

Minutes

NEW BERLIN UTILITY COMMITTEE

February 5, 2003

Members Present: Aldermen Gallagher, Harenda and Ament, Bob Dude (Citizen Member) and Ray Grzys (Director of Streets and Utilities)

Others Present: Andy Lucas (Brown & Caldwell), Kristin Stewart and Todd Weeks (Crispell-Snyder), Rick Johnson (Utility Supervisor),

Mark Klawitter (Lead Operator Sewer), Larry Wilms (Engineer),

Alderman Gallagher called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

ITEM A-03 Approval of minutes for Jan 8

Motion by Alderman Ament to approve the minutes of the January 8th meeting. Second by Mr. Dude, and approved unanimously.

ITEM 03-01 Approval to Close down Public Water Supply Site at Utility Building

Mr. Grzys talked about the elderly and others slipping on the ice, and that despite using salt and monitoring the site, it was difficult to keep this from reoccurring in the cold weather. This may cause an accident to happen. Rick Johnson said that the service began in the late 80's on a temporary basis, first at Forest View Well site, then at the Utility shop, when there were some well problems. When the crypto problem occurred, Milwaukee residents came to use the water. He reported that most of the people using the water are Milwaukee residents and that they think it is spring water. Approximately 70,000 gallons were used last year. Mr. Johnson said that pool suppliers and contractors use a different outlet (hydrant on the building) and recommended that a 30-day notice be placed at the site prior to shutting it down. Alderman Harenda and Mr. Dude asked if there was an emergency or hardship case if this could be put back into service, and Mr. Johnson replied yes.

Motion by Alderman Gallagher to recommend Council approve closing down the Public Water Supply site at the Utility building. A sign will be posted giving a 30-day notice of the closure. Hardship cases will be handled individually. Second by Alderman Harenda and passed unanimously.

ITEM 36-01 Presentation by Crispell-Snyder on Buena Park Private Property

Rehab approval authorizing to proceed in accordance with approved Budget.

and

ITEM 01-03 Presentation by Crispell-Snyder on implementing an ordinance for a City-wide Private I & I Mitigation Program

These two items were presented together with a PowerPoint presentation by Andy Lucas of Brown and Caldwell, and Kristin Stewart and Todd Weeks of Crispell-Snyder. Mr. Lucas asked the committee's indulgence to present both items together, and he presented a Power Point presentation showing the finding in Buena Park (Item 36-01) and projecting to a city-wide effort (Item 01-03).

Mr. Lucas stated that most of the problems were found in homes constructed prior to 1955, where the city did not ban pumping into the sanitary sewer. He presented a list of 5 items to reduce I and I: Disconnect roof downspouts, disconnect all yard/garage drains, disconnect sump pumps, cap clean-outs, and repairing lateral defects. Items 1-4 were inflow on private property and item 5 was an infiltration issue. Mr. Dude stated that since 1955, items #1-4 must be up to speed at the owner's expense and if someone connected a sump pump to the sewer that it was illegal.

Lengthy discussion was made about the cost of disconnecting downspouts, yard and garage drains and sump pumps and that the estimates given were too high. Mr. Lucas said that the best way to deal with these problems is to have a

dedicated place for the water to go, that means running the water out to the ditch. Alderman Gallagher said that water in the ditch is still over the sewer lateral and that it would be a hard sell to spend that kind of money to run some sump pumps to a ditch.

Mr. Wilms said that we need to think about long-term solutions and that part of repair lateral defects will fix the problems of water in the ditch and that leaking into the laterals. He stated that the City can do less, but may be compromising the success of removing the I & I.

New business item showed examples of other communities. Discussion was made about how many homes in New Berlin were built prior to 1955. Alderman Gallagher stated that homes built after 1955 should have to correct I & I problems, and suggested that houses built prior to 1955 could possibly get no or low interest loans to fix connections of drain tile to the sanitary sewer. He stated that ordinances could be set up as a way of enforcement and mandatory inspections, possible dye testing, could be done before a house could be sold. Mr. Dude agreed. He stated that laws change over time and why does Utility have to subsidize those who are not up to the current standards.

