

UTILITY COMMITTEE
Monday, February 7, 2022
6:00pm

PRESENT: Members Turchi, Carroll, Hegy, Sikora

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Utilities Brian Rhodes, Sewer Utility Director Dave Piquett

Call to Order – Alderperson Turchi called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers of Hartford City Hall, 109 North Main Street.

Public Comment Period – None.

Update on Electric Service Interruptions and Water Main Breaks – Director of Utilities Brian Rhodes provided an update on the following:

1. On December 27, 2021 there was an outage at the Triton Trailer company on State Street. The problem was identified as a broken wire that was going to the transformer in the transformer bank. The line crew completed the repair and restored power. It was noted that this was a customer owned piece of equipment, and the line crew completed the repair because it was a simple repair.
2. On December 7, 2021 the Village of Slinger experienced an outage that affected the entire village. The cause of the outage was a faulty switchgear unit that was located near the Arthur Road substation. The line crew isolated the faulty gear and restored power to the majority of customers within one hour. All power was restored within two and a half hours. The line crew replaced the switchgear the following day.
 - a. Alderperson Sikora asked if there was anything in place as far as notifying the public as to what the problem might be instead of having people speculate and share rumors in these types of situations. Director Rhodes explained that notifications would be very difficult while the problem is still being investigated. Alderperson Hegy suggested that a notice be put out after the situation is resolved, which Director Rhodes agreed could be accomplished.
3. On January 4, 2022 there was a water main break at the intersection of Loos Street and Washington Avenue. This was an 8" cast iron main, was repaired in the same day and affected about 10 customers.
4. On January 29, 2022 there was a water main break in the 400 block of West Loos Street near Summit Avenue. This was a 6" cast iron main, was repaired in the same day and 14 customers were affected.
5. On February 6, 2022 there were two breaks. The first was on Forest Street near Victor Drive and was a 6" cast iron main. 10 customers were affected. The second was on Fourth Street near Highland Avenue and was a 6" cast iron main. 4 customers were affected. Both were repaired in the same day.
 - a. Alderperson Carroll asked if the Fourth Street line was scheduled to be worked on in the future, as there have been problems with valves in that area. Director Rhodes explained that the line is not scheduled to be replaced for a while. However, the valve replacement program was re-added to the CIP, so a list is being prepared for problematic valves. It is possible that this area would be on the list to be replaced either this year or next.

Update on the Lead Service Lateral Grant – Director Rhodes explained that the DNR is offering the Lead Service Lateral Grant again this year. The program was well received by customers last year, and the department is anticipating the same response this year. Director Rhodes has already submitted the

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application for the grant, estimating about 131 laterals that will need to be replaced. He mentioned that galvanized services can be replaced under this grant as well. The DNR should begin awarding funds in the middle to end of February.

Discussion and consideration of approving the Line Clearance Work Standards Policy – Director Rhodes explained the City Tree Board convened and discovered that the Line Clearance Policy needs to be reviewed with the Utility Committee each year. The City did not have a Line Clearance Policy prior to that meeting, so Director Rhodes created one, using examples from other communities.

MOTION by Alderperson Carroll, seconded by Alderperson Hegy to approve the Line Clearance Work Standards Policy.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Discussion and consideration of approving the application for the Sewer Lateral Replacement reimbursement by Tom Andruscavage at 505 East Sumner Street at a cost not to exceed \$2,097.76 – Sewer Utility Director Dave Piquett explained the City received a request for reimbursement from the 2021 Sewer Lateral Replacement fund. The City finds that all requirements have been met and recommends approval for the reimbursement.

MOTION by Alderperson Carroll, seconded by Alderperson Hegy to approve the application for the Sewer Lateral Replacement reimbursement by Tom Andruscavage at 505 East Sumner Street at a cost not to exceed \$2,097.76.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Discussion and consideration of approving the bid proposal from Ruckert & Mielke to prepare and provide the Water Pollution Control Facility Operation and Needs Study at a cost not to exceed \$27,470 – The study was approved as part of the CIP. This study will help identify equipment and technology that may need replacing or upgrading, as the last upgrade was 22 years ago. Requests for proposal were sent out to two engineering companies that the sewer utility has worked with in the past. Ruckert & Mielke came in with the low proposal. Staff recommends in favor of approval.

MOTION by Alderperson Carroll, seconded by Alderperson Hegy to approve the bid proposal from Ruckert & Mielke to prepare and provide the Water Pollution Control Facility Operation and Needs Study at a cost not to exceed \$27,470.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment – Alderperson Turchi called for adjournment at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Hetzel, City Clerk

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