Chairman Neal Forde called the Public Works Committee meeting to order at 6:30 PM on Thursday February 6, 2014. Members present: Forde, Ebner and Anderson. Also present: Administrator Heinig and Director of Public Works Dean Olson.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ebner, to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2014 meeting - carried unanimously.

Public Comment

There were no comments.

Director’s Monthly Report

Sanitary Sewer Department

The WWTP has been operating well. We have had a few mechanical issues over the past month that have been addressed by staff. Most can be attributed to the age of the plant. We are continuing to do testing and gather data related to the odor control study. The recent information was compiled and forwarded to MSA for evaluation. We had a meeting with the City of Onalaska in January to take steps toward developing an agreement with them for the regionalization.

Water Department

We continue to have a number of frozen lines in mobile homes so far this year. There are two homes that were advised to let the water run that now frozen services. We were able to borrow a device from the City of Sparta to try and clear the blockage, but were not successful. Those homes are currently being fed by hose from the neighbor’s house.

Street Department

Public Works staff has been busy plowing streets over the past month. The Holiday lights were taken down in mid-January and stored. There are no sidewalk issues to report.

Storm Water Department

We are not taking the chipper around this week. Staff has been picking up Christmas trees that residents have put out and are storing them behind the shop. When the weather warms a bit, we will chip those trees all at one time.

Other

We continue to add data to our mapping file in Autocad. The program has become a useful tool for developing exhibits for the upcoming incorporation hearing.

Action Items
Discussion on irrigation meter option for residential users – With the new sewer rates, we wanted to evaluate the possibility of allowing the residents to use irrigation meters to get a more exact volume of water used for the regular residential use and the volume that is used outside the home (irrigation). Building the projected costs for a sample group first indicated that our current program of the “Summer Credit” works pretty well. When the irrigation meter scenario was compared to our current program, there was not a significant savings that residents would realize. Some examples indicated the irrigation meter option would cost more over the course of the year. The Committee was appreciative of the information and felt there was no needed to analyze this option any further.

Recommend to Village Board – RAS pump reconstruction - The Return Activated Sludge (RAS) pump in the Wastewater Treatment Plant failed in early January and needed to be rebuilt. The cost for the rebuild was $2,327.71. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ebner to recommend approval of the repairs in the amount of $2,327.71 – carried unanimously.

Recommend to Village Board – Purchase of Blower for Wastewater Treatment Plant - One of the blowers that supplies air to the wastewater treatment process failed and needed to be replaced. The blower was 15 years old and at the end of the expected service life. Motion by Ebner, seconded by Anderson to recommend approval of the purchase of a new blower at a cost of $4,532.79 – carried unanimously.

Recommend to Village Board – Approval of Resolution #1-2014 - We will be receiving Local Road Improvement Project (LRIP) funding to help with the cost of the reconstruction of South Star Road. Federal guidelines require bicycle and pedestrian accommodations be included in projects where this funding is involved. Given the somewhat isolated location of the road, along with the undeveloped property along the east side of the roadway, there are exceptions available that would permit us to use the funds without including the bicycle and pedestrian accommodations at this time. To meet the documentation needs and to assure all agencies that the Board is aware of the exception request, Resolution #1-2014 has been prepared for review and approval. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Ebner to recommend approval of Resolution #1-2014 – carried unanimously.

Other

There were no other items brought before the Committee.

Adjourn

Motion by Ebner, seconded by Anderson to adjourn at 7:30 PM - carried unanimously.

Dean K. Olson
Director of Public Works