

City of Watseka  
201 Brianna Dr  
PO Box 338  
Watsoka IL. 60970

**PUBLIC WORKS/WATER/WASTEWATER COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**JUNE 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**  
**7:40 PM**

**PRESENT:** Aldermen Cahoe, Barragree, Marcier, Miller, Anderson, Mayor Allhands

**ABSENT:** Alderwomen Rohlf and DeLahr and Alderman Muench

**GUESTS:** Public Works Director Loren Grosvenor, Keith Mulholland with Robinson Engineering

Alderman Cahoe opened the meeting at 7:40 pm. There was no public comment. There was a short discussion concerning ordinance #2683 Amending Title 9 Public Ways and Property by adding Chapter 10, Railroad Occurrences of the Watseka City Code. Alderman Anderson has a couple of questions for Attorney Cainkar, he will call him directly.

Public Works Director Loren Grosvenor reported on the following projects:

**Voltus Power Response Program:** This program would pay the city \$14,250 a year to be on the plan and if they needed to cut the power it would be for 4 hours and during that time that city would go to backup generators. If an event occurred that would need to have the power cut the city would be paid \$7600.00 each time. Keith with Robinson stated Robinson is applying for portable generators with the \$65,000 DECO grant that the city has received.

**Water:** 645 radios have been installed as of 6/20/23 and 475 more radios were ordered and 259 have been received.

**Fire Hydrants:** Hydrant painting to start the week of 6-19-23

**New Well:** still waiting on IEPA permits

**Well 6:** Keith has found an air stripper supplier, so this is still a work in progress.

**North St Watermain Extension:** Bid opening was 6/20/2023 and the loan bidder was IPC at \$373,588.30 and the estimate from Robinson was \$312,745. Keith stated the casing that goes under the tracks is very expensive as is the liability insurance which makes the bid higher.

**Alderman Cahoe makes a motion to recommend to the Council to accept the bid from IPC for the North St watermain extension for \$373,588.30 and Alderman Barragree seconded. Roll call carried 6-0.** This project will be paid for from the water and sewer fund.

Loren stated the annual consumer confidence report has been mailed out to all users.

**Distribution System:** The grant for the watermain extension on E Elm St is still a work in progress, Keith did state the city has a higher score this time around but still not quite high enough for now.

**Westside Water Tower:** inside washed out and inspected 5/15/23

**Eastside Water Tower:** inspected 6/10/23

**Oak Street Water Tower:** washout and inspection scheduled for 7/13/23

**Wastewater Treatment Plant:** Loren stated Helm is now going to replace the new stems at the plant. Loren also stated the no potable pump one failed and it's only 2 years old. He is going to go to a different company to get a quote to repair it.

**Drainage project along Walnut Street:** will be starting this week with the city staying

twenty feet off of the tracks

**Locust & Brown St Manhole Project:** Still waiting on the railroad

**Park Ave & Yount Ave Sanitary and Storm Sewer Separation:** piping is to be delivered next week.

**Loveridge Ln/Courthouse Drainage:** still a work in progress

**Kay Street Storm & Sanitary Separation:** the bid letting will go out in October/November and the cost of project is 1.2-1.3 million.

**GIS Mapping:** In person training will be June 27<sup>th</sup> in Lafayette and Eric will join with other employees

**Parks:** Sidewalks installed for tennis courts at Peters Park along parking, player benches and replacement bleacher planks for T-ball field have come in, swing set and boarder installed and completed at Lakeview Park, bags and ladder toss games installed and completed at Lakeview Park, 2 semi loads of mulch was put down for swing set and other playground equipment, Westside Park was vandalized on 6/1/2023. A short discussion was held on cameras in the parks again.

**Streets:** 8<sup>th</sup> St FAU only bid came in from IPC was for \$537,824.11. There was discussion about the financing of this street and the other five streets that have a bid letting of 6/26/23. It seems that some streets may need to be cut and the possibility of tar and chip was discussed. North 4<sup>th</sup> & Walnut St. sidewalk was replaced and road patched due to the building demo.

**Staffing:** New hire starts 6/26 and then the city will be fully staffed, one high school student was hired part time for the summer.

**Miscellaneous:** 6 tons of asphalt purchased to date for patching and potholing, street sweeper operated week of June 5<sup>th</sup> including nightly downtown street cleaning, flags installed on light posts and wood posts on main street and Jefferson street, city staff cut down 3 dead trees, City yard waste facility ordinance states city employees may burn at times when weather and wind conditions are appropriate, Watseka Girls Softball end of season pool party requesting city sponsor. **Alderman Cahoe makes a motion to recommend to the Council to sponsor a pool party for the Watseka Girls Softball team, Alderman Barragree seconded. Roll call carried 6-0.**

**Equipment:** the new truck is in, lift needed new controller-Alexander made the repairs \$400, need to get tires installed on loader before there is a blowout, this will be taken to Stockland for the tires and this was put in the budget for this year, 2 tires purchased for 2 trailers, 1 tire purchased for the F150 and truck 2 will need tires soon.

Alderman Cahoe makes a motion to adjourn at 9:00 pm and Alderman Barragree seconded. Roll call carried 6-0.

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Dennis Cahoe, Chairman