

**Public Works Committee Meeting  
Monday, February 21, 2022  
Red Bud City Hall  
Council Chambers (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)**

Committee Members Present: Curt Guebert, Kyle Donjon, Ben Schwartzkopf,  
Mike Rheinecker

Committee Members Absent: Bill Hanebutt

Council Members Present: Jeremy DeMond, Rodney Nevois, Alan Piel

Council Members Absent:

Others Present: Acting Mayor Susan Harbaugh, City Attorney Paul  
Ray, City Superintendent Josh Eckart, Code  
Administrator Jeff Mueller, Police Chief John  
Brittingham, Admin. Assist. Pam Poetker, City  
Clerk Joanne Cowell

Committee Chairman Guebert called the meeting to order at 6:20 P.M.

Old Business

**I. Power Plant**

- A. Plant Report  
All units are repaired and running. The urge testing is being scheduled.  
The NESHAP IEPA air permit (required every three years) will be  
scheduled, and cost will be included in the 2023 budget.

**II. Utilities/Streets**

- A. Electric  
Nothing
- B. Gas  
Nothing
- C. Water – Aerator Replacement Project: Waiting on Agreement from the  
State of Illinois  
No update
- D. Sewer  
Nothing
- E. Streets  
The MFT bid opening was last Thursday and is waiting on IDOT  
approval. The oil and chipping will then be scheduled.

**III. Employee Succession Plan**

No update

**IV. Net Metering Policy Updates**

Eckart reported that the state is requiring the city to approve a net metering policy within 180 days from its' passage in September. Included in the packet is the proposed policy, which Attorney Ray is reviewing.

***Recommendation made by Committee Chairman Guebert, seconded by Committee Member Rheinecker, to authorize approval for Attorney Ray to prepare an ordinance for review at the March council meeting for the "Customer Self-Generation Net Metering Policy 2022." Carried***

**V. Ice Machine for Utility Office**

Per previous discussion, Eckart included a proposal from RBPHCE for an ice machine for the utility office. Eckart will put together a comparison of rental/purchase for further review. Leave on agenda.

New Business

**I. Approval of Prior Month's Meeting Minutes – Meeting January 17, 2022**

***Recommendation made by Committee Chairman Guebert, seconded by Committee Member Donjon, to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2022, meeting. Carried***

**II. Recommendation to End Adren Walsh's Six-Month Probationary Period Effective February 11, 2022**

***Recommendation made by Committee Chairman Guebert, seconded by Committee Member Schwartzkopf, to authorize approval to end Adren Walsh's six-month probationary period, effective February 11, 2022. Carried***

**III. Training Request – Gas Department**

A. Steve Mertz & Clint Crafton – GIS Program 3/8/22 in Olney, IL

***Recommendation made by Committee Chairman Guebert, seconded by Committee Member Piel, to authorize approval to send Steve Mertz and Clint Crafton to training entitled "192.GIS Compliance Tool Training and Demonstration Course" in Olney, IL on March 8, 2022, no registration fee. Transportation and hotel will be required. Carried***

B. Steve Mertz & Clint Crafton – Mock Emergencies 3/31/22 in Auburn, IL  
A registration fee of \$100/each was approved and paid in 2020 for this training, which was cancelled because of COVID.

***Recommendation made by Committee Chairman Guebert, seconded by Committee Member Schwartzkopf, to authorize approval to send Steve Mertz and Clint Crafton to GUA mandatory training entitled "Spring 2022 Training Seminar Mock Emergencies" in Auburn, IL on March 31, 2022. Transportation required. Carried***

**IV. Authorization to Obtain Landscaping Quotes**

Family Tree Landscaping notified Eckart that they are retiring and will no longer be doing the landscaping for the city buildings.

***Recommendation made by Committee Chairman Guebert, seconded by Committee Member Rheinecker, to authorize approval to request bids for landscaping and maintenance for the city flowerbeds. Carried***

**V. Water Department – Personnel, Pay Rate & Schedule Proposed Changes**

With the resignation of Rick Timmons, Eckart was reviewing the pay rates for utility employees and the city is on the low side compared with other local municipalities. In the past, the city also had backup licensed water/sewer operators. Eckart suggested giving current staff an incentive to becoming licensed and serving as a backup. Eckart was asked to prepare a pay schedule and staffing needs for committee review.

**VI. Public Comments/Anything for the Good of the City**

None

Meeting was adjourned at 6:37 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne G. Cowell, City Clerk  
Red Bud, Illinois