



PUBLIC WORKS BOARD MEETING
Thursday, October 26, 2017
5:30 p.m.



TOM LLEWELLYN, CHAIRMAN

**PUBLIC WORKS BOARD
MINUTES**

October 26, 2017

The meeting convened at 5:30 pm.

Members present: Bill Enright, Travis Jones, Tom Llewellyn, David Wanzenried, and Rod Wilson

Staff present: Louis Engels, Kelly Frank, Vern Heisler, and David Mumford

Members Absent: None

Guests: Amanda Mcinnis and Craig Habben, HDR Engineering Inc.

OLD BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Wilson motioned to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2017 meeting and Mr. Enright seconded and the minutes were approved with the correction of "300 foot doors to 30 foot doors on the new Solid Waste facility at the landfill".

NEW BUSINESS

1. Integrated Water Plan Presentation

Mr. Mumford explained some of the details of the new transfer station. The transfer station will have 30 ft doors, an area to separate reusable construction materials from contractors and will help speed up the lines at the scale. Also private citizens will be in a different area to unload their vehicles. The new building will have water misters that aid in compaction and odor. The trash will be misted and compacted which will result in 30% reduction in trash and will eliminate most all of the blowing trash. However, the landfill doesn't have water or sewer and will have it put in during the construction of the transfer station. There will also be new scale houses and maintenance building so it is more convenient for the mechanics. There will also be a storm drainage area and the design will be available at the end of the year for the Board to review. The project cost is \$18 million and is budgeted for.

The landfill takes in 1,228 tons in tires every year and the fee is very low to dispose of them. Since tires don't stay buried and are troublesome, Mr. Mumford asked the Board to raise the fee for tires in order to buy a grinder. The grinder would separate the steel belts for recycling and the rubber could be used for cover or for trails, etc. The Board would like more information on cost and funding of the grinder that could go to City Council in the spring.

2. Water and Wastewater Funding Reductions

Since the water and wastewater increases were not approved by City Council, which is 2 million dollars, the following reductions are being made. The pipebursting program has been reduced along with \$180,000 software that was going to be implemented, changes to one of the reservoirs at \$570,000, and there will be no reimbursement for system development fees for new subdivisions.

A discussion regarding how to address how to approach City Council with the next rate increase so it will pass. The cumulative effect is never caught with it being million dollars per year. Possibly start early and address Council members who don't support or understand the consequences of not approving rate increases. also there is a lawsuit regarding the franchise fees coming forward saying they are illegal.

3. Water Reclamation Facility Update

The large clarifiers for the Water Reclamation Facility are under construction currently. The project will take approximately 2 ½ years to complete. The 118,000 cubic yards of dirt that was removed from the area and was stored at MetraPark and all but 40,000 cubic yards of dirt will be used later as fill. The Board will be invited to take a tour of the construction at a later date. Although population has increased, water and sewer usage has stayed flat for the last 15 years. The plant will be operational for one year before the City of Billings has to renew the permit.

Other Business

The Board wants a strategy meeting on how to educate and communicate better with the City Council on the importance of Public Works. The Board wants to define their role with educating City Council in order to help them make the best decisions regarding water, wastewater, streets, and solid waste improvements. Also, Mr. Wanzenried would like to add a presentation on the paver program for the next meeting. Other topics for October's meeting will be an update on the Integrated Water Plan, BBWA meeting regarding discharge into the Knife River Pit on Shiloh Road, and the possibility of adding a treatment plant where the BBWA ends in Shepherd. The location is where Floating Islands to take the small amount of excess water from the BBWA. Public Works also looking at purchasing 250 to 300 acres of land at Knife River on Shiloh when they cease operations.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45