

**CITY OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS**

TO: Mayor Manier and City Council
FROM: Finance & Personnel Committee
DATE: February 15, 2019
SUBJECT: Report of Proceedings of Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting Held on
Monday, January 22, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brucks at 4:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Brucks, Mayor Manier, Alderman Cobb

Also Present: Controller Baxter, Treasurer Dingleline

AGENDA

1. Non-member Alderman wishing to be heard on a non-agenda item – None.
2. Citizens wishing to be heard on a non-agenda item – John and Sharon Amdall submitted a statement regarding concerns about funding for Street reconstruction projects – see attached.
3. Approval of minutes

Alderman Cobb made a motion and Mayor Manier seconded to approve the November 19, 2018 regular session minutes. Motion carried.

4. Business Items

A. Water Deposit and Restoration Fee Structure

Controller Baxter discussed the water deposit structure. Since 2009, a water deposit of \$100 has been required for all accounts. Even though monthly billing has reduced the number of accounts requiring a final bill versus a refund check, the Committee agreed it was time to increase the water deposit in light of rate increases that have occurred since 2009. Following discussion, Cobb made a motion, seconded by Manier to increase the water deposit to \$125 effective May 1, 2019. Motion carried.

The current restoration fee is \$50 with an after hours fee of \$100 charged if requested after 3:00 p.m. Based on staff doing the shutoff, this amount is low and staff recommends increasing. Following discussion, Cobb made a motion, seconded by Manier to increase the normal restoration fee to \$75 and the after hours fee to \$150 effective May 1, 2019. Motion carried. Staff will notify the public via the Spring newsletter and by putting a message on the bill.

B. Accounting Systems Demonstrations Update

Baxter provided an update of the three demos of accounting systems that have been conducted in the past few weeks, including B S & A Software, Civic Systems, and Tyler Technologies Incode. She is working on developing a projected cost for budget purposes.

5. Other Business – None.
6. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Comments

Public Works Committee, Finance Committee, and Washington City Council

Subject: Funding for Street Reconstruction

Thank you for the City of Washington plans to launch the reconstruction of the 100-year-old street, sewer, water, storm sewer, and sidewalk infrastructure. We especially appreciate that the 2019 plans include reconstruction of both an asphalt and a brick street.

However, we are deeply concerned that the 2019 planned street reconstruction is being funded mostly through reserve funds.

We feel that this sets the wrong expectations.

Based on prior statements from the City Staff, about 20 miles of Washington streets require reconstruction. The City Staff has shown data that this will cost about \$5.5 Million per mile.

Without a clear funding strategy, the 2019 street reconstruction will establish expectations for future street reconstruction that future City Leaders will struggle to fulfill.

We recognize that a practical funding strategy may require time to determine and actually implement. Therefore reserve funds may be required to accomplish the 2019 plans. We would request that the Washington Council Committees and the Washington City Council establish a funding plan for the 20 miles of street reconstruction before final approval to use reserve funds for the planned 2019 street reconstruction.

Sharon & John Amdall

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