

Committee: Water, Sewer, Streets and Alleys

Date: March 12, 2008

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Members

Present: Joe Hermes, Floyd Combes, Russ Gilmour, and Frank Studer

Absent: Marty Orr

Non-Members

Present: Sheryl Puracchio City Administrator, Robin Theobald Director of Finance, Gary VanDuyne Public Works Superintendent, Members of the Press – Pam Monson

Alderman Gilmour made a motion and Alderman Hermes seconded to **open the Water, Sewer, Streets and Alleys Committee meeting at 5:30 p.m.** All yes. Motion passed.

Alderman Combes made a motion and Alderman Hermes seconded to **approve the February 13, 2008 minutes as written and place on file.** All yes. Motion passed.

Discussion: MFT Budget

Administrator Puracchio informed the committee that Gary VanDuyne and Colby from Hamilton Engineers will be meeting next week to review the budget and what projects are priority. The committee agreed that the streets that did not get repaved from last year be priority over any new projects being started.

Administrator Puracchio told the committee that their “wish lists” need to be turned in by Tuesday of next week.

Alderman Gilmour would like to the sidewalk in Northcrest (N. Kankakee Street) replaced all the way up the hill.

Alderman Hermes requests that Ridge Street be resurfaced.

Gary VanDuyne would like to see all MFT funds go towards street repair. He feels that the City of Wilmington is falling way behind on street maintenance due to lack of funds.

Discussion: Sidewalk Share Program

Gary VanDuyne stated that he will have to start calling around to obtain quotes for recycling of concrete as room is running out. Alderman Studer recommended that Gary contact D Construction.

Discussion: OPTICOM System

Administrator Puracchio informed the committee that the OPTICOM System was scheduled to be installed last week but has been delayed until the weather is more cooperative.

Discussion: Kankakee Street Closure

Administrator Puracchio informed the committee that a meeting was held with Dr. Skinner and Sippi Shell. Dr. Skinner is not the property owner so until Gerry VanDuyne is contacted this project will remain on hold.

Discussion: South Island Bridge

Gary VanDuyne informed the committee that Bruce Miller will be performing the bridge inspection next week. The bridge remains closed at this time.

Discussion: North Island / South Island Parks Opening

Gary VanDuyne informed the committee that once the weather cooperates his crew will be at the parks filling in the washout areas and making them safe for the general public.

Discussion: Labor Issues

Gary VanDuyne informed the committee that he feels his crew is spread a bit thin and needs to be restructured. Gary questioned whether or not the Water/Sewer Department should be responsible for locating and digging up buffalo boxes, working on hydrants, flushing sewer lines etc. Administrator Puracchio suggested that once Ken Jeffries returns from Springfield that they need to sit down and discuss these issues.

Discussion: Water & Sewer Maintenance Budget

Robin Theobald explained that the garbage rate would increase up to the exact amount that waste Management charges the City. Administrator Puracchio suggested and the committee agreed that

because the sewer and garbage rates have been increased that the water rate increase could be waived until next year.

Discussion: Sewer Plant Update

Administrator Puracchio handed out letters that will be going to all the residents on Stewart Street as construction season has begun. Williams Brothers Construction would like to see the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project finished by fall of 2008. Administrator Puracchio informed the committee that anyone interested in receiving a tour of the new plant to contact Ken Jeffries.

Alderman Combes made a motion and Alderman Gilmour seconded to **adjourn the meeting at 6:11 p.m.** All yes. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Joie Ziller
Deputy City Clerk