

VILLAGE OF MCFARLAND
Public Utilities Committee Minutes

Tuesday, September 21, 2021 - 6:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL.

Ed Wreh called the regular meeting of the Public Utilities Committee to order at 6:03 PM in the Community Room. This meeting was held via Zoom webinar.

Members present: Eric Kryzenske, Chris Fredrick, Pauline Boness, Carrie Nelson, Edward Wreh

Members not present: Marc Nielsen

Staff Present: Jim Hessling (Director of Public Works), Lee Igl (Streets and Utilities Superintendent), Aimee Irwin (Assistant to the Public Works Director), Town & Country Engineering staff--Brian Berquist and Tim Stieve.

2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

- a. *This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Village Board. Please remember this is a virtual meeting conducted through the Zoom online meeting platform. Zoom meeting attendees wishing to address the board may do so using the Question and Answer feature within the Zoom online meeting platform. You may state your name, address, and provide your comments to the board for their consideration. Members of the public who are present in person and wish to address the board should fill out a public comment form and turn into the meeting chairperson. Members of the public may speak during public appearances or during their selected agenda item as they designate on the public comment form. Please adhere to the 3-minute time limit. Additionally, you may send your public comments to aimee.irwin@mcfarland.wi.us to be included as part of the meeting.*

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

- a. *Discussion and action regarding the minutes from the joint meeting of Public Works and Public Utilities held on August 10, 2021.*

Motion by Ed Wreh, second by Carrie Nelson, to approve the minutes from the joint meeting of Public Works and Public Utilities held on August 10, 2021. Motion carries 5-0-0.

- b. *Discussion and action regarding the minutes from the Public Utilities meeting held on July 20, 2021*

Motion by Ed Wreh, second by Carrie Nelson, to approve the minutes from the Public Utilities meeting held on July 20, 2021. Motion carries 5-0-0.

4. BUSINESS.

- a. *Presentation and update regarding the Salt Saver Pilot Project with Madison*

Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD).

Emily Jones, Pollution Prevention Specialist with Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD), reviewed a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Salt Saver Pilot Project. The presentation included an overview of the pilot program including how it works and the available incentives for those who participate, a preview of the program participation to date along with the outreach material, and what the project continues to work on, along with what committee members can do to help promote the pilot.

- Pauline Boness asked how MMSD knew that water softeners were the major contributors of chloride levels. Jones stated that the contribution of chloride to MMSD was based on a study completed along with the sheer volume of softeners in the area.
- Ed Wreh asked if McFarland is the only municipality participating in this pilot and, if so, how it was selected. Jones stated that McFarland is one of three communities participating in the pilot. McFarland, along with other communities, were in discussions during 2019 about possible ways to reduce chloride. Jones also provided that pump station nine has monitoring data regarding chloride which would allow for future measurements to evaluate if chloride reduction occurs with softener optimizations and evaluations.
- Ed Wreh asked what are the other long term goals and objectives after the pilot. Jones responded that following the completion of the pilot there would be an evaluation of the effectiveness of the pilot on reducing chloride.
- Ed Wreh asked if any follow-up had occurred with those who participated to gain what the motivator was for them to participate. Jones responded that this approach had not occurred but it is an avenue that could be done in the future.
- Chris Fredrick asked if MMSD was exploring ways to alter the building codes for possible improvements. Jones responded that there are not softener efficiency standards in building codes at this time.

b. Discussion regarding funding allocation to the utilities funds associated with street projects.

Motion by Ed Wreh, second by Pauline Boness to postpone this business item to the next Public Utilities meeting. Motion carries 5-0-0.

c. Discussion and action regarding tuck pointing for Well #1.

Jim Hessling provided background regarding the tuck pointing project at Well #1. Hessling stated that three proposals were received with a wide variety of responses in terms of total proposal cost. Hessling explained that he had reached out to the companies to ask for clarifications regarding their proposals, but as of this meeting, clarifications had not been completed.

- Ed Wreh asked if the village has had similar projects completed to help gauge the proposals received for the project. Hessling responded that he is not aware of similar projects within the village.
- Pauline Boness suggested that the highest bid appears to be tuck pointing to the entire building, while the other proposals are only repairing damaged areas. Hessling agreed with this suggestion.

- Eric Kryzenske asked how the project services were worded in the RFP. Hessling stated that there was not an RFP for this project; companies met onsite to inspect the building.
- Ed Wreh asked what work had been done previously on the building. Hessling stated that instead of tuck pointing where the replacement of damaged mortar occurs, damaged areas were filled with caulk.
- Pauline Boness asked if the intention was to repair damaged areas of the entire building. Hessling responded that he was not sure if the entire building requires repair, which is why he asked to meet with the companies who submitted proposals to review their proposal and the work that is necessary.
- Carrie Nelson asked if there was anything else the committee could do to assist with the decision regarding the work to complete and the company to select. Hessling stated that it is his intent to meet with the companies, walk through the work and each proposal to better understand what work they are proposing. Berquist commented that he has not been involved with tuck pointing. Pauline Boness recommended reaching out to the building inspector for ideas regarding the project. Chris Fredrick also recommended that talking to the local concrete masonry union may be helpful.

Motion by Chris Fredrick, seconded by Pauline Boness, to recommend approval to the Village Board regarding the Public Works Director selecting a company for tuck pointing of Well #1 and not to exceed the amount of the highest bid, \$42,331.00. Motion carries 5-0-0.

d. Presentation of the Public Works Director's monthly report

Jim Hessling presented the monthly Public Works report for the month of August and asked if there were any questions. There were no questions from the committee.

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.

a. Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion by Chris Fredrick, second by Carrie Nelson, to adjourn at 6:58 p.m. Motion carries 5-0-0.