

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LAUREL  
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023**

**Public Input:** *Citizens may address the committee regarding any item of business that is not on the agenda. The duration for an individual speaking under Public Input is limited to three minutes. While all comments are welcome, the committee will not take action on any item not on the agenda.*

Meeting called to order by CM Wilke at 558 pm.

In attendance: CM Wilke, CM Eaton, CM Mackay, Matt Wheeler, Jon Gotschall

**General Items**

1. Approval of Minutes from September 18, 2023  
CM Eaton made a motion to approve the previous month's minutes. CM Mackay seconded.  
Voted and passed 5-0.

**New Business**

2. Emergency Call Out Report  
Matt Wheeler presented the call out numbers which were light until 10/15 and 10/16. On the 15<sup>th</sup>, there was an issue at the Elm Lift Station that was quickly fixed and was under warranty. On 10/16 water was shut off at the wrong address. Matt is addressing that issue.
3. KLJ Report  
Matt reviewed the current list of projects:
  - Sewer line replacement in the alley between 5<sup>th</sup> Ave and 7<sup>th</sup> Ave needs to be done. Line is 10 ft deep with fiber optic cable over it. Line likely has several breaks in it. Line needs to be replaced before car wash owner does any improvements to the alley.
  - The Splash Park contractor left 2 weeks ago and is supposed to come back in the spring. The City does have a contract with the price locked in. The Laurel Splash Park is first on the list to be completed in the spring. City is currently working on replacing the fence around the pad by using the same posts and replacing the chain link. Jares is donating the labor.
  - The project on S 4<sup>th</sup> has reached substantial completion. A final walk through was done and Matt identified 38 items that the contractor needs to address before the project is officially done. Matt confirmed that there will be stop signs every 2 blocks. The playground at Russell Park will be done next week.
  - Committee briefly discussed Planning Services confirming that there's new construction going on in town and Laurel is growing.

**Old Business**

**Other Items**

Three encroachment requests were discussed and CM Eaton will make a motion for them at the next City Council meeting.

- Property owner across from the Yellowstone Bank parking lot would like to put protective barriers at the back of his building to protect the gas meter. This barrier could encroach on the alley way.

- Sunshine Academy would like to beautify the sidewalk / exterior of the building with concrete flower planters.

W 12th, between 1<sup>st</sup> Ave and Valley Drive, needs work. Matt estimates it would be about \$50,000 for the necessary 3 inch overlay. He and Kelly checked and there is money available and he believes the County will reimburse a portion.

All school zone signs need to be updated to have the same time listed (730 am)

CM Eaton made a motion to bring these 4 issues to City Council. CM Wilke seconded and it passed 5-0.

West Railroad work should begin in 2026. City is preparing to pay for their portion.

There have been citizen complaints about the concrete company releasing murky water onto West Railroad. Matt talked with company.

### **Announcements**

4. Next Meeting will be Monday, November 20, 2023 at 6:00pm in Council Chambers

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm