

Public Works Committee Meeting
City Of Virden
City Council Chambers
Thursday, February 15, 2024

Meeting called to order by Alderman Bertolino at 6:00 pm.

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

Additional in attendance: Mayor Murphy and Public Works director Gary Etter (left at 7:05 pm) and Ryan Calloway

Visitors: Kim Ball and Bruce Lair

Comments from audience: None

Topics:

1. Approval of meeting minutes (1/18/24)

Motion made by Mitchell seconded by Bertolino to approve meeting minutes for 1/18/24.
Motion passed with all in favor.

2. Go over several projects for 2024

Projects on the list include repainting the ambulance shed and replacing a piece of fascia board; painting the Community Center brown overhang and white fascia and pressure washing and painting; getting bids on the iron underneath the pavilions at each park for sandblasting and painting; mill some intersections; painting of pickle ball court; getting a price and bid for a salt dome replacement; side walk program and painting fire hydrants. Lisa said we need to work on getting the park grant. A strategic plan needs to be made.

3. New hire probation period ending

His probation is up on Feb. 28th. He has passed the first test for the spraying license. He has a second test on the 20th and 27th. He just needs to pass one more.

4. Spray license

See Above

5. Vac truck training

Pokey wants to have everyone trained eventually. They actually have a training course to run that truck and it's done by the owners, the ones who actually built the truck. He wants to send 2 people to that. They could get trained and then let us know how things work. It costs \$275 per person. He isn't worried about the mechanics just the operation of it. Who would you want to send? Definitely Ryan and possibly Steve or Ash. What are the hours of the training? 7:30 am – 3:30 pm.

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Murphy to recommend to council to send 2 guys to the training on May 14th and 15th at Coe Equipment site. Motion passed with all in favor.

6. Update on water loss

There isn't much of an update. Pokey got 80 new meter heads under warranty. To change the bases as well Pokey will need 77 more bases at a cost of \$5,236 on the high end \$5,500. It is in the budget. Can we get bids since the meters need to be replaced anyway? Auburn just replaced all their meters. They use an ultra-sonic technology. There are no moving pieces. The price on them is \$65 dollars more, but they are supposed to catch everything.

Motion made by Bertolino seconded by Mottershaw to recommend to council to let Pokey purchase 80 bases up to a total of \$5,500. Motion passed with all in favor.

7. North end drainage status

George goes back to court tomorrow.

8. Sanitary District contract

It was mentioned that this contract is fair with starting at \$3,000 a month for the first year then going up 10% each of the following 2 years. Kim Ball and Bruce Lair had no idea about the counteroffer contract their attorney sent the city. Since they hadn't seen the contract, they agreed to come to the March Public Works Committee meeting. More discussion ensued on when Kim and Bruce would come back to discuss the contract. It was decided that they would get ahold of George after their board meeting on Tuesday to determine when they would come again.

9. FNB ATM

FNB is looking to put an ATM in the open lot between FNB and the eye doctor. Entrance and Exit would be on Dean St. Neal Jordan said we could schedule an appointment to look at what he is talking about. George will get with Pokey and Neal.

10. Lawn Mower

We had an XMark that blew up last year. It was said to come back at the end of the budget to go over. Papers were passed out for 3 different mower brands (John Deere, XMark and Ferris). We have had a Ferris for 10 years now and we really like it. We have had 2 XMarks and they were both good until one blew up. They had a John Deere before and Pokey didn't like it. Steve said Thayer bought one and it has been in the shop twice already. Would you prefer the XMark? The consensus is for the Ferris. The one we have has been really good. Why is there a price difference? The XMark and Ferris are fuel injected and 10 horsepower more.

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Murphy to recommend to council to buy the Ferris mower. Motion passed with all in favor.

11. Camera

This is like a drain snake but with a camera at the end. You can send this through the tile to figure out what your problem is. Coe's is \$13,830 for just the camera system. The locating equipment is \$3,000, \$1,000, and \$4,000. We can use it to locate the water mains. Didn't the Sanitary District bring their camera when you needed to use it? Yes, they have a push camera. This Keys one is the locator and the push camera put together. What's the length you'll get? The one from Coe's is 300ft and the one from Keys is 330ft. Just the camera for the Keys one is \$13,125. Bertolino wants Key Equipment to come out and demo theirs before deciding on which one. Lisa agrees with this.

Executive Session:

1. Approval of Executive Session meeting minutes (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (21))

Additional:

George got an email from UKA the other day. Grand Prairie Energy Park. It's all wind. Turbines will be going along the old railroad (that runs north-south 5 miles east of Virden). There's nothing we can do about it. Craven was at the meeting in Pawnee and heard they were coming here. He advised to never take the first offer. They asked what kind of things the city needs. They could help with a project or pay us annually. George thought annually would be better. They are going to draw up a contract and then get back with us.

Motion made by Bertolino seconded by Neighbors to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Karen Burgess
Deputy City Clerk
Date Minutes Approved: