

Public Works Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2013

Call to Order 10:06 by Councilman Gonzalez.

Members Present , Stacy Szukala and on conference call Mike Michalski

Also present, Stephanie Kiyak, Chief Ortolano, Al Zurowski, Tony Gugino, and Bill Rivera

Minutes were presented, and a motion will be made after Mike is available on phone.

Tony gave update for DPW, as of today we have a positive balance of \$161,103.84 for fiscal year. Noting that 2012 vs 2013 there is a 27% less expenditure. Szukala asked for acct number. Gugino replied #015142, snow removal. Gugino was pleased with overall budget within dept.

Gugino stated that there is a streets worker that retired, and as of yesterday is off the city books completely. After speaking with mayor and Roger Hayden , the process has stated to replace this worker. Posting of opening will take place soon.

WFP bid has been posted for new trainee. Civil service list will be canvassed. Kiyak asked if its water or wastewater. Gugino replied WFP. Mike Normand was licensed last year, helping out with OT costs. Took over 18 months for Normand to take test. Szukala asked if were now looking to hire 1 or 2 people. Gugino replied just 1. Got word of an upcoming retirement. This one will need to be replaced. Three years ago the OT was over \$90,000.

Szukala questioned Gugino on the Verizon line that is down on Wright street. Several calls have been made, but Szukala asked that another call be made. It's a safety concern , especially with amount of tractor trailers in area. Orange flags have marked the area.

Szukala also asked for update on tree removal at 240 Lord. Szukala previously called Dave Manzella with issue. City crews could not touch it due to power lines. National Grid was notified. Who is responsible to remove branches now? Gugino replied it would be taken care of. Gonzalez asked if billing homeowner was possible. Kiyak stated city is responsible since it was tree on city property.

Bill Rivera Thanked Tony for the guys plowing third street near school. He appreciated how it was done yesterday.

Gonzalez questioned snow drifts on Central Avenue near fairgrounds. Can we block off sidewalk? This is a problem area. Snow fence has been tried in past, unsuccessful. Gugino said this area and many others are done as we have time.

Szukala will cover Fire Dept update at next Public Safety meeting.

Gonzalez asked Zurowski how many fines get paid from report of violations? Court system would have that answer. Being fined or sited are different.

Szukala asked for 2012 of a total amount collected could be obtained for next meeting. Zurowski answered yes.

Reviewing of permit fees etc will take place soon. Increasing revenue is important. Kiyak stated it's a preventive measure. Zurowski clarified it's the fees for permits, not fines that he will review. The code will also be looked at.

The whole city is now considered a target area, not just sections. CDBG funds will be reviewed, and demo

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work will be discussed. House on Elm street was discussed. Al is asking County to get involved.

Wendy's hours in Al's office was questioned. Kiyak stated that council was led to believe more hours were being added to assist Al with work in zoning dept. Al clarified that no extra hours were being allowed.

Szukala asked if CDBG funds were allowed to pay Wendy's salary. Mayor Dolce entered room and replied it was currently being discussed with Roger in personnel. The garbage and litter in the plaza on Fifth Street was discussed. Many calls from concerned people are coming to Szukala and Zoning office. Every time theres a new issue, a letter is sent. This is all that is being done. Some calls are becoming nasty, and calls are now not being returned. Szukala asked if court is possible, and a letter is being sent almost every two weeks.

Ortolano advised that council should let residents know if they are unhappy with results, to call the mayor.

Chief Ortolano was questioned on OT. Two years ago the OT was approx. \$240,000. It is now at about \$170,000. He works everyday to watch the OT. There are many uncontrollable expenses for dept. Court hearings, vacations, sickness, injury and training.

Kiyak asked if fines are paid, do we get a portion ? Over the last several years city gets less and less of that fine.

The gun buy back program was brought up for Chief Ortolano. It will be brought up for next public safety meeting.

Kiyak asked about the window replacement for Police. There are two estimates. One is \$1600. Kiyak stated \$5000 was left over so we do have enough to replace it. A coating will still be put on for privacy purposes.

City hall being a security nightmare was brought up by Szukala. Taking a look at overall building improvements is on the list. The elevator being shared with Stearns building is also a concern. Cameras in ally are not working. Cameras should be looked at for 2014 project. Elevator gets locked at night.

Gonzalez asked if homeland security money is available. Chief answered no. Camera prices will be looked at by Chief and Tony. We will be updated in future.

Gonzalez asked about Neighborhood watch signs. Signs will be up soon.

Kiyak asked about sign maker. Tony stated lunch room is being used as a sign shop. Software will be loaded soon and signs will be soon to follow. We have enough signage for use with new stickers. There are lists with streets that need help.

Senior sweep program was brought up under new business by Szukala. Funds are hard to come up with. The 21st century grant will have \$\$ to use. Tshirts and gloves are covered. For the first time theres a \$100 admin. Cost added. Szukala offered to other members. Szukala was given ok by council to do program again. This may be last year for the grant.

Minutes approved. Motion for approval by Szukala, second by Michalski

Meeting adjourned 10:55 A.M.