

June 6, 2012

UTILITIES COMMITTEE

3:30 P.M.

Chairperson Jim Wilkie called the meeting to order. Members present: Jim Wilkie, Gary Ruff and David Earney.

Also present: Mayor Robert Scow and Clerk Linda Torgerson.

Agenda Item 1: EDA application for Riverview Drive repairs. Linda informed the committee that she had been contacted by a Bryan Law of the Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission approximately a month ago regarding funding available through the EDA. Linda was questioned on the City of Alma's infrastructure needing to be repaired that was not covered by FEMA during the 2010 floods.

Linda informed MRRPC that Riverview Drive was in need of repair and that a retaining wall should be erected with earth installed so that Riverview Drive can be widened and be able to accommodate the needed guardrails and utility poles. WI DOT has proposed the retaining wall and when the 2010 flooding occurred Linda contacted them to see if the project could be moved up since there was so much damage on Riverview Drive. WI DOT informed Linda that this project had been moved back indefinitely.

Bryan Law felt that the project sounded like one that EDA would be interested in and she should pursue a conference call with EDA that is scheduled for Monday, May 30th.

On Monday, May 30th, Linda did attend the conference call and was informed by EDA that if they felt the project was to be considered an email with an application would arrive after the call.

Linda did receive the application in the email and was then contacted by Peter Fletcher, MRRPC transportation planner.

Linda informed the committee that the EDA grant will be a 80/20 cost share and that she has been in contact with David Brevick, Buffalo County Highway Commissioner, to find out if the WI DOT would be interested in cost sharing the 20% of the city's share since a portion of the work is to be done in the state's right-of-way. Brevick stated he thought they would be interested and suggested pursuing the funding. Brevick further stated that the DOT may be able to assist in the engineering process of the application.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Wilkie to authorize Linda to proceed with the application for the EDA funding with the MRRPC, however, to proceed with caution so that unnecessary costs are not incurred. All members voting yes.

Agenda Item 2: Street repairs for 2012.

Ruff informed the committee that Reglin & Hesch will be doing the culvert and roadwork on Badland Road in the near future.

Fahrner Asphalt will be doing the repairs for the seal coating on Riverview Drive and North 2nd Street in June.

Discussion was held regarding the road repairs needed for Shawnee Bridge deck, Nelson Road, Sunset Drive and the Museum driveway.

Linda informed the committee that Nelson Road and Sunset Drive are actually water department expenses due to the valves that were replaced at those locations and that the water department will be on a repayment schedule to the General Fund for these repairs.

Because the roadwork being done is repairs and does not exceed the construction cost limits, bidding does not need to be done.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Earney to contact Dunn Blacktop for the 2012 roadwork repair for Sunset Drive, Nelson Road, Shawnee Bridge deck and the museum driveway. All members voting yes.

Mayor Scow brought to the committee's attention, that due to the City's current situation without law enforcement, that the ordinances specifically stating that the Chief of Police can authorize the towing of vehicles for snow removal, street work, etc., they should be amended to include the city foreman and/or their designee. The committee will be working on the ordinance amendments needed.

Agenda Item 4: Mill Creek Road closure.

The committee will be inviting the affected property owners at the next meeting to discuss the closure of Mill Creek Road.

Agenda Item 5: Sidewalk repair update. Brad La Duke spoke with Linda this afternoon and informed her that he is approximately one month behind the time schedule. He will be contacting foreman Burce Friday to give proposals on other work she has contacted him about.

Agenda Item 6: Sewer/Water concerns-DNR violation update. Linda went over the letter she received from Charlie Cameron, WI DNR, regarding water department violations. The majority of all violations have been corrected. The committee reviewed the remaining and new violations listed.

Motion by Wilkie seconded by Ruff to instruct the foreman, with the assistance of the city crew, to complete a minimum of 15 cross-connection control inspections per week and provide the Utilities Committee with a written weekly report on the number of inspections and re-inspections completed and the committee hereby authorizes over-time pay for crew to complete this requirement. All members voting yes.

The committee instructed Linda to send Charlie Cameron a copy of the letter.

A new item on the list was the well house. Cameron has suggested removal of the cement block building and installing all well equipment underground. Linda stated that she believes this to be in the floodplain. The cost of installation underground and/or reconstruction of the present building will be very high.

Discussion was held.

Motion by Wilkie seconded by Earney to present to the Council the possibility of complying with the well house violation by installing a protective shell structure over the existing well house. All members voting yes.

Motion by Wilkie seconded by Earney to adjourn. All members voting yes.