Mr. Dude asked if MMSD makes I & I reduction a requirement? Mr. Wilms said that MMSD does not currently, but thought that will propose some clear water reduction in the future. Pressure currently is from environmental groups, the public and media. Mr. Dude replied that there was no pressure on Utility to do this, except for people who get sewer back-ups in their basement. Mr. Grzys answered that it was not our obligation, but that we are lacking capacity in some of the basins and that looking at Buena Park and the cost for a citywide I & I Mitigation program will help the City in the future.

The Committee was concerned about how much money was being spent on these studies and what was being done. Mr. Dude suggested that we concentrate on areas that have the backups and made an ordinance to have these problems corrected. Discussion was made about point of sale inspections or a clear water inspection by a certified home inspector. The cost of \$100.00 per visual inspection on the Crispell-Snyder report could be reduced by contracting out.

Motion by Alderman Harenda to table Item 36-01 until the City Attorney looks at the issue of the homes inspected in Buena Park. Second by Mr. Dude, and passed unanimously.

No action taken on Item 01-03 at this time until the City Attorney reviews for input to write an ordinance.

ITEM 39-01A Marcus Land Purchase Update – Well 11

Mr. Grzys indicated the contract was signed and that the staff will set up a pre-construction meeting for February 12, 13 or 14. Alderman Harenda asked if we are on target to get the well up and operational? Mr. Grzys responded that the well should be operational 150 days from the award of the contract, making that approximately the 2nd week of July. No action taken.

ITEM 30-02 Milwaukee Water Update and Discussion

Mr. Grzys indicated that he is setting up a public informational meeting with the Utility Committee and Council, and Steve Schultz from R & M for February 25 at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers. No action taken.

ITEM 51-02A Amend Agreement with Earth Tech to include Design work for the

Sanitary Sewer with the Moorland Rd Water Design

Mr. Grzys stated that it was cost effective to do the design work for Water and Sewer at the same time with the same contractor. Work probably would not start until we connect to Milwaukee water.

Motion by Mr. Dude to recommend Council authorize the additional design work for a Sanitary Sewer Extension on Moorland Rd from Heatherly Dr south to the Target Store to Earth Tech, (for a fee not to exceed \$12,517.00 and be funded by Account 852.46. Second by Alderman Harenda and passed unanimously.

ITEM 02-03 Authorize Professional Service Agreement for Year 2003 Sewer

Flow Monitoring Program per approved 2003 Budget

Alderman Gallagher asked why we didn't spend money on fixing the problem instead of studying it. Mr. Wilms stated that documentation is needed to try to assess the nature and degree of clear water leakage. He indicated that this year there are 5 new rain gauges to help collect data and that a good 100 year rain is needed to tax the system and correlate the impact of rainfall and I & I. Lengthy discussion was made on what the results of these studies were and why there were so many studies. Mr. Dude and the committee asked Mr. Wilms to provide information from the studies in 1999 and 2002, and tell us what the third study will accomplish. Mr. Grzys indicated that the information will show flow data and whether the money we spent over the last 15 years was cost effective. Discussion was also made about sending this item out for bid.

Motion by Alderman Gallagher to table Item 02-03. Second by Alderman Harenda, and passed unanimously.

ITEM 03-03 Arrange Public Information meeting before Council for Sanitary

Mr. Wilms indicated this was a necessary step and will be scheduled with the City Clerk

Alderman Gallagher stated that we will need a public hearing at one point and Mr. Wilms indicated he would inquire with the City Clerk how many notices and how much time was required. Alderman Gallagher asked that Mr. Wilms set this up for the first Council meeting in March.

Motion to adjourn by Alderman Ament at 7:40 p.m. Second by Mr. Dude, and passed unanimously.