

City of Washington  
Public Works Committee  
Monday, August 12, 2019 – **Minutes**

CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM  
301 WALNUT STREET

Present: Aldermen Mike Brownfield, Dave Dingledine, and Lili Stevens.

Also Present: Ed Andrews, Public Works Director; Ray Forsythe, City Administrator; Jon Oliphant, Planning & Development Director; and Kevin Schone, Public Works Supervisor.

Alderman Brownfield called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

1. Alderman Wishing to be Heard on Non-Agenda Item: None.
2. Citizens Wishing to be Heard on Non-Agenda Item: Jim Malinowski, owner of 1405 Westgate, asked about the possibility of having a second driveway constructed on his property. This would act as a wider approach than what is on the site currently. A permit was issued for this work in May 2018 along with the construction of a new garage. Staff will review the request and make a determination on whether the new approach would be granted.
3. Approval of Minutes – The minutes from the July 1, 2019, meeting was unanimously approved.
4. Business Items:
  - A. Weed Nuisance, Undeveloped Lots – The Public Works Committee last discussed the possibility of amending the Nuisance Code to separately address the maintenance of undeveloped lots in June 2018. At that time, there was not interest in having a separate policy for undeveloped lots. The current regulations require that grass/weeds not exceed eight inches in height. While staff addresses these lots in the same manner, it is acknowledged that undeveloped lots will not receive the same care as one with a house on it. A question was asked about whether the City employees can assist with the mowing of properties that are in violation. The City would not have the manpower to do this and there is also a fear of having City employees on private property. The Committee felt that no change was necessary to the code and that staff should fully enforce the provision that no further notification be given to property owners following a one-time annual letter alerting of the violation. Future violations would result in the contracted mower abating the issue and a bill sent to the owner for the work.
  - B. Asphalt Hot Box Consideration – The FY 19-20 budget allows for a planned expenditure in an amount of \$17,000 for the purchase of a trailer-mounted asphalt hot box. The hot box would be used to keep the asphalt warm and pliable and also make for a better product when filling potholes throughout the year, though it would be used more often during the colder months. The warm pliable asphalt will also reduce the chance of injury as employees would not have to shovel cold hard asphalt at shoulder height but rather warm pliable asphalt about 2' from the ground or knee height. The State of Illinois' CMS program is not offering a trailer mounted hot box this year and as such, staff contacted three vendors for pricing on the asphalt hot box. Two of these vendors used pricing through the National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance and one vendor used Sourcewell's competitively solicited cooperative contract, fulfilling competitive bidding requirements. CMW Equipment of St. Louis is the low bidder at \$17,766 and is \$766

above the line item planned expenditure. Additional lighting to keep the employees safe while working in the roadway makes up \$543 of the \$766 overage. Staff recommends awarding the project to CMW Equipment in the amount of \$17,766 using Sourcewell's competitive bidding. Washington Township has a smaller machine but the City would need more timely use of such a machine that would make it difficult to share it. The hot box can be used on any street. The committee recommended approval of this purchase and it will be placed on the Council agenda for approval on August 19.

- C. Sewer Treatment Plant No. 2 Phase 2B Trunkline – Work is progressing on the Phase 2B trunk line and is now at a point where the underlying title research is underway for the seven parcels along the proposed alignment that requires easement negotiations. These are planned to include both a 50' wide permanent and 100' wide construction easements. The City Attorney is assisting with the legal components and Strand Engineering is helping with the design and permitting. Additionally, Austin Engineering would be needed for assistance with the easement plat work. It did the original alignment survey retracement for the City in 2013. They are working on a detailed proposal and staff also has a proposal from Kaskaskia Engineering to assist with the easement negotiations. About \$2,000 per parcel is anticipated for the easement negotiations with the seven parcels. Staff anticipates having a working number from Austin to share soon so that these can be brought to the Council for approval.
- D. Sewer Lateral Policy Review – The City has 5,223 mapped and virtual sewer laterals. Of these, 4,440 (85%) are within right-of-way and 783 (15%) are within rear or side yards. Laterals do not necessarily equal the total sewer accounts (5,833) since construction prior to adoption of the Clean Water Act (CWA) in 1972 often reduced the cost of the connection with shared laterals whereby two homes "Y" their outfalls together to make a single connection to the sewer main in the street. This connection has not been allowed since the CWA and also presents another layer of associated risk in any policy decision making. The desire would be to have a City-implemented program instead of an EPA mandate. This is only provided as an update; there is no plan to take this back at this time to the Council. The last discussion on this topic preliminarily would have the owner being responsible for the lateral to the main. The City would be responsible for the street repair. This would require a code amendment. There is also interest in seeing if private insurance would cover any work out to the main.

5. Staff Updates:

- A. Mr. Schone updated PWC on the three (3) excess flow pumps at STP#2. Up to \$15,000 is anticipated for the work but is not budgeted. These are 47-year-old pumps. Many of the repairs are currently taken to Fitco (?). Staff will compare lead time for delivery of the new pumps versus rebuild. Mr. Andrews had shared that Strand was reviewing upsizing of these pumps in future plant expansions and there might be opportunity to upsize during any possible replacement.
- B. About \$4,000 is anticipated by Terra Engineering for the recording of the right-of-way dedication for the realignment of Nofsinger Road. This will also include the ROW for Wellington between US 24 and Cruger Road.

6. Other Business:

- A. Staff will be working on revising/updating an intergovernmental agreement with the Washington Township Road Commissioner.

- B. Staff will look to work with the current farm lease tenant to address recent recreation trail damage and access issues.
- C. The Public Works Union has asked for a change in the contract pertaining to the residency requirement. They have asked that the current restriction of being 15 minutes from the City be changed to 20 miles. Staff will take a closer look at this request with potential mileage versus travel time to a defined single location like Five Points.
- D. The Square streetscape open house has been scheduled for September 5<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 pm at Banquet Room D at Five Points. This will allow for public comments to hear more about the proposed project prior to the drafting of a preliminary development report to submit to IDOT for its review.
- E. Staff will examine the existing curb and gutter replacement program to check on its viability given a possible requirement to adhere to prevailing wage regulations.

Motion to adjourn at approximately 6:25 p.m.