

Minutes
Public Works Committee
October 21, 2019 6:00 P.M.
Council Conference Room

Those present:

Kurt Markegard, Staff Advisor
Emelie Eaton, Committee Chair
Bill Mountsier, Committee VC
Karl Dan Koch
Marvin Carter
Richard Herr
Heidi Sparks

The meeting started at 6:00. There was no public in attendance.

General items

1. Review and approve minutes of August 19, 2019 meeting. The minutes were reviewed. Bill Mountsier moved the minutes be approved as written. Richard Herr seconded this motion. The motion passed.

New Business

2. There was none.

Old Business

3. Engineering Report-KLJ

The October 15, 2019 Status Update was in all packets for committee members. It was reviewed as follows.

*WWTP Screw Press-this project is listed as closed out. The Public Works Director stated City crews are successfully hauling sludge.

*WWTP Screw Pump A Replacement-it was stated that a new screw press may come in this week.

*Sanitary Sewer H₂S Remediation-there is still an odor problem. The November report should show lower H₂S readings. It was stated that the reason there is a problem is that the source is a one mile long sewer line which serves 300 homes with no pressure to push it.

*2018 Pavement Maintenance-this project is also listed as complete. The question was raised by Chair Emelie Eaton why the street was paved to the curb by the church on the corner of Seventh Avenue and approximately 4th Street but not to the curb on the other side or the full length of that street. It was explained that there was a drainage problem that became an issue at that intersection, on the north side of 4th Street

only. It was felt that by paving the street on that side it would help repel water. It was further explained that there was only paving over two foot of gravel and the proper base did not exist curb to curb on most streets in that area.

*East 6th Street Improvements-this project is also done. The contractor was First Mark. The question was raised of whether there could be diagonal parking along East 8th Street. The reply was that more areas with diagonal parking were an item under discussion. K. Dan Koch stated that the buses park on one side and it would be helpful if everyone could park on the other side. It was stated that it is a close street when there are events, especially with buses trying to park there.

*East Downtown Infrastructure Improvements-There was a Public Meeting held where four people attended: a representative from Town and Country; a representative from High Plains Brewery; a resident who lived within the impacted area and a resident who lived outside the impacted area. All who attended were in favor of the project. The representative from Town and Country stated they regularly send out 2,800 invoices and figure approximately 3,800 people use their business on a monthly basis. It was stated this was important to know because this gave solid information regarding how many people would be impacted by this project. It was also stated that the Pelican Café has plans to expand their business to the fenced lot on the east. The business is adding a big room that could be used for community events and street, curb and gutter improvements would be a big asset to that expansion. It was stated that the Design and Bidding phase of this project is scheduled for January 2020 which will give time for requests on specific entrance needs. Construction is expected to begin in May 2020 and it was stated that the streets need to be somewhat accessible so the businesses can stay open.

*Pavement Management Plan-It is hoped that a map will be available in November showing which streets need improvement the most. The project was waiting on MDT comments. Urban Maintenance Funds will now be available to the City of Laurel. Completion of this project makes the City eligible to funds that are available every two years.

*2019 Pavement Maintenance-this project was completed in August.

*2019 Pavement Damage Repairs-this project, which included filling potholes and repairing frost heaves from the winter. The final quantities of needed materials show overages so extra work is being done in Village Subdivision where some streets have practically disintegrated.

*Riverside Park Campground-Marvin Carter stated that south of Bridger a wind farm with 174 towers is supposed to be constructed beginning in January. It would supply electricity for 70,000 people and it is expected that 1,500 people will be employed during the farm's construction. He

thought it was a shame that camping could not be available in Riverside Park for some of those workers. It was stated that KLJ would be available at the November Park Board meeting to discuss and help decide how and where the camping portion of Riverside Park would be developed. As of this date it was stated that camping on the north side of the park would be discontinued due to the many old Cottonwood trees that regularly loose branches. The liability of someone being hurt or property being damaged was too great for the City insurers to cover. Additionally, it was stated that the former "Caretaker's House" would be removed due to extensive mold and rot. Also, there was not a good use for the building.

*Design Standards & Rules Update-it was stated this project is in draft outline form. The Standards & Rules were last updated in 2003 so this project is very important for the City of Laurel. The outline will be provided at the November meeting.

*Data and Asset Management-Right now the City is relying on "As Builts" which are paper copies and are located in a variety of areas. It is hoped these can be scanned into one document.

*On-Call Professional Services-At this point Richard Herr inquired about the construction going on east of Wal Mart. It was explained that Midway Rentals was building a new store at that location. Richard Herr then inquired regarding Hardees and their lease expiring. It was explained that, yes, Hardees leased the property and that lease would be expiring in one year. Mr. Herr then stated that, according to what he had heard Hardees has the option of remodeling, moving into the former Burger King location or a building in the area of Wal Mart. Another committee member questioned Mr. Herr as to whether Hardees would build east of Wal Mart. His reply was that he had heard that Steve Solberg was going to build a motel on the property east of Wal Mart and west of what is now being developed. The committee was asked to move on to the next topic.

*Laurel Planning Services-Public Works Director Markegard stated this topic had already been discussed.

*Other Notes and Information-

Anticipated FY20 Projects

- a. West Railroad Street Reconstruction-it was stated this project was going to come before the entire Council to discuss options.
- b. Water Storage Tank Recoat-It was stated that within 5-7 years either more storage would be needed or a new tank would have to be installed.
- c. 2020 pavement Maintenance-because of the new increase to the street assessment funds would be available in 2021 for larger projects.

Other Potential Future Projects

- a. WWTP Archimedes Screw Rehabilitation-not working efficiently

- b. Examining engineer review of 3rd Party submittals to City-this involves subdivisions and water and sewer.
- c. Lion's Park grant application assistance-Richard Herr inquired as to what had happened to the DOJ money this location had received. It was stated that CHS had given \$20,000 to help rebuild the dock. The organization had been awarded \$62,000 for both the dock and walking path around the pond. Those funds were available contingent on the organization's fundraising to match the grant. The organization was hoping for a grant from their National leadership. The question was raised as to how long the DOJ grant was available. It was stated that the funds would be available for up to two years from accepting the grant. The organization was attempting to fundraise to complete those projects but they had submitted an incorrect cost estimate on the path portion of the project and it was uncertain whether the path portion could be completed.

Other Items

Marv Carter stated that there was a terrible amount of ground water and drainage water accumulating west of Schessler's. It was stated that the City is looking at options for how to mediate.

Marvin Carter stated that the "infamous" boat that had been parked on the south side for an exceptionally long time had been moved but was now replaced by a pickup that has been parked there for a few weeks. Richard Herr inquired as to whether Millennium Construction would be crushing the stockpiled materials. It was explained that the company had come in and reduced the stockpiled materials and they were being saved for use in 2020.

Richard Herr inquired as to whether the City was using the New Intake. He was questioned on who asked him about that. He stated his question came from one of the write-in candidates for Ward 4, Donny Nelson. It was stated that the new intake is being used; that the intake capacity of the new intake is so great that it is necessary to only "open the valve" about 8% open and this is enough for the City's needs. Further explanation followed regarding when the intake was erroneously opened all the way and it "blew out the sed basins" and into the river, this sudden suction was likely what caused the screens and filters to be overloaded and the intake unusable for a period of time this year. The crews now know it is not necessary to open the valves all the way and the intake is functional. Emelie Eaton inquired why there was no report on projects from Great West. She stated the City was still paying them for work on projects, so why weren't they reporting. It was stated that COP Construction was working on their Punch List at the WWTP.

Emelie Eaton inquired about the profits from the Septic Dump Station. It was reported that no information had been given to the Public Works Director since the July meeting.

Emelie Eaton inquired regarding the lack of a report on Emergency Call Outs. It was stated that there had been none since July 13th. Heidi Sparks commented that it was a shame that emergency call outs only seemed to happen during the winter months.

4. Announcements

The Public Works Director announced that “leaf pickup” or the Annual Street and Alley Clean Up, would be the week of November 4th. Everyone was encouraged to have their leaves bagged and in the alley by Monday, November 4th.

The next meeting will be on November 18th, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Conference room.

The October 21, 2019 Public Works meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Emelie Eaton
Public Works Chair