

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

Commission members present: Alders Bartz, Ruetten, Wetzel, Commissioner Peter Thompson. Ald. Romlein attending an Election Workers training situation.

City employees present:

Public Works Director/City Engineer Jaynllen Holloway

1. Chairman Wetzel called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Comments and suggestions from citizens present

NONE present

3. Review and approve minutes from July 12, 2022

Motion to approve Ald. Bartz

2nd Comm'r Thompson

Carried by unanimous voice vote

4. Review and take possible action: Sidewalk Concern/Repair at 919 Harvey Avenue.

PWD/CE Holloway asked that this be moved to the August 9 Public Works meeting as additional sidewalk repairs on the same property needs to be investigated.

Motion to approve Ald. Bartz

Wnd Ald. Ruetten

Carried by unanimous voice vote

5. Review and discuss the 2022 leaf collection program and take possible action.

In 2021, residents were offered the option to bag leaves for collection in addition to the traditional collection of loose leaves in the terrace via a leaf sucker. Residents are also free to drop off leaves at the City's Yard Waste Site during operating hours. City staff have determined a combination Bagged Leaves on Terrace + Yard Waste Site program would be the most cost effective option to carry this program into the future. Placing leaves in bags minimizes the amount of loose leaves clogging the storm inlets and sewers during rain events, and will better manage program costs by reducing the amount of staff needed on a route and by reducing the need for specialized leaf suck equipment (which is only used in the fall). A pilot program combining the traditional leaf sucker collection with an additional bagged leaves collection on the terrace + disposal at the Yard Waste Site as conducted in 2021. The majority of residents continued to rake the leaves to the terrace for collection by the leaf suckers.

Ald. Ruetten asked what feedback has been received. PWD/CE Holloway shared that the mayor has received perhaps a handful of complaints. Ald. Ruetten stated that the city is currently divided into quadrants but the pick-up gets slowed down for various reasons. This new system will help to allow the pickup schedule to be realized. He also asked how many leaf suckers the city owns and how many break down. PWD/CE shared that we have four and last year at least one was down each week and one week all four were down. Ruetten also asked how much the bags cost. The City checked several retail outlets and found that bags at Menards were the cheapest at less than \$1 per bag and ordered 500. This year the City will once again compare prices and order 1,000 bags.

Comm'r. Thompson asked if the bags can go right into the yard waste site and was told that they can. He also asked going forward, what is the ultimate plan. That all leaves would end up at the yard waste site. He also asked the whereabouts of the bag pick up locations: Street Dept., City Clerk, Engineering Dept. and Yard Waste Site.

Ald. Bartz asked about the policy for those leaves raked into the gutter. PWD/CE Holloway shared that a letter and educational flier is sent to the homeowner. To this point there has not been a fine assessed, however, this could be considered in the future.

PWD/CE Holloway stated that as the collection times run behind, due to weather, equipment failures, etc. the trash crews have returned to the shop and gone out a second time with a rear loader to pick up those leaves seen on the route in the boulevard.

Holloway stated that next year Engineering hopes to have a program proposal for this commission to be incrementally introduced to the public educationally for future consideration. The City must report to the WDNR by October 2023 what we are going to accomplish in our next MS4 permit.

City staff recommend a second year of the pilot study in 2022.

Motion to approve Ald. Ruetten

Wnd Ald. Bartz

Carried by unanimous voice vote

6. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn Ald. Bartz

2nd Comm'r. Thompson

Carried by unanimous voice vote

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Wetzel

Public Works Commission Chair

Note: These minutes are uncorrected, and any corrections made thereto will be noted in the proceedings at which these minutes are approved.