

CITY OF WEYAUWEGA
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS
NOVEMBER 12, 2024

The Public Works Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Austin Baehnman at the Weyauwega Municipal Building Council Chambers at 6:30 pm immediately following the Police, Fire & Ambulance Committee Meeting. Roll call was taken. Members Present: Austin Baehnman, Chris Gunderson and Pat Gorchals. Also Present: Mayor Rich Luedke, Clerk Rebecca Loehrke, Treasurer Trina Herbst-Gutche, Police Chief Brandon Leschke, Shani Appleby, Meta Berg, and Andy Schmidt with McMahon.

Motion Baehnman, second Gunderson, to approve the Public Works Committee meeting minutes from October 8, 2024. Motion carried with all "ayes".

Citizen Appearances: None

Engineering Update:

- a. **LSL Project Status:** Schmidt reported that Michael Lee has about 250 households that have not responded to the letters that have been sent out. The next steps would be to have a Public Informational meeting possibly with a virtual option. Would explain the process going forward to the residents with lead laterals and how ½ the cost is paid for by the City. The last round of letters are going out this week to homeowners. Would like to bid out project at the end of the 1st quarter 2025. Currently know of approximately 70 houses with lead pipes. Schmidt did apply for funding for 2027 in case the project gets delayed again. A Public Informational Meeting will be scheduled for January.
- b. **Wastewater Permit Renewal:** The DNR permit should be done by April 2025. The DNR is way behind. Schmidt will check with Feil to see if there is anything more needed to complete on the renewal application.
- c. **Project considerations for construction (CIP Plan):** Have talked to Lori about the CIP and which projects should be in consideration for the next year. Can go over with staff to prioritize projects. Not a lot of grants out there now but could do a low interest loan which does have some added costs to the loan.

Department Update: Leschke reported that they had a staff meeting today. Continue to have good feedback with staff. The work order process has now been tweaked with a google document that Heather DeGrand helped to create. Trying to stay on top of projects to do before a citizen complaint comes in. Currently 40% of the 36 existing work orders were complaint related. The daily log has been modified to a google document. Hoping to work better for payroll and budget designation. Talked a lot about snow removal in the meeting. Lee is working on a map to show where and what piece of equipment is used during snow removal and which areas are priority areas. Leschke was educated a lot on the polymer system and the DNR permitting process. Eric Feil has been working on the City's permit renewal and waiting for the DNR to review. The DNR seems to be behind quite a bit. The sidewalk repair on E Main Street is in process. Concrete is ready to be poured but have to wait for a new electrical box to be installed for a power outlet. Leschke authorized for a below surface steel box for the outlet. It is out 1-2 weeks. Leschke discussed the possibility of removing the trees and replacing with

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large planters. The trees have been a nuisance and have caused many problems even though they look nice. Can look into possible grants. If a tree dies or is damaged on Main or Mill it will not be replaced at this time. The new payloader is coming on Friday. The old dump truck will go live tomorrow on the auction site for 10 days. Will hold on to the current payloader plow for a little bit. Have two local people that are interested in it. If neither one wants the plow then it will go on the auction site.

Discussion and possible action on renewal agreement with Jeff Waldvogel Trucking for hauling of WWTP sludge: Annual renewal of the agreement with Jeff Waldvogel to haul sludge from the WWTP. The hauling for 2024 is complete. *Motion Gorchals, second Baehnman, to approve the renewal agreement with Jeff Waldvogel Trucking for 2025. Motion carried with all "ayes".*

Discussion and possible action on Alarm Notification Software Renewal for WWTP: Renewal of the alarm notification system for the SCADA system at the WWTP. *Motion Gorchals, second Baehnman, to approve the Alarm Notification Software Renewal for the WWTP. Motion carried with all "ayes".*

Discussion and possible action on renewal of Cathodic Protection Corrosion Control System: Renewal of the cathodic protection corrosion control system for two of the water towers. *Motion Gorchals, second Baehnman, to approve the renewal of the Cathodic Protection Corrosion Control System. Motion carried with all "ayes".*

Discussion on pay for part-time employee position: Leschke has talked about hiring a few qualified individuals in the past to be on-call Public Works employees when needed for snow removal in the winter, grass cutting in summer, or when Public Works needs some extra help on a project. He suggested \$20 an hour. He currently has two people showing strong interest in the position. Gorchals asked where the funds would be coming from. Mayor Luedke said there is already a part-time category in the budget and more was allocated for 2025. This position would also help keep overtime down for existing staff and help with employee burnout. Would possibly keep the hours down that we would need Faulks Bros for snow removal. *Motion Baehnman, second Gunderson, to approve \$20 an hour for part-time Public Works employees. Motion carried with two "ayes", and one "nay".*

Discussion and possible action on Water and Sewer Utility Budgets for 2025: Lori Gosz had the water and sewer utility budgets she has been working on in the committee packets for review. These budgets are separate from the general budget and do not need to be published. *Motion Baehnman, second Gunderson, to approve the 2025 Water and Sewer Utility Budgets. Motion carried with all "ayes".*

Set next meeting date/time: The next committee meeting will be held on December 10, 2024 immediately following the Police, Fire and Ambulance Committee meeting.

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Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law: None

Motion Baehnman, second Gunderson, to adjourn at 7:25 pm. Motion carried with all “ayes”.

Recommendations to Council:

- 1. Recommend approving the renewal agreement with Jeff Waldvogel Trucking for 2025.*
- 2. Recommend approving the Alarm Notification Software Renewal for the WWTP.*
- 3. Recommend approving the renewal of the Cathodic Protection Corrosion Control System.*
- 4. Recommend approving \$20 an hour for part-time Public Works employees.*
- 5. Recommend approving the 2025 Water and Sewer Utility Budgets.*

Rebecca Loehrke
City Clerk