

City of Watseka
201 Brianna Dr
PO Box 338
Watsseka, Il. 60970

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2021
7:53 PM

PRESENT: Alderman Miller, Garfield, Barragree, Cahoe, Marcier, Alderwoman Ulfers, Mayor Allhands

ABSENT: Alderman Rushbrook and Alderwoman Musk

GUESTS: Juanita Muller, Public Works Supervisor Dustin Standish

Alderman Miller opened the meeting at 7:53pm There was no public comment. Juanita Muller spoke first. She stated last month when her group was at the meeting it was stated there needs to be pride brought back to Watseka, she stated the Watseka Family Festival committee did that! She thought it was very planned out and was a great weekend for the city from the carnival all the way to the great entertainment. Juanita then went on to talk about the flowers in the downtown area. She stated this year the Chamber didn't put in the liners and the plastic and these help hold in the moisture and help with the winds. There are 32 poles with baskets so a total of 64 baskets and each basket needs 1 gallon of water 3 times a week along with fertilizer once a month. There are also 17 sidewalk planters. It was decided next spring Juanita with meet with the public works department and show them the amount of water and fertilizer that is needed to keep the plants alive. Juanita also went on to say she has talked to Tholens about the grassy area in front of the DMV. She would like to plant a couple of trees there and put a bench there also. She has talked to Jim Blunk who owns the property and he is ok with this but she stated she will get something in writing before doing anything. Tholens suggested planting 2 oak trees for a cost of \$1100.00 to plant. These oak trees are tall and narrow and will not harm the sidewalk. After more discussion **Alderman Barragree makes a motion to recommend to the Council to plant the trees in front of the DMV from Tholens for a cost of \$1100.00 and Alderman Cahoe seconded. Roll call carried 7-0.** The property the city is buying at 217 E Walnut was discussed next. Juanita would like to have a fence installed to hide what is on the other side of the property. After more discussion the committee suggested Juanita get prices on fencing and bring back to the committee.

Mayor Allhands asked Public Works to get picnic tables to the Elks for there Octoberfest.

Public Works Supervisor Dustin Standish reported on the following:

Streets: Ran street sweeper, cleared storm inlets, sprayed weeds on roads and other city properties, poured concrete for several sidewalks, general mowing of city properties, and patched potholes.

Sewer: installed a yard hydrant at Legion Park, winterized the pool, swept the path at Lakeveiw Park, and replaced the wires on the fountains at the ponds that the mice have chewed up.

Work report: 40 locates were done.

Dustin stated the department is still waiting on the Kubota. Freehill Asphalt has completed the crack sealing and IPC has started today. There was a short discussion about stocking the ponds with fish. Dustin will look into this some more.

Alderman Cahoe stated he has a quote from Freehill Asphalt for \$9256 for resurfacing the Oak St parking lot. This has not been done since 2016. It needs to be done every 3 years.

Alderman Cahoe makes a motion to recommend to the Council to accept the proposal from Freehill Asphalt for \$9256 to resurface the Oak St parking lot and to pay from street and alley fund. Alderman Marcier seconded. Roll call carried 7-0.

There was more discussion about pond maintenance and tree trimming in the city.

Alderman Miller makes a motion to adjourn at 8:27 pm and Alderman Garfield seconded. Roll call carried 7-0.

Don Miller, Chairman