

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 28, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Jonathan Smith. Committee members present were Jonathan Smith, Barry VanHoozen and Becky Williams. Also present was Bridgette Kabat, City Administrator.

DITCH MAINTENANCE GUIDE

Mr. Smith stated that the Committee received the updated ditch maintenance guide. Ms. Kabat said that she also sent an email to Council members regarding pricing for a couple of fencing options. There was discussion regarding another option for fencing, and Ms. Kabat said that she will have Mr. Eckel get pricing for it. Ms. Kabat stated that there is \$150,000 in the 2018 budget for ditch maintenance, and the plan is to put in an amount each year to get the ditches on a schedule for routine maintenance. She said that the Administration would like the committee to recommend that the ditch maintenance guide be adopted by City Council. The Department of Public Utilities will then work with Hull & Associates on the next section. Regarding the area that has already been done, Ms. Kabat said that they will work to appropriately restore the vegetation, but there is not a lot of top bank area. She said that where there is room, they will be happy to work with the Street Tree Commission to plant the appropriate trees. Ms. Kabat said that when the cleaning is scheduled, they will use the recommendations from Hull regarding communicating that schedule to residents. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend that City Council adopt the Ditch Maintenance Guide.

2018 BUDGET

Ms. Kabat said that there is no additional staffing proposed for water or sewer in the 2018 budget. She said that there are dollars in the 2018 budget to start funding the replacement of a 4" water line in the Loomis/Orchard/Colony area. The design and half of the construction costs are in the 2018 budget, and the balance of the construction will be funded in 2019. There are also dollars in the budget for the design of expanded lunchroom and office space at the Department of Public Utilities building. Ms. Williams asked if the ditch mower for the mini-excavator was new or a replacement. Ms. Kabat said that it is an attachment for the mini-excavator that was purchased within the last couple of years. Mr. Smith asked about the replacement camera truck, and Ms. Kabat said she will check on it and let them know. There was a brief discussion regarding what happens to vehicles when the City is done with them. Ms. Kabat said that sometimes they are traded in and sometimes they are sold on the auction website. There was also discussion regarding the homeowner sewer grant program that has been increased to \$200,000.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Smith asked about pipeline work that was done under the multi-use path by Bethel Assembly Church because they did a poor job of restoration. Ms. Kabat said that the work was done by Columbia Gas and we have been in contact with them.

Ms. Kabat requested permission to go out to bid for replacement roofs on buildings C & D at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. There is \$100,000 in the 2017 budget for this work. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of legislation authorizing going out to bid for this work.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Smith, Chairman
Public Utilities Committee

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 25, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.