

SERVICE COMMITTEE

MAY 25, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairperson Becky Williams. Committee members present were Rick Rettig, Barry VanHoozen and Becky Williams. Also present was Jon Eckel, Service Director.

CITIZENS' CONCERNS

Phil Caron, 801 Hickory Street, presented the Committee with a chart showing the weather during the time frame of brush pick-up. He said that there were 19 days of brush pick-up, 8 of which had rain or snow so there were 11 days to do the work to get the brush out. He said there was only one weekend day that did not have rain or snow and there was also mud and standing water. He said he feels the City should be more flexible because a lot of things are not blooming during that time frame so you don't know what's dead or alive. Mr. Eckel briefed the Committee on the procedure for brush and leaf pick-up. He said that if they were still picking up brush at the end of April it would cripple them because of all the mowing they have to do. He added that they picked up 1,168 tons of brush or 4,205 cubic yards so the residents are able to get the brush out. Mr. Rettig added that when things start to grow the grass starts to grow too and the Public Service Department also has duties at the parks. He noted that they asked for two additional employees and those were cut, so they are running short staffed. He said that as citizens, they have to understand that this is a convenience and it has to end at some point. Mr. Eckel said that in response to discussion at a meeting last year, they updated the website daily with what streets had been completed. Mr. Caron said that he does not look at the website, he relies on the paper. Kevin Rantanen, 925 Locust Street, asked if the brush pick-up could be pushed back. He said that asking residents to do spring clean-ups in March is not fair. He also suggested that brush and leaf pick-up have the same day every year like Christmas and Tax Day. Mr. Eckel said that he will discuss the idea of pushing brush pick-up back a week with his team.

Mr. Caron asked if Columbia Gas is done with their project in the City. Mr. Eckel said that they are about 99% complete. Mr. Caron said they did not fix the ditch correctly near his residence. Mr. Eckel said he will speak to Chris Kozak from Columbia Gas about it.

Mr. Caron said the Bee Hive looks like a dump and asked if there are any plans for it. Mr. Eckel said that they will be using soil from an antenna project at the Municipal Building and hopefully dirt from Riverside Park and the Intermediate School to fill in the site.

PERMISSION TO PURCHASE SNOW PLOW PACKAGE

Mr. Eckel requested permission to purchase a snow plow package from Henderson Truck Equipment through the NJPA State Bid pricing. This is a hybrid brine/salt package and eventually Mr. Eckel would like to have three of our eight trucks set up this way. The cost is \$63,629. Ms. Williams asked how much is budgeted, and Mr. Eckel said that the total

budgeted for everything is \$165,000 so it is within the budgeted amount. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of this purchase.

PERMISSION TO BID 2016 PAVEMENT MARKING PROGRAM

Mr. Eckel requested permission to go to bid on the 2016 Pavement Marking Program. He said there is \$75,000 budgeted in the 233 Fund for doing centerlines, edge lines and regulatory symbols on roads. He said that this is an annual project. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of going to bid for the pavement marking program.

PERMISSION TO APPLY FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL GRANT

Mr. Eckel requested permission to apply for a mosquito control grant through the Ohio EPA. This is the first time this grant has been offered and is probably in response to the Zika virus. Mr. Eckel said that the first round of grants will be \$500,000 to enhance mosquito eradication. Our grant application will be asking for funds to pay for materials. We use a product called Duet that is purchased from Clarke at a cost of \$8,500 for a 55 gallon drum. We purchased \$60,000 worth because we received a good deal on it. The entire City is sprayed once a week. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval to apply for the grant.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Williams said that we need to look at manpower needs within the Service Department with the next budget. She said that we have added Davis Overlook and may be improving Riverside Park. Mr. Eckel said that there will be minimal maintenance at Davis Overlook, but the department is less staffed than in 2000 when he took over.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Williams, Chairperson
Service Committee

Next regular meeting: Wednesday, June 22, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.