

## PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 14, 2019, 3:00 p.m. MT

**\*\* Public Works Headquarters \*\***

Meeting called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Bernie Babcock, Public Works Committee Chairman.

Committee members present included Mr. Bernie Babcock, Mr. Pat Woodcock, and Mr. Jackson Fox (Wilson & Tuttle – excused).

Others present included Cliff Leeper, Betsy Roberts, Suzanne Mulvany and Adam Brown.

The press was notified. This meeting was recorded (the tape is available at the Public Works Headquarters); the minutes are on file at City Hall and on the city's website at [www.ontariooregon.org](http://www.ontariooregon.org).

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### ADOPTION OF MINUTES

#### RESOLUTION, ACTION &/OR MOTION:

**The motion was made by Mr. Fox seconded by Mr. Woodcock to adopt the previous meeting minutes dated April 15, 2019: Motion passed unanimously.**

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### NEW NPDES IN EFFECT

#### GENERAL DISCUSSION:

CL – Received new NPDES permit after the comment period.

- On the new permit now.
- No radical changes from what was previously discussed.
- Currently sending all waste up to the farms.
- At the end of October, we will be sending it back to the river.
- *Overview: The NPDES Permit is set up as a 3, 5-year periods = 15-year permit*
  - ✓ *1<sup>st</sup> five years – Studying and understanding inflow / infiltration*
  - ✓ *2<sup>nd</sup> five years – Potential of how do we solve the problem*
  - ✓ *3<sup>rd</sup> five years – Construction and how do we get down to the arsenic limit.*

PW – Comment made about the State of Idaho had raised their concerns about phosphorous.

CL – No action taken.

The biggest concern is arsenic at 2.1 micrograms per liter, and that is after the 15-year period. There are a whole series of other items also: Testing, a new diffuser in the river, Ph, mercury minimization plan, I-n-I (inflow/infiltration), sources for arsenic within the system, etc.

The first thing we intend to do is apply for a variance. As the drinking water limit is 10 mg/liter; they want our effluent on the WWTP to be 5 times cleaner than the drinking water standard.

BB – What is the arsenic level in the river?

CL – The background arsenic is 4.0 to 6.0 mg/liter; the sample analysis taken last month at the effluent is 5.6 mg/liter.

JF – So you're expected to clean it more than naturally occurs? Yes.

– We don't have a direct discharger of any kind of arsenic waste into our system so in the water we are treating all the arsenic is naturally occurring.

– Does your water treatment plant have any arsenic treatment? No.

BR- But it does fall out with standard filtration. In our water treatment plant, we drop it from 4.5 to 1.

– We don't have a specific process to drop the arsenic out.

BR- But it is reduced.

– There is some real infiltration of arsenic into the system. One of the goals of the next five years is to figure out where the infiltration is coming from.

- We know where we have I-n-I in the system because of our camera studies throughout the whole collection system, and we have taken samples upstream and downstream from those I-n-I areas. We will have a hitlist of those areas that

we know have I-n-I and those will be the first collection areas that we will slip line and run HDPD down and try and clean up. Hopefully that will address some of the issues as to where this arsenic is coming from.

- We are the first treatment plant in the state to have this low of arsenic limit.
- Why are we special?
- It probably had to do with the timing of our permit.

- Adam and Betsy and I flew to Portland and met with the head of Oregon DEQ a representative from the EPA and the governor's office and had a discussion related to this issue. We have some time to figure out what we are going to do but the bottom line is it will be expensive if we have to meet that limit. We have some ballpark numbers but at this point in time they are pure guesses.

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### 2019 CIP BUDGET STATUS

#### GENERAL DISCUSSION:

BR – Adam my understanding is that it goes in front of council on Tuesday next week. It went through all the budget committee three days in a row. They filed through everything. They pulled some things off, so they recommended it go in front of the council, and they may take the recommendation or make some changes. That will happen on Tuesday.

- What I would like to see is once the budget is approved, that we could be presented with what is happening this year and roll it into the spreadsheet, so we have a document for discussion for the next CIP process.

BR- Suzanne let's put that on the agenda for next month.

- During the last work session I gave a quarterly report; as part of the report I listed comments or issues that the public works committee had related to the CIP budget and the presentation and the recommendations that you wanted to see based on their comments, so that was one venue for getting it in front of the council for them to understand what our issues were.

BR- I think the most pertinent one is we would like to have budget information ahead of time, what is sitting in the budget, what do we have to work with, etc.

- So many other comments had to do with the Oregon Street project and you wanted to make sure there is some way to make sure all the business owners were well aware of what was going to be happening prior to the resurfacing of that and that we explore funding options like grants.

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### PROJECT UPDATES

#### ➤ **Ontario Tree Project –**

- We are at a point where we are ready to put the cast iron rings that go around the tree in place. They will be here next week.
- We missed the planting window, so we won't be able to plant the trees until the fall. We missed the planning window because the supplier of the rings was really, really late getting the rings to us
- We ordered enough rings for next year's project so that we won't miss the planting window next time

#### ➤ **Splash Park –**

- Scheduled opening date is the 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Walked through and looked at various things and our staff is doing landscaping around the splash park which is almost done. Waiting for some rock that we are putting in.
- Some features in the splash pad not properly powder coated so those were sent back and should be coming back this week.
- Some new features, a pergola, needs to be installed, haven't got it yet but it should get here next week.
- Will try and put together a plan for staffing and operation
- The recreation department will run this. Tuesday the plan will be finalized, but the original plan is that there will be a 2-dollar fee.
- New restrooms were put in. Cameras are set up to address the issue of vandalism.



- Joint press release after the council gives their agreement
- We have a rough idea of what it is going to cost but Jacobs is putting together an estimate of what it will cost for the monthly maintenance.
- **Transportation System Plan Amendment –**
  - Getting through the whole scope with ODOT
  - Price has gone up on consultant side and we are at about 240 total
  - ODOT came back, we had a match of 21 thousand, most of which is “In-Kind”
  - Match has been kept at 21,900
  - Still getting traffic analysis and public involvement that we need
  - Think contract will be ready to be signed July 1 and will be off and running on that in 9 months to a year
  - Contractor did RFP and put it out
  - Traffic study likely to be done in the Fall
- **S. Oregon Project –**
  - Working on putting out a letter to the property owners
  - Decided to wait, given construction environment, will put out to bid after July 1
  - At 90 percent design complete
  - Recommend concrete and planters for Swales
  - Projected completion, hopefully done by the end of the summer
- **TVCC Path –**
  - Adam is going after a grant
  - Working on phase one (there will be more parts), 99 percent done on the design
  - Will go in front of council to get ... prepare the legal description
  - Almost all of it can be built within the existing ROW
- **SE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street –**
  - Consultant, Anderson Perry, is continuing work to get to 100 percent of drawings
  - Provided additional info on cost estimate, trying to get them to pull it down a little bit so we don't go over budget
  - Anticipate work beginning in Fall
  - Using fund exchange dollars
  - Project completed approx. a year from the coming fall, September of 2020 or so, will be in Fiscal year of 2021
  - Water and Sewer extension which had to be done separately, will go out for bid shortly before July 1, which is basically just a utility project that has to be done before road construction
- **Lions Shelter –**
  - Insurance paid shelter
  - Bid went out for concrete pad to go under it and didn't get any bidders
  - Al is back talking to the individuals, trying to renegotiate and possibly shifting the timing
  - Concrete pad needs to be ADA tied to the sidewalk and will be in a slightly new location
  - Staff will put the shelter up and we will have the concrete done
  - It will happen; should have more news next month

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**ADJOURN**

**The motion was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Woodcock to Adjourn: Motion passed unanimously.**

**APPROVED:**

  
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Signature

  
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Date

(Bernie Babcock, Chairman / Scott Wilson, Vice-Chairman)