

Public Works and Buildings Committee
City Hall Council Chambers
Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilor Donald Hamann, Chairman

Councilor Jim Gray, Vice Chairman

Councilor John LaRochelle

MEMBERS ABSENT

Councilor Steve Beaudoin

OTHERS PRESENT

Peter C. Nourse PE, Director of City Service

Lisa J. Clark, Administrative Supervisor

Dan Camara, DPW GIS

Mark Allenwood, PE, Brown& Caldwell Engineer Via MSTeams

Nicolas Dulac, 19 Lambert Court

MINUTES

Councilor Hamann called the Public Works and Building Committee to order at 7PM

1. Approval of April 21 2022 Meeting Minutes

Councilor Hamann made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Councilor Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Public Input

No Public Input.

3. 536 Columbus Avenue – Parking Lot Fence

Mr. Dulac spoke to the Committee. He stated that his property on Lambert Court abuts the parking lot on Columbus. He stated that the white vinyl fence most of the length of the property separating and giving privacy to his three (3) unit apartment building and about half of his parking lot. Mr. Dulac stated that the remaining length of the property that abuts the parking area has a wood fence that is easily stepped through and over by pedestrians going through his property. He explained that further down the road there is a walking path for pedestrians on City property that give access to Lambert Court. Mr. Dulac stated that pedestrians are trespassing on his property and walking through his parking area, around the tenants and his own cars and stepping through the wood fence to get to Columbus Avenue. Mr. Dulac asked if the City would consider extending the fence to the end of his property line to give his property privacy and security from the people passing through. Mr. Nourse had the area displayed on the monitor. He stated it is 50 feet from the existing vinyl fence to the end of Mr. Dulacs property and 80 feet to the opening for pedestrian access to Lambert Court which would seem like the right place to end the fence. Councilor Hamann asked Mr. Dulac if extending the fence to the

walkway would be suitable. Mr. Dulac stated it would be. Councilor Gray suggest that the fence was done in this way for a reason. He suggested that the fence was placed to give privacy to the homes and consideration of the private parking lot was not considered. Councilor Hamann stated that it appeared that the vinyl fence stopped at the previously built parking area prior to the extension. Mr. Nourse stated that could be the case. The Committee discussed the issue and asked Mr. Nourse to research the history of the parking lot and fence, and they asked that Mr. Nourse provide pricing for next month's Public Works Committee Meeting.

4. Evans Road

Mr. Nourse stated that the surveys for paving preference or comments on road maintenance were send out. He stated that they were sent to nineteen abutting properties. Mr. Nourse explained that the letters were sent to the fifteen properties on Evans Road and the other four went to properties that abut Evans Road on each end, but have addresses on the other roads. Mr. Nourse stated that of the nineteen sent, we received back thirteen. He stated that ten were in favor of paving; the other three were not. He also mentioned that of the comments made, there was concern for speeding if the road was paved, and requests that if not paved if the Department of Public Works could do a better job controlling the dust. Mr. Nourse stated that if the Committee was in favor of paving the road, he could obtain budgetary pricing for the FY24 Budget as a standalone project. Councilor Gray suggested that pricing be obtained to correct all drainage issues prior to paving. The Committee discussed the costs for paving, the tax ramifications to property owners, how these funds could be used to address other areas that would impact a greater number of residents and commuters, and they discussed the many types of improvements that could be made. The Committee asked Mr. Nourse to obtain separate pricing for the various improvements discussed and to bring that back to Committee.

5. Bridge to Potters House Bakery

This issue was struck from this meeting for discussion, but left in Committee to obtain additional information

6. Wastewater Treatment Plant Biosolids

Mr. Nourse stated the original scope of this project was to construct both the Carbon Storage Facility and the Biosolids Dewatering Facility. He stated that the City Council has been briefed and kept informed about the legal issues associated with the termination of the contractor for this project. Mr. Nourse explained that the Carbon Storage Facility is required to meet the general permit requirements for nitrogen at our Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Biosolids Facility is necessary to process the waste activated sludge in the treatment train and to de-sludge the lagoons. Mr. Nourse stated that in order to comply with the Administrative Order from the EPA we started first with the Carbon Storage Facility. Per this order this facility must be up and running by October of 2022. The City entered in to a contract to complete this facility with the only other bidder for the project, Apex Construction. He stated that this portion of the project is going well and is approximately 53% complete. Mr Nourse stated that we now have a draft contract with Apex Construction to complete the Biosolids Facility that was left at approximately 70% completed by the terminated contractor. He stated there is current funding

remaining for this portion of the contract to get the project started back up, but not enough to complete the project in its entirety. Mr. Nourse explained that the current contract is in the amount of two million, eight hundred and seventeen thousand, nine hundred and forty-nine dollars (\$2,817,949.00). He stated that this contract includes mechanical piping of equipment, plumbing, heating, ventilation, AC and the existing punch list items left uncompleted by the original contractor. He stated that the contract does not include the electrical work nor site work to complete the project. He stated that this work would be added at a later date as a change order. Mr. Nourse stated that the existing available funds are two million, nine hundred and ninety-seven thousand, and sixty-three dollars (\$2,997,063.00). He stated that this is enough for the current negotiated scope but a supplemental appropriation was anticipated and is necessary. Mr. Nourse stated that he has discussed this with finance and was given the approval to proceed to this Committee. He stated the balance of the project for the electrical, the site work and the engineering is estimated at two million three hundred and eighty thousand dollars (\$2,380,000.00) and he is requesting a motion for the recommendation of a supplemental appropriation in the amount of two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000.00). He stated that this would leave some contingency should any additional problems arise. Mr. Nourse explained to the Committee that he is sensitive to the issue and he is tracking the additional cost to the City due to the termination of the previous contractor. He stated that he believes the additional cost to be approximately 18-20% and this does not include the legal fees. Councilor Hamann stated that when the issue of termination was discussed the City Council was informed of this financial concern. Mr. Nourse stated that if requested he could have the full City Council formally updated on the legal process to date. Mr. Nourse stated his request is to have the funds in place at the July City Council meeting as it will take an additional 15 months to complete the project. There was discussion of the City Council meeting process to expedite the funding. There was also discussion of PFAS and new and future environmental restrictions. Councilor Hamann suggested that Mr. Nourse review a New Hampshire House of Representatives Bill that has recently been approved as it may pertain to the treatment of the sludge. ***Councilor Hamann made a motion for the Committee to recommend that the Full City Council approve a supplemental appropriation in the amount of two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000.00) for the WWTP Biosolids and Dewatering Facility. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gray. The motion passed unanimously.***

