

Minutes of the Public Works Committee on January 30, 2023

Committee Members Present

E. Beatty
M. Arciuolo
P. Vetro
R. Vitale
W. Willis

Also Present

C. Saley, PW Director
Robert Harrigan, new Union Pres.
L. Streit, Recording Secretary

Minutes

A motion was made by Vitale, seconded by Willis to approve the minutes of the 10/24/22 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Director's Report

- Chris reviewed his prepared report (copy attached). Paving and Sidewalks – this also involves a lot of paperwork; traffic reports, etc.
- City Buildings were reviewed and it was noted that most of this work is done internally. Beatty noted that Chris Angeli from the Library was very pleased with the work done there and further stating that Public Works performed a lot of extra work. Vitale asked if when Public Works assists with contracted work if these costs are tracked and if Public Works is reimbursed for this work acting as subcontractors. Chris stated that most of the work is in man hours and this causes delays in other projects.
- Work on the Police Department was discussed and Arciuolo stated that male and female detainees can not be in visual contact as well as physical contact. Chris stated that he was unaware of this and he will speak with Chief Mello regarding this. This work took a lot of man hours. Arciuolo asked if there were any flooding issues at the Police Department. Chris stated that there was not.
- Public/Recreation Areas were reviewed. Brewster Field had a lot of water issues and 2 days were spent to improve this. Grove Circle Playground - Public Works assisted the Recreation Department by doing the demo and regrading. It was discussed that the turf fields need ongoing maintenance. The Devon Rotary funded the new roof at the Pavilion.
- Resiliency/Drainage Projects were reviewed.
- Tree Plantings and Maintenance was reviewed
- It was noted that all of this work from the report is done along with the day to day operational work of the department.
- Vitale asked about 701 North Street and if there was an accounting on funds spent. Chris stated that he would get those figures.
- ARPA funds were briefly discussed.
- The budget was briefly discussed; Chris is looking to make some adjustments in order to bring some position wages to a more competitive level. It was discussed that seasoned, skilled people have left for positions with better wages. Beatty noted that the remaining open positions have been approved by the Mayor for hire. The need for equipment was discussed. The concern is that if there is a storm/blizzard, there are only 5 trucks.

Old Business

- Update on new/pending ordinance. Beatty submitted the Public Works Steering Committee Report (copy attached).

- Vetro asked about Prospect and Cherry Street; it is all dug up and patched. Chris stated that the Gas Company is still putting lines in. They are looking to improve the area.
- Arciuolo asked about large spools of power cable around town. Chris stated that it is Frontier and Optimum and they have no control over that. Arciuolo also asked about resident concerns with a chemical smell in the Sassacus Drive area as he has received multiple calls. Chris suggested the Fire Department be called.
- Beatty stated that there is open fire across the street from 75 Trumbull Street. Chris stated that he will look into the ownership there.

The next regular meeting will be February 27, 2023 in Conference Room C at Parsons.

A motion was made by Vitale, seconded by Willis to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit