

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
September 10, 2018
East Conference Room

Present: Councilmembers Rader, Anderson, Bullock

Also Present: Public Works Director Beno, City Engineer Papke

Call to Order: 8:00 p.m.

RESOLUTION 9018-18 – A RESOLUTION authorizing the Mayor or his designee, to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement Program, Local Transportation Improvement Program or any other appropriate Ohio Public Works Commission program that the 2020 Watermain Replacement Project qualifies for and to execute contracts as required.

RESOLUTION 9019-18 – A RESOLUTION authorizing the Mayor or his designee, to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement Program, Local Transportation Improvement Program or any other appropriate Ohio Public Works Commission program that the Summit Outfall Replacement Project qualifies for and to execute contracts as required.

Director Beno explained that every fall the City applies to the Ohio Public Works Commission with proposed projects. The two projects currently being proposed are:

1. Waterline replacement work on three streets
2. Rehab of sewer outfall and erosion protection at the north end of Summit Ave.

Director Beno explained how the OPWC scores applications. Score cut-offs vary from year to year. The same project could be rejected one year and accepted the next depending on which other communities apply and what projects they propose. The OPWC awards the most points for projects related to health and safety. A simple paving job does not usually earn points toward health and safety.

Director Beno explained how the City's current projects will improve safety. For example, upsizing the water line will increase water volume to the nearby hydrants and improve fire protection. Replacing old water lines decreases the risk of breaks. He praised Mr. Papke for his success in getting many projects funded over the years and for being able to identify high scoring projects.

Director Beno discussed the timeline of the grant process. Scores will come back in December 2018. Funding will not be usable until July 1, 2019. The City will use the funds at that time for the design portion of the projects. Construction on the proposed projects would not begin until 2020.

The need for the projects was discussed further. Idlewood is one of the streets where the watermain is proposed to be replaced. The fire hydrants there have the worst flow rate in the City due to the age of the pipes and the buildup within them. Residents likely do not notice a difference in their homes but at a hydrant it is very noticeable and problematic. The Idlewood project will likely earn additional points for leveraging CDBG funds.

The deadline for application is September 20th and the City is prepared to meet it.

In response to a question by Councilmember Rader, Director Beno discussed the City's role in erosion control which is that private property owners are in charge of their property which abuts the Lake. Erosion control is very expensive.

In response to a Councilmember question, Mr. Papke discussed how the City will pay for these proposed projects if it does not receive the OPWC grants. The City is committed to completing these projects sooner or later. If the City doesn't receive the grant funding then it will work with the Finance Department to identify other funding sources.

Councilmember Bullock asked if there were other projects not listed. Director Beno replied that there are many paving projects but that that would not earn health or safety points under this grant program.

The Committee speculated on the chances that that the grants will be fully funded. Director Beno discussed the City's history of getting these grants funded. If the City does not receive grant funds from OPWC it may be offered a 0% loan.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend Resolutions 9018-18 and 9019-18 for recommendation by full Council.

All members voted in favor.

The Committee discussed various other public works projects throughout the City before adjourning at 8:24 p.m.