**Public Works Committee Meeting**

City Of Virden

City Council Chambers

Thursday May 18, 2023

Meeting called to order by Alderman Bertolino at 7:58 pm.

**Aldermen in attendance**: Bertolino, Boster, Calloway, Cunningham, Ibberson, Mitchell, and Mottershaw.

**Additional in attendance:** Mayor Murphy and Public Works director Gary Etter

**Visitors:** Thomas and Tommy Chizmar

**Topics:**

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes 04/20/23**

Motion made by Ibberson seconded by Mitchell to approve meeting minutes for 04/20/2023. Motion passed with all in favor.

1. **Visitor: Thomas and Tommy Chizmar**

Thomas Chizmar: I was inquiring if I can lease the alley that splits between both of my properties. It is from Henrietta to Linder. Etter: That alley is all grass and Thomas maintains it. Only utility is sewer which they will still have access to the manhole. Bertolino: Consensus is the committee agrees. We will follow precedence and have a contract drawn up. We will vote on it at the June meeting.

1. **Sanitary District agreement**

Bertolino: Council members review the old contract and are looking at what we want to move forward with. We will discuss it further in the Administrative Committee. Cunningham: Is there anything that gets done separately just for sewer? Etter: The summer program where we adjust sewer based on filling of pools.

1. **Bids for trees**

Etter: There are seven trees total. These include trees and stumps. I received two bids for the trees that need cut down. Randy Smith bid is $8,300.00 and Whalen Tree Service is $6,525.00. Both parties have insurance on file.

Motion made by Bertolino seconded by Boster to recommend to city council to hire Whalen Tree Service for a total of $6,525.00 to cut down and remove the seven trees as outlined on the list. Motion passed with all in favor.

1. **Jet machine**

Etter: The old jet machine that we received from the Sanitary District; I recommend that we put it up for auction. Last time we had it won’t rev up and it is hard to get parts for that flat motor. I don’t think it is worth putting money into it. Bertolino: We will take it to the council to declare it as surplus and authorize it to sell.

1. **Discuss 135 E. Stoddard property**

Bertolino: This was discussed in Special Council Meeting

1. **Generator at the shop**

Etter: This is repaired and fixed. It is at the shop and ready to go.

1. **Royell/ boring**

Etter: With passing the new ordinance for boring, one of the items is boring right of ways. This would include roads and alleys. We haven’t enforced this with Royell. Is this something that we need to notify Royell on moving forward? Ibberson: Doesn’t Royell bring a lot of money to this town? I think they should be grandfathered in. Bertolino: Yeah, but I think the way it started was wrong. Boster: I think we should send them a copy of the new ordinance. If they should come back with a request to be grandfathered in, then we have the discussion. If they don’t request, then we move on. Etter: I will go talk to Joe and let him know moving forward they need to bore if crossing roads or alleys.

1. **Update on Rebuild Illinois project/MFT**

Etter: The three smaller projects, the square, Mill Creek, and Dye Street, we should have bid openings at the end of June. Also, the Motor Fuel one will be open for bidding at the end of June. Dean Street will take a little bit longer, probably not until the end of this year. Mitchell: We won’t lose the grant? Etter: No

1. **Discuss East Park concession stand roof**

Etter: The roof that flew off during the storm, we had it looked at and the price of what insurance is covering is $3,467.94. We will need to discuss moving forward with fixing at the next committee meeting.

1. **Discuss mowing of 2 nuisance properties**

Etter: The chief informed us on Monday regarding the two nuisance properties. We mowed two properties. One on Holden and Finis and the other one 911 Noble. Copies of cost of mowing these two properties given to Alderman.

1. **Crouch & Etter spraying license status**

Etter: I have not done anything. Bertolino: For new council members this is for spraying chemicals. Two years ago, when we hired, we asked everyone in the interview if they were willing to get the spray license. Everyone said yes. At that time, it was not in writing, it was a verbal agreement. We now have as part of the contract that they have to get within 6 months of hire. Currently we only have one person with a license so if they left tomorrow there is no one to spray.

1. **Status of truck with transmission issues at Freedom**

Etter: It was supposed to be done today. They took it for a ride, and it is shifting very hard. It was back in with them looking at it last I heard.

**Additional:**

Bertolino: American Legion is requesting to use the city park as they do annually for July 1st, 3rd, and 4th. This will be on City Council meeting

Murphy: Katrina Spencer wants to have a tent revival on August 26. This will also be on the council agenda.

Murphy: I received a call from Jim Gillespie the trailer on Green and Bissell. He is asking for more time. They received the 10-day notice regarding that it is a dangerous building and needs removed. He would need 30 days. They are removing.

Murphy: Received resignation for Chuck Rednour.

Etter: We have a boring application from Terrazon. They have completed all the steps. We still need the deposit. I can bring the directions for boring back to the meeting. I believe they are good to go. I will give everything to Mark to bring to the council meeting for a vote.

**Executive Session:**

1. **None**

Motion made by Bertolino seconded by Cunningham to adjourn at 9:04 pm. Motion passed with all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm.

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Shelly Boster

City Clerk

Date Minutes Approved: 7/20/2023