7. RT 202A Water line Extension Project Update

Mr. Nourse stated that work is progressing well. He stated all infrastructure has been installed on Winkley Farm Lane, including water mains, service stubs, valves and hydrants. The next work includes taking the main across 202A on to Bickford Road. Mr. Nourse stated that the estimates for the private service work are ready for distribution and the residents will be given some time to make the final decision regarding to tie in. Mr. Nourse said that the main is going in from the tank down to Bickford Road and the tank site is being prepared for Aquastore to put in the tank pedestal. He stated that the tank completion is anticipated for November and we should be supplying Winkley Farms with water by December and Fiddlehead Lane in August of 2023. Mr. Nourse stated that there are asphalt escalation and diesel escalation clauses in the construction contract, and most

other City contracts. He explained that these clauses allows for the actual increases to the cost for asphalt and/or diesel. He stated that there was contingency set up for this in the 202A contract, but he notes it may not be sufficient for the increases we are currently experiencing. Mr. Nourse stated that he believes the overall budgeted contingency will be sufficient. Mr. Nourse states he mentions this now so that he can keep this committee informed as it may have significant impacts in the City projects and the City's Pavement Rehabilitation contract. Councilor Gray asked if the FY2023 funds budgeted for Paving will be sufficient. Mr. Nourse stated this will impact how many streets we will be able to pave. Councilor Gray suggested that the Committee discuss this during the final budget meetings.

8. Other

Waste Water Effluent to the Rochester Wastewater Facility – Mr. Nourse stated that last month Councilor Gray has asked for information regarding Waste Management's discharge to the City regarding any impacts to our permit and phosphorus reduction. Mr. Nourse stated that phosphorus enters our system from many sources including human waste, detergents and corrosion inhibitors. He stated that currently the City is not regulated for phosphorus, but we do regulate our industrial users. Our limit per ordinance is 15.7 milligrams per liter. He states our anticipated limit per pending permit for phosphorus is 0.12 milligrams per liter. Mr. Nourse stated that our current effluent number is about twenty-five times that number on average and may go as high as sixty times that amount. Mr. Nourse states that the industrial users are required to test quarterly and we are independently testing quarterly as well. So that is eight tests per year. He stated that Waste Management sends us as much as 0.1 milligrams per liter or typically half of that amount. He stated that other industrial users send us phosphorus as well, but they are all sending less than our City regulated limit. Mr. Nourse stated that our new permit will state that we are required to update our Industrial Pretreatment Program as necessary for our facility to meet permit requirement of 0.12 milligrams per liter. Councilor Larochelle stated that if he understand this correctly, it means that the industrial users are at where they need to be and our phosphorus issue is coming from some other source. Mr. Nourse stated that Councilor Larochelle is correct. He stated we suspect that some of the phosphorus may be coming from our lagoons into our treatment process as it is run through the treatment process. He suggested the excessive sludge could be a major contributing factor and the new dewatering facility may help with this. Mr. Nourse moved on to the new nitrogen limits per the permit and the impact of industrial pretreatment users. He stated that Waste Management and all other industrial users meet our ordinance regulated limits. He state that Waste Management sends 125 to 300 milligrams per liter of total nitrogen. He stated that prior to their three million dollar investment into a reverse osmosis system they were sending us four times that amount. Mr. Nourse stated that he believes we will need to modify our industrial user ordinance to accommodate our new nitrogen permit limits.

Household Hazardous Waste Day – Mr. Nourse announced that Household Hazardous Waste Day is this upcoming weekend. He stated HHWD will be at the Waste Management Facility at the residential drop off facility on Saturday May 21, 2022 from 8:30am to 12:30pm and the residential drop off will be close for the entire day.

FY2023 Budget Excluded Issues and Options:

Mr. Nourse stated that the Committee has been informed of the conditions in the NPDES Permit in regards staffing the Wastewater System and he hopes that they have had a chance to read the Jacobs Engineering report on the work force. Mr. Nourse stated that excluded from the City Managers budget in the Issues and Options Book is the Lead Collection System and Pump Station maintenance position. He stated this position was the starting point of implementing some of the Jacobs recommendations. He stated it was specifically related to working toward a split water & sewer maintenance system. He stated putting this off a year, pushes the implementation out another year and will increase the requests for next year as we attempt to bring this division up to industry standards. Councilor Gray suggested that the Chairman of the Public Works Committee may want to include this position for a ½ year position.

Councilor Hamann adjourned the meeting at 8:10

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa J. Clark, City of Rochester Administration and Utility Billing Supervisor.