

**Village of Holmen
Public Works Committee
September 5, 2013**

Chairman Neal Forde called the Public Works Committee meeting to order at 6:30 PM on Thursday September 5, 2013. Members present: Forde, Ebner and Anderson. Also present: Administrator Heinig, Director of Public Works Dean Olson, Assistant Director of Public Works Pete Mezera and Howard Olson.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ebner, to approve the minutes of the August 1, 2013 meeting - carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Howard Olson, a 41 year resident of the community and former Board and Planning Commission member does not feel the increase in the sewer rate should have been put into place until the October billing. He was a part of getting the second quarter sewer credit in addition to the third quarter credit residents received. Howard feels the sewer credit should be based on either the first quarter usage, or possibly an average of the first and fourth quarter to more accurately represent what is used by people in the Village.

Director's Monthly Report

Sanitary Sewer Department

The WWTP has been operating well. We are still having some issues with phosphorus testing, and need to gather more data to present to the DNR regarding the testing process. MSA has been working on the topographic survey associated with the Forcemain project and should have the field work completed this week. The DNR performed an audit of our Lab and found some issues with testing that we are addressing. Scott, Pete and I met with representatives of the City of La Crosse to start discussions related to our upcoming regionalization project.

Water Department

The reservoir cleaning was scheduled for next week, but we chose to delay a week because of the dry conditions. Meter replacement continues on schedule. We are continuing to address the punch list items for issues found when Charlie Cameron (DNR) did his inspection in May. The Hwy 35 utility project has been completed.

Street Department

We have been working to keep the garage and rummage sale signs off the right of way in the Village. Additional funding is available for the DOT STP-U program that relates to Collector and Arterial classified streets. We submitted an application for funding the reconstruction of Sunset Drive that would include some alignment changes and additional turn lanes near the school access.

Storm Water Department

Chipping in August took 7 days to complete due to the exceptional amount of brush. We have repaired inlets that developed gaps in the adjusting rings that created voids in the

pavement. We continue to clean inlet grates and curb lines. We also plan to rent equipment that will remove the brush from the detention basins yet this fall.

Other

Pat Pedretti has had a CSM for his property along CTH MH prepared so he can sell his house. The property had to be re-zoned by the County, since it is currently in the Town of Holland, however Village residents adjacent to the property were not notified of the public hearing by the County. We continue upgrading our mapping program.

Action Items

Recommend to Village Board – Contract for the 2013 Street Reconstruction project – We received bids for the reconstruction of Commerce Street from Holmen Drive to Manchester, as well as Union Street from Empire to Commerce Street. This project also includes reconstruction of the Alley behind Village Hall as well as sidewalk along Union Street. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ebner to recommend awarding the contract to Mathy Construction Company for the bid amount of \$280,957.10 – carried unanimously.

Discussion – Comparison of Sewer & water rates for sewer credit – DPW Olson presented a sampling of Village Residents water usages during different quarters to see if using the fourth quarter water usage is appropriate for the sewer credit provided to residents. We were surprised to find the sample groups showed a consistently higher usage during the first quarter than the fourth. A larger sample of residents (10%) will be used to verify this result and will be presented to the committee next month for further discussion.

Discussion – PIM – Sand Lake Road Project – DPW Olson provided a copy of the letter that had been sent to residents along the Sand Lake Road project, inviting them to an informational meeting to be held at Sand Lake Elementary on September 26th. The meeting is to give residents some basic information regarding the project plan and get input from the general public before significant design work is completed..

Discussion – Pedestrian/Bicycle Trail – Hwy 35 – When Hwy 35 is reconstructed in 2015, the DOT does not plan to include a bike trail adjacent to the roadway. At an earlier meeting with WisDOT, we asked for project costs and potential issues that may come up for adding the trail. The eastern side of the roadway had a number of complications that would not permit the path to be included in the construction. We then asked if the path could be placed along the westerly side where there were fewer complications. We received some preliminary comments from Dennis Parsley (DOT Project Manager) that seemed more positive. We need to take a closer look at the new alignment and have more discussion, but this may be accomplished with the highway reconstruction. The cost to the Village for this addition to the project would fall somewhere between \$180,000 and \$240,000. The Committee felt we should continue with the discussion process.

Other

There were no other items brought before the Committee.

Adjourn

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ebner to adjourn at 7:55 PM - carried unanimously.

Dean K. Olson
Director of Public Works