

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
7/18/23

Meeting called to order by Dougherty at 9:02am
Present: Ted Dougherty, Liam DelMain, Nancy Pearson
City Employees: Tom Kovachecich, Mike Burg
Public: Diane Fizell

Motion to approve amended agenda - Approved

Motion to approve minutes from June meeting - Approved

Motion by Pearson to endorse Diane for appointment to the public works committee - approved

1. Old Business
 - a. 4th St Update - everything is looking good. Tom got the final bills in, we were looking at possibly 28,000 to repair, but it ended up at about 16,500. We won't have to borrow any money for this repair. Tom thinks it went very well. We have this submitted for disaster relief funding too, but aren't yet sure we'll get that.
2. Public Works Director
 - a. The new mini backhoe is saving us lots of time on ditching, and money not having to hire ditch diggers.
 - b. We have plans to do work on South 5th St, have done a little but have more to do
 - c. Roof repair on the old courthouse building is going well, they are finishing up soon. Once they are done we need to do some driveway and parking lot repair. We replaced the culvert on the driveway to 4th St, that went well, used the mini backhoe to do it ourselves.
3. Utility Operator Report
 - a. Survey is going really well! We have about 500 service accounts, and already more than 400 people have responded to the survey from the first notice. Second notice is going out very soon. Mike has been going out to identify peoples' service connections, getting all the data on GIS.
 - b. Yesterday Mike got a letter from the DNR, results saying we had no detectable PFAS in our water and we do not have to test any more this year. We will likely be put on a list to have less regular testing required, which is nice.
4. Budget
 - a. Tom thinks budget looks real good right now, reviewed it with committee members.
5. New Business
 - a. Anna Johnson letter
 - i. Anna Johnson wrote a letter with concerns about the state of Manypenny Avenue, included in the meeting packet. Public works has talked to many people about this many times, they have explained where we're at and

what the plans are but these letters just keep coming. City council has to make a decision eventually on this.

- ii. Summary of discussion: There are a number of streets within the city that need work just as much as Manypenny, and Manypenny is also bad. The streets need to be rebuilt, AND the water/sewer utilities under those streets need to be replaced. There is also a dead end water main at the top of 10th St that needs to be remedied. Public works has been trying to get money to do this all in one big project for many years. It is important to do the utilities before the street project, because otherwise the new street would need to be torn up again anyways. Public Works has not been able to find grant funding for this project, and the city has not had enough in the general fund to contribute to it. As it is very difficult to prioritize among these streets that need repair, Tom thinks it is the best idea to do this big project all at once, and will be submitting it to the CIP list this year. He highly encourages the city to prioritize this project.
- iii. The estimated total project cost is about \$770,000. Tom is working on putting information and budget together to put this project on the CIP list.
- iv. Motion by DelMain to put this letter on file for the next city council meeting - seconded by Pearson, approved by all

b. Budget CIPs

- i. Tom has \$15,000 allocated for a new mower, but wants to spend \$8,500 of that on a new snow blower and not buy a new mower. He managed to get the mower repaired for cheap and thinks he can still work with it.
- ii. Motion by Pearson to transfer funds allocated for new mower to purchasing new snowblower - seconded by DelMain, all approved
- iii. Tom wants to have public works CIPs ready by the August committee meeting, so everything can be put through for the September council meeting.

Set Next Meeting

August 15th at 9am at city hall

Meeting Adjourned.