



City of Rock Falls Public Works / Public Property Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 1-8-2015 Time Meeting Started: 6:00 Time Meeting Ended: 6:40pm

Members		Also Attended	
Alderman Reitzel – Chairman	p	Mayor Wescott	p
Alderman Kuhlemier	p	Administrator Blackert	p
Alderman Schuneman	p	Clerk Arduini	p
Alderman Watts	p	Ed Cox	a
		Ted Padilla	p
		Larry Spinka	p
		Brian Frickenstein	p
Also Attended			
William Aberle			

Topic	Discussion	Plan of Action
1. Call to order - Chairman Reitzel	Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm	Meeting begins 6:00pm
2. Audience Request a. Recycled Electronics Bin – William Aberle	William Aberle of 10160 Buell Rd. approached the committee with his request to place an electronics recycling bin at City Hall. Mr. Aberle stated that he has IEPA and Whiteside County approval for the business being done out of his house south of Rock Falls. He would like to place the bin near the dumpsters by the Police and Fire departments. The bin will be made of steel.	Committee recommends that Mr. Aberle and Robbin work on an agreement to bring back for approval.
3. Approve Minutes of the December 4th, 2014 Public Works - Public Property Meeting	The committee reviewed the minutes	The minutes were approved
4. New Business a. Hoffman Water Service Easement	Administrator Blackert informed the committee that Mr. Hofmann has agreed to give the city an easement for water that crosses Antec Road, goes south to Rt. 30, and then proceeds west to Riverdale Road. The easement does not extend to Clearwater Dr.	The Committee recommends the agreement be sent to Council for adoption
b. Water rate discussion – Ted Padilla	Mr. Padilla explained to the committee that this is the final year for the agreed rate increases of \$.25, .15, .25. Without any new usage making up for the commercial users that have left the city, he recommends that for the next 3 years we use a more moderate increase, and hope that usage increases. He proposes an increase of \$.10, .15, .10 to the usage charge for the next 3 years. The committee discussed at length the issue of raising the water rates. In the past when there was not a gradual rate increase it led to a large increase all at once, and that is harder for the water system, and for the customers.	The committee tabled the rate changes until the next meeting.
c. Utility Reimbursement Grant applications for non-profits, churches, and government buildings	Adm. Blackert had received inquiries about the commercial Utility reimbursement rehab grants for non-profit entities. She asked the committee if they would like to offer the grant to non-profits, or government agencies that will not be paying real estate taxes, or generating sales tax after the rehab is done. She would also like to max the grant out to 3 months of utilities.	The committee recommends changing the language in the grant to allow for the 3 month maximum, and not extend the grant to non-profits, or government agencies, as it was the intent to help businesses rehab properties, and also increase property tax values of the grant recipient.
d. Shoveling of city sidewalks – Mayor Wescott	Mayor Wescott reported that residents near Veteran's Park asked if the city could shovel the sidewalk along West 5 th Street at Veteran's park. The sidewalk is used for children going to school at Merrill. It is city property. Asst. Superintendent Larry Spinka said that the city equipment would tear up the park, and possibly the sidewalk.	Mayor Wescott will speak with Dan Arickx about perhaps having the school clean that sidewalk when they are cleaning the other ones around the school.
5. Water – Ted Padilla a. Update on Projects	Superintendent Padilla informed the committee that the high lift motor is going to be looked at. It will cost between \$5000.00- \$7000.00	No action

6. Street – Assistant Superintendent Larry Spinka a. Update on Projects	Robbin along with Larry Spinka, and Brian Frickenstein from Willett Hofmann & Assoc. will be looking at the road list and determining which ones could be repaired with a process of using the emulsion machine to fill holes, and then an overlay of slag without tilling.	No action
7. Adjournment	With nothing else for the good of the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm	Meeting end 6:40pm

Committee Chairman