

MARCH 15, 2010 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Pursuant to due call and proper public notices the Public Works Committee met on March 15, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at the Prescott Municipal Building, 800 Borner St., Prescott, WI 54021.

Call to order/Roll call: Chairman Clair Eaton called the meeting to order. Present were Clair Eaton, Marissa Holst and Eddy Wuorenma. Public Works Director Jerry Killian and Zoning Administrator Jayne Brand represented staff.

Wuorenma/Holst motion to approve the minutes for January 11, 2010 passed without a negative voice vote.

Public Works Director presented information on the Safe Routes to School Grant. The city is planning on applying again and the project that we will be applying for needs to be decided. The grant is a federal program so it may take a couple of years to complete all of the paperwork and items pertaining to the grant. The proposed 2011 capital project is Flora Street but this may be too early for a safe route to school grant. The 2012 project is Walnut Street. Sidewalks on Campbell Street around the school were also discussed as a possible project. The consensus of the committee is that the sidewalks should tie into a street project if at all possible.

Anti-siphon devices and a possible survey were discussed. Backflow and cross connections are already regulated but city staff has been informed that anti-siphon devices may also need to be regulated. Anti-siphon devices would prevent backflow especially for residents with irrigation systems. Staff will check with the building inspector to find if it is a mandate as part of the building code. This item will be discussed again at the next public works committee meeting.

Sprinkler meters were discussed. We currently have approximately 200 sprinkler meters. City staff was questioned why the usage is up but revenues are down. It was pointed out that as the water usage goes up the cost per 1000 gallons come down. It also costs the city additionally for reading, billing, pumping and postage. The rates for water are established by the Public Service Commission so the city can't increase the rate without permission from the Public Service Commission. Allowing sprinkler meters does not promote water conservation. Staff recommended that a moratorium be placed on the selling of sprinkler meter so that we can monitor usage and revenues. **Wuornema/Holst motion to recommend that a moratorium be placed on selling of sprinkler meters for one year passed unanimously via roll call vote.**

Discussion was held on parking by Malone Elementary. During a recent sidewalk meeting it was discussed that picking up of kids on College Street has become dangerous. The street already has signs which allow for 15 minute parking. A suggestion was that a pick up area be developed for this area. There would need to be a retaining wall and steps placed in that area which could be costly. A suggestion was made that a pick up area could be developed along Campbell Street. Alderperson Wuorenma stated that he feels that this is an issue that needs to be addressed by the school district first and that the council could review the plans but did not feel that it is something that the city should be involved in.

Other Business:

Public Works Director Jerry Killian informed the council that his discussions with Unison have broken down. Unison has been unable to provide the city with any municipal comparables.

Possible flooding was discussed. The Public Works Director informed the committee that there may be some costs involved with flooding. City staff is monitoring the flooding issues and will keep residents and council up to date.

Wuorenma/Eaton motion to adjourn passed without a negative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jayne M. Brand