave Soeldner
Jason Sladky
Jim Brey
Alex Olson
Allan Schema

STAFF PRESENT

Val Mellon
Greg Minikel
Sonja Birr
Mike Huck
Randy Junk
Tony Dick

OTHERS

Approval of the Minutes from 6/13/11

A. Olson made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 13, 2011 meeting. J. Brey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Discussion and possible action on street sweeping operations

D. Soeldner has been receiving complaints from his constituents questioning the efficiency of a second person following the street sweeper to document violators. Tony Dick explained that the cost of this operation is performed by seasonals (min. wage) so it is not as high as the public perceives it to be and is the most efficient way of issuing the tickets since the violation occurs when the street sweeping operator has to drive around the vehicles parked in the street. The plates and other necessary information is written down and the ticket is issued at a later time by these LTC Police Science students. They need to write down the information and write out tickets later in order to keep up with the street sweepers. These tickets are later distributed by Dennis Lippert, the Parking Attendant and either placed on the vehicle or sent out in the mail.

D. Soeldner asked about the technology that is available to allow scanning of the plates. Tony Dick said the equipment is approximately \$5,000 and will also alert if the vehicle is stolen or unregistered. They have not purchased this type of equipment as the department has had other higher priorities with budget limitations.

D. Soeldner also asked if we could mail the tickets instead of placing them on the vehicles. The Committee thought these vehicles would no longer be parked in the street and it would be after the violation times. This is also taking away regular duties performed by the Parking Attendant. Tony Dick explained that it is more difficult for the public to accept a parking ticket when received in the mail, although a large majority of the tickets are mailed. The same operation is used in the school zones. A. Olson said mailing the tickets would be more efficient.

J. Sladky said that he's received many complaints from his constituents as well. Digital photography was discussed; however, T. Dick informed

the Committee that digital photography will not give location and time. G. Minikel wasn't sure how well these would work because of the low light between 3 a.m. & 6 a.m.

V. Mellon said that they have tried having the operators document this information, but the information was filled with so many errors and too much key info was missing that the tickets were largely unenforceable so it was a waste of everyone's time and the sweeping operators weren't able to get through their districts. She also said that 3 hours of the students wage/day came from the Stormwater budget. T. Dick said he was not aware of this.

The last point that was covered was that the amount of tickets issued this year has dropped significantly as compared to last year. Informational Only, no action was taken.

Discussion and possible action on storm lateral maintenance responsibilities

This issue is a follow-up from the last meeting. V. Mellon reported to the Committee her findings of the State Statutes language; which was more sanitary sewer related as opposed to storm sewer and was focused on pitch, material, flow properties and distances from watermains. The most of G. Minikel's findings were sanitary sewer related as well. V. Mellon contacted MPU to learn the curbstop to the house is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain and from the curbstop to the main it is the responsibility of Manitowoc Public Utilities. The curbstops in the older parts of the City are typically located in the terrace or sidewalk areas. In the newer subdivisions they are typically located 2 feet behind the property line.

G. Minikel said that inspection notes indicated the lateral at 1313 Westwood Lane was installed in 1978 by Muth Construction.

J. Sladky asked about blockages and who is responsible. What happens when the wye collapses or it is in the middle of the street. He doesn't feel that is the responsibility of the personal property owner when the problem is in the middle of the street.

V. Mellon explained that even though everything was installed with proper pipe bedding and backfill that things may have shifted over time. We are trying to focus the City's limited resources on maintaining and flushing the mains to prevent blockage. G. Minikel said many laterals fail due to age. One street or property line may be wider than others, how would we clarify how far the City will repair. Also, it was clarified that the pavement replacement is covered by the City and not the property owner.

A. Olson feels the City should be maintaining the infrastructure. J. Sladky said he would like to further discussion with the Engineering Dept and bring back at a future meeting. G. Minikel said he will check with other cities to see what their policies are.

R. Junk said this could be a gray area as there are many factors that could be involved. The structure of the pipe could be compromised when tapped into. The frost and age of the pipe can also be contributing factors to failures.

This will be brought back to a future meeting.

Discussion and possible action on yard clean up procedures

J. Brey was wondering why we haven't utilized the overtime that was approved at the last Streets and Sanitation Committee meeting. V. Mellon explained that she met with the Mayor to make him aware of what was approved at the last Streets meeting and he said he preferred waiting and hiring seasonal employees at \$8/hour.

There have been a few weed complaints that came from Alders and the Mayor that were prioritized and that were cut by the DPW crews and R. Junk said many were cut with the letters that were sent out to the property owners.

The Committee recommends waiting to hire any seasonals until after the Committee of Whole can meet to put together a policy. It would be best to have seasonal employees selected and ready to start according to the Committee.

J. Sladky said that he would like to see this clean up as a priority. V. Mellon informed the Committee that the crews have been working with 16 employees and busy with slurry sealing and the sink hole on Marshall Street. The rain has delayed things as well.

Discussion and possible action on the 2012 projects and the 5-year plan (2012-2016)

G. Minikel described the priority projects for 2012 and presented video taping of some of the areas. The following locations were discussed.

- S. 26th Street - Viebahn to 500' South
- Dewey Street - S. 26th Street to 400' west of S. 39th Street
- S. 9th Street - Green Street to RR Tracks
- S. 13th Street & Water Street at RR Tracks
- Twin Ponds Drive & Crossing Meadows - laterals are in, looking to pave
- Johnston Drive - S. of Albert at RR Tracks
- S. 30th Street off of Viebahn Street - no curb and gutter, shoulder in bad condition
- The Park roadways at Lincoln Park and Red Arrow Park are in need of repair as well.

The Committee will review the 5 year plan as distributed and will discuss further in depth at the next meeting.

The Committee requested Engineering to contact Bartow Builders (Brandon) to confirm that he still is requesting paving Woodridge #8.

No further discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Handwritten signature of Valerie Mellon, P.E. in cursive script, underlined.

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