

Public Works Committee Meeting

City Of Virden

City Council Chambers

Thursday June 20, 2024

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

Aldermen in attendance: Bertolino, Mitchell, Mottershaw, Neighbors, and Boster (arrived at 6:45pm)

Additional in attendance: Mayor Murphy, and Public Works Director Gary Etter

Visitors: Rick Schnetzler, Thad Holdinghausen, Shirley Lomelino and Robin Shoemaker

Comments from audience:

- Shirley Lomelino said they had to dig that hole out there between her two houses and it gets full of water and stays there with mosquitos around it and can't sit out in the yard. Chizmar put a fence up in the middle of her shed. Snodgrass said there is no zoning out there, so he's allowed to do that. He could put his fence wherever he wanted to. Last time she was here, she was told he has to be at least 3ft inside his property line with his fence. He said he didn't care what any of the council said, but he was going to have horses. Snodgrass said he could have horses because there is no zoning. Boster said he did not say that. Shirley says he says a lot of stuff and denies it and doesn't tell the truth. Bertolino said the fence on the north side of Chizmar's property that you said was in the ditch, it is, but we found out the road isn't centered in the right of way. So, on the south side of Soda St has less right away than the north side, so his property line which Chizmar had surveyed, his fence is probably correct. It appears it's on city property, but the right of way on the south side is narrower than the north side, there is not a lot that we can do. The ditch is partially on his property. Shirley says if you look from her property to his, he has built up his ground. She thought that was against the law to have someone take all the water. She says it's mush out there and you can barely walk. Bertolino said the day we got the 6–7-inch rain, they went out there and the water was moving through the two culverts. What can take that much rain in such a short amount of time? So, since he filled in his, the city's roadway, so she should be able to fill in hers and she is going to fill in hers and going to do the front. Are you talking about the ditch from the west by the shed? Yes. Bertolino said remember we talked about this the last time you were here that was out of our control. He was able to do that because it was his land and there was no easement going down through there. Robin said mosquito spray never went down on Linder St. Arguing ensued on the ditches. Bertolino will have Pokey talk to his guys. Mitchell said if they see someone outside, they could have shut it off. They don't spray if someone is outside. Robin said when she calls the police no one shows up until the next day. A neighbor is burning wire. Robin also called the police about someone who had a warrant and the

police never showed. Mottershaw said it would be beneficial for them to come to the police meeting that way the chief can look into the logs and have answers.

Topics:

1. Approval of meeting minutes (5/16/24 & Special 5/31/24)

Motion made by Mitchell seconded by Bertolino to approve meeting minutes for 5/16/24 and 5/31/24. Consensus passed.

2. Salt Bin

Thad is with Construction Tent Rentals/Accu Steel Structures for our salt bin. He brought samples. Bertolino and Pokey showed Thad the location and site. They do offer a couple of colors. The fabric he brought is 12 ½ ounces, UV protected, and up to 20-year life. 15 years or 20 years later whether it gets worn out or damaged, we can come back and reskin it for just the price of the fabric. Everything they use is galvanized. Mottershaw asked with wind what it would withstand. It's fully engineered up to 150 mph. The entire frame of this doesn't move, it is anchored down tight. It is solid. When you wrap the fabric (skin) around it, it's an added protector. Discussion went back and forth about the fabric. Neighbors asked how you would repair a tear in it. If you want to do it in house, you'd just put vinyl cement and put a patch over it. You could use a heat weld and would adhere the patch. Murphy wants to know if it's going to be in the ground, on the ground or on concrete. It will be on concrete. Bertolino said they could pull into the parking lot off of Hobson, follow the red line to the east and back into the salt dome and the other red line and pull out on Prairie St. Bertolino said we budgeted money for it. Proceed with getting up to date pricing on the 30x50. Discussion on a door for the bin. Bertolino said to Pokey to call Graystone for a 30x50, colored fabric, provide the block and pad, and see where we are at.

3. Update on Frontier Boring

Pokey says they are done. They got one more thing to do, a repair at the elevator. They broke a pipe, so they are waiting for a bigger equipment to bore with. They just have the permit that still needs approval, then they will be out of town.

4. Water Loss

We found all the valves to isolate the town. Next week we are going to pick a night at 2 am, we are going to go out to shut these valves off and see if we can find anything. We have to get ahold of Gordan. Gordan will be monitoring. When we went out and found all the valves, one was leaking. It was broken over on Holden and Masterson, we got it fixed. He doesn't know how long its been leaking, it probably has been leaking a little while. How many will it take to do that? Probably 4. Two and two. How many total valves did you find/ A total of about 16 or 18.

5. Mosquito Spray

Pokey would like permission to buy 3 barrels of spray. He was already given permission to buy 1. He needs 2 more. Then probably carry 1 over for next year, but they are \$1,900 apiece. He has it in his budget but needs permission to buy it at the council meeting.

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Boster to recommend to council for Pokey to purchase the barrels as requested. Consensus passed.

6. Sidewalks

Is there a list for sidewalks? Yes. Is it published somewhere? No, it's on Pokey's desk. Boster would like a copy. There is a veteran in his ward, he believes it's been brought up before. Yes, and it was turned down last year. Mr. Sharp brought it up and it didn't get passed. Boster would like to bring it up again. Mitchell says this guy is a Vietnam vet, he is a Marine and he is in a wheelchair. To go up town, he has to get on old Rt. 66 or Rt. 4, the road going up to the nursing home a couple times he has gotten up to the edge when a car came and tipped over. The sidewalk comes up to where the old mother's nursing home was and it comes up and ends at the property line. He doesn't see what the big deal is from there to that guy's driveway which isn't a whole lot of area. Pokey understands. He asked last year to tell him what was his property, but no one wanted to do the property thing. He now has a fence up and if you pour it it'll bump right up to his fence. Is that fence moveable? You put that sidewalk up there it needs to be finished. Pokey's only concern is if they move, and new people move in, and part of the sidewalk is on their property. He can straight-line it from the sidewalk in front of the old nursing home, but who's to say that sidewalk is correct. He just wants to make sure the sidewalk is on city property. Boster and Mitchell would like to take it to council.

Motion made by Mitchell seconded by Boster to take this to council. Consensus passed.

Executive Session:

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

Additional:

- **Ordinance**

Mottershaw passed out an ordinance for the water deposit for the council to look at. Basically, the only thing Joe changed was the number. Mottershaw asked if anyone had anything for the Finance meeting. If we only have the treasurer's report, then he's going to cancel it.

- **709 E Jackson Bids**

Pokey got bids from Triple Crown, Rick Flowers (Flowers Inc.), Cole Excavating and Chad Bernet.

Triple Crown: \$16,000 with liability insurance

Flowers Inc.: \$14,783 with liability insurance

Cole Excavating: \$11,160 with liability insurance

Chad Bernet: \$9,500 with liability insurance

Motion made by Bertolino seconded by Boster to recommend Cole Excavating to demo 709 E Jackson for \$11,160.

Discussion: Murphy will double check to make sure we don't have to select the lowest bid before the council meeting.

Consensus passed with majority in favor.

Discussion was had further on trying to figure out who to actually go with.

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Neighbors to recommend to council to accept the low bid from Chad Bernet for \$9,500. Consensus passed with majority.

- **Office Air Conditioner**

The air conditioner in the water office froze up again today. There is no air conditioner running in the water office as we speak. Adam came in and charged it up last Thursday. It is already out of freon. He's going to come tomorrow and put some gas in it to see if he can find the leak. If it is the a-coil in that closet, we will be looking at a new system. If it is that problem and it can't be fixed, does he have the authority to go ahead to have him get a new unit and get it here for the girls or does he have to get 4 or 5 bids and wait until the July meeting and the girls be without air for 2 weeks. Boster says if it is bad, you go and get one of those temporary units that will cool until we can get a full fledged unit voted in. What do you mean by temporary? They have these units that roll on the floor and just have to vent them out.

- **Code Book**

In the code book 7-1-7B sewer rates and charges, Boster recommends changing that to cooperate with contracted parties and no longer name the Virden Sanitary District in our code book. Mottershaw and Murphy thinks we should wait after the litigation. Boster disagrees because we don't have a contract with them and neither does the citizens. Mottershaw says that we should just appeal the whole thing.

Motion made by Boster seconded by Neighbors to recommend to council to remove 7-1-7B from the City Code. Consensus passed.

- **Carlinville Hospital**

The hospital said they are going to break ground on June 27th. Murphy will be there. If any Alderman can make it Thursday June 27th at 2pm the hospital is breaking ground.

Motion made by Bertolino seconded by Boster to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 pm.
Consensus passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.

Karen Burgess
Deputy City Clerk
Date Minutes Approved: