



# CITY OF BILLINGS

## PUBLIC WORKS BOARD

*ED HAMMER, CHAIRMAN*



### PUBLIC WORKS BOARD MINUTES

April 28, 2016

The meeting convened at 5:30 pm.

Members present: Ed Hammer, Travis Jones, Tom Llewellyn, David Wanzenried, and Rod Wilson

Staff present: Kelly Frank, Vern Heisler, and Dave Mumford

Guests: none

### OLD BUSINESS

#### APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Wanzenried motioned to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2016 meeting as written. Mr. Llewellyn seconded the minutes. All members were in favor. Motion passed.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### 1. PUBLIC WORKS FY17 BUDGET

Mr. Mumford gave an overview of the Public Works FY17 budget. This year the City Council will separate the Public Works and Airport budgets from the rest of the departments because these departments produce revenue. Public Works budget request is \$161 million, which includes \$65 million for the Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements. Only 12% of the PW budget is personnel which is very small.

There are 17 supplemental budget requests for FY17 for \$1.11 million. The supplemental budget requests are ranked in order of importance or need. The first SBR is for automatic vehicle location systems in all Engineering, Street, Water, and Wastewater vehicles to improve efficiently. The other SBRs include route management software and a landfill tree buffer to help contain blowing trash. Water and Wastewater SBRs include lift station generators, dump truck, a security camera system upgrade and rip-rap at the Water Treatment Plant, pretreatment local limits re-evaluation, and a sludge pumping controller.

Street/Traffic SBRs include traffic signal wraps that will be continued downtown from 1<sup>st</sup> Ave North to Poly Drive. Also, NorthWestern Energy is requiring all street lights to be metered. The cost will be \$270,000 to meter all city owned street lights. Mr. Wanzenried asked if there more Supplemental Budget Requests that were not included in the budget. Mr. Mumford said there are more requests that were scrutinized, but were not included.

Also, there will be arterial, storm, SMD, solid waste, and wastewater rate increases for FY17. Water rates for residential customers will not increase, but rates for multi-family and outside residential will increase.

The cost to build an arterial road mile have increased to \$5.2 million, which is the reasoning for the increase. PW needs to raise fees on R9600 homes from \$46.55 for FY17 to \$58 per year, which is an increase of 2.3%. However, City Council may want a 30% increase to build and repair more roads.

Also, City Council has asked how much it would be to have snow plowed in residential areas. The cost would be around \$350k for five storms per year. The increase in SMD fees would be approximately \$12 to \$13 a year per property owner. This service would be contracted to Knife River and CMG because of their expertise in grading, plowing, and more equipment.

## 2. PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT UPDATE

Mr., Heisler discussed upcoming projects for this summer that include paver, curb and gutter, ADA ramps, annual storm drainage intersections problem areas, SID contributions, sanitary sewer and electrical work. Mr. Llewellyn asked how many arterial streets are completed with ADA ramps, which Mr. Heisler stated were almost all complete. Orchard Lane will be improved this summer at the cost of \$4 million and will be paid for by the South TIF district. The new UV building is \$6.9 million to build. In the future, all water will flow thru the UV building. Water main replacements will start east of Will James from 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> Street West. Also, 17<sup>th</sup> Street West from Poly to the Staples pump stations will be replaced. A large water/sewer project will connect the Elysian area with the connection going under I-90.

Next year Grand Ave around the new Ben Steele School will be widened. The Inner Belt Loop which is unfunded, will undergo a realignment design to see if the costs can be reduced. The realignment design will cost \$50,000 which will come from Arterial Fees. Also, 90 traffic signal controllers will be upgraded. Midland Road will be reconstructed in FY18 from Mallowney to South Billings Blvd. Also, reconfiguring the area at the landfill for drop off customers so citizens don't have to drive into the landfill as far to dispose of trash. There will be Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements and reconfiguring the Belknap building to have a more efficient use of space and upgrading the HVAC.

Mr. Wanzenried requested information on how each Public Works Department works and demographics of the citizens of Billings. Mr. Mumford will put together a presentation of information for every board member.

### 3. COMPLETE STREETS POLICY

Mr. Mumford gave an overview of the Complete Streets Policy with bike lanes and pedestrian traffic. There may be some minor changes to the language accommodate everyone. The City Council wants PW to look at costs with signage and bike lanes etc. Implementation seems to be the issue. Council would like to use a check list and have more understanding of the limitations of some roads,

Mr. Mumford asked the board for help with a new business plan that would be for the next five to ten years. What do we want Billings to look like in the next 10 years.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm