

Public Works Committee Meeting

City Of Virden

City Council Chambers

Wednesday February 19th, 2025

Meeting called to order by Alderman Bertolino at 6:22 PM

Aldermen in attendance: Mottershaw, Bertolino, Donley, Schnetzler, and Alderwoman Calloway

Absent: Aldermen Neighbors, Mitchell and Boster

Also in attendance: Mayor George Murphy, City Clerk Jon Myint, Director of Public Works Gary Etter

Audience: Donnie Neighbors

Comments from Audience:

Donnie Neighbors said that the American Legion would like to use the park the 3rd, 4th, and 5th of July.

Bertolino said it's on our agenda to vote on and if it passes the committee, it will go to Council in March.

Donnie also stated, "I have a festival every year for my gun store. I'd like to get permission to block Vance Street, from Springfield to Noble on Saturday, September 27th from 9:00 to 3:00. I will bring in my \$1,000,000 worth of insurance by July.

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Mayor Murphy to recommend to the city council to allow Donnie Neighbors to Block off Vance Street, from Springfield Street to North Noble Street, Saturday 27th of September from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM for his Fall Festival.

Motion Passed with all in Favor.

Mayor Murphy will put the American Legion and Donnie Neighbors Festival requests on the March City Council Agenda.

Donnie had one more thing, last November I came here and talked about a wish list pavilion for uptown, well I got prices and all I can say is Ouch. I didn't realize this stuff

went up so much. I was shocked, the price for a wooden pavilion 60 foot by 40 metal roof, metal underneath, electric and concrete is about \$170,000. An all metal one without wood, with concrete pad, and electric will be about \$210,000. So, it was just a wish list item. I didn't realize they went up so much. It wasn't till went and talked to Gray's Lumber; they told me 1000 square foot house now to build cost about \$250,000. I mean stuff just really skyrocketed. I just wanted to come back and tell you the prices. So, thank you very much, have a good evening, you all do a great job.

Topics:

1. Approval of Minutes (1/16/25)

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Bertolino to approve the minutes of 1/16/25.

Motion passed with all in favor.

2. Meter System

Gary Etter passed out a Bid Proposal and gave a brief history on the meters and that the last consensus of the Committee was to go with Core&Main/Sensus. Their representatives will be here at 6:00 PM on the 27th of February, for a Question and Answer session.

The bid proposal from Sensus was.

Meters	\$659,940
Installation	\$252,465
Total	\$912,465

More discussion on the bid and the bidding process.

Etter said one of his questions was about the Frequency problems and corrective actions that were taken in other towns.

Etter explained how the Reader and Meters would be installed, one reader and 10 meters throughout the town at first. This would determine if additional readers would be required.

Mottershaw expressed that we're under a time crunch this really needs to be voted into by the end of April.

Mayor Murphy said, "This is just a bid proposal and not a quote."

Bertolino stated that he has a hard time spending \$1,000,000 of the taxpayer's money and did not want to hurry thru this.

There was a consensus that a Propagation Study needed to be done as soon as possible. Etter will try to have it done by Thursday the 26th of February.

More discussion on which contractor to go with, Core&Main/Sensus, Murphy, and Benton. Discussed budget and how the meter project is going to be paid for.

3. Replace windows and doors at Community Center

Discussed and approved at Special City Council Meeting (02/19/25)

4. Frontier Boring

Gary Etter reported he had no additional information.

Mottershaw said they cannot start till April 1st. They must redraw an application with a time frame that they want their permit for. Additionally, they'll have to revise the map pages that reflects the moving of the bore to the other side of the street.

5. LOCIS 8

Gary Etter would like to see the purchase of LOCIS 8 get in next year's budget, stating eventually we are going to have to do it. We need to get this on the agenda for the council meeting so we can get on LOCIS's wait list if approved. Karen says it's a pretty long list for LOCIS and there are lot of people updating their system. You know LOCIS 8 so, whenever you call in and say you want to get on the LOCIS 8, they'll put you on the list. What I don't know how long that list is. I don't know if it's going to take a year or 6 months, four months, three months I have no idea.

Mayor Murphy said, "I'm pretty sure we don't have to pay any of this stuff until we're getting it.

Calloway said," it doesn't matter you have to have a software update or you're not going to have computer to do the work so, you must have the update.

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Schnetzler to recommend to the Council to approve the purchase of an upgrade to LOCIS 8.

Motion Passed with all in favor.

- 6. Virden American Legion Post #386 71st annual 4th of July celebration with the following dates: July 3,4 and 5, 2025 (Thursday Friday and Saturday) In downtown city park with accommodations as in the past years**

Discussion was held. (See Comments from the Audience.)

Additionally

Discussion on the Virden Sanitary District (VSD) contract.

Mottershaw said that the VSD was given till 5:00 PM on the 28 of February to respond. At this point in time, we have not heard anything from them.

If nothing is heard by the deadline Mayor Murphy will let Senator McClure, Representative Rosenthal and anyone else know, that we gave them an offer. We tried to remedy things, and they turned us down. He will also enclose a copy of Virden's proposal

More discussion on

What if the Deadline comes and nothing is heard.

We cannot set a deadline and go past it.

A new contract may be reconsidered.

We did our due diligence.

We did what our Representatives asked us to do.

They had acknowledged receipt when Craven sent the proposal to Rutherford and Fahey

Motion made by Bertolino seconded by Calloway to adjourn at 7:47 pm.

Motion passed.

Jonathan J. Myint

City Clerk