

STORMWATER BOARD, TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2012--5:00 P.M.

Members present were Scott Long, Brandon France and City Attorney Doug Lehman. Department heads present were Rick Price.

The Stormwater Board meeting was called to order by Scott Long.

MINUTES

Brandon France made a motion to approve the November 15, 2011 minutes as presented. Scott Long seconded, motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Financial Report balance is \$1,344,025.22 for period ending December 31, 2011. Scott Long made a motion to approve the financial reports as submitted. Brandon France seconded the motion, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS-None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Updates from Brandon France:

I. Olive Street

- CAT is working on Olive Street.
- This is an old main that needs to be retired, is in heavy rock and has been a problem in that area for some time. And, unfortunately, since that's a rock bed with the ground shifting and what not, that's a bad backfill area for wear and tear on a main, even though its caste iron, eventually it will break and it has.
- That main is probably 1910 era and runs down Olive Street, goes under the track and connects to Grand. That main will be replaced. Chris is working on it and he will be done in six weeks with the tie-in.
- We're waiting on the railroad permit; that will be a new bore with casing underneath the railroad. Right now it doesn't have that, so that's a key piece there- to get that under the railroad.
- Also, it will be upsized; it's a 6 inch now and will be an 8.
- Also replacing two hydrants.
- That work will be in conjunction with Carroll Street and Glenn Avenue (which will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead); we are not in conflict too much but we will be working on those as well. We will be working, hopefully, ahead of them (United Consulting) this time instead of with them. Fortunately, all we have is the side streets, the crossings; we are not in conflict on the main roads so should not be that big of a job for us.
- Our contractor will be CSI. I'm sure he will be paid based on our base pay schedule. It will go quicker since we don't have to bid out the work.
- Two big jobs coming in the spring- the stormwater separation. John gave updates.

2. Updates from John Wonderly (Wastewater Department): Tomorrow (Wednesday, January 18, 2012) @ 3pm is the new wage hearing for those projects. In attendance will be Todd, myself, Brian Hauptert, and a union representative. The hearing is now good for three months so, sometime within those three months we will take the bids for Carroll and Glenn along with anything else we have going on out there. We will start moving on them.

As for other updates, finished the Allen Street debacle where the sewer was collapsing. Finished putting in several feet of new sewer which changed the corner and the way it's laid out. Three inlets were put in and appear to be working well, but not cheap.

OTHER BUSINESS

Scott Long had a question to pass on from a contractor for Street superintendent, Scott Richardson. It was concerning contractors doing sewer cuts and taps (i.e. replacing a sewer line in a residence and having to cut the road). The contractors have been told that if they backfill with limestone and cold patch it during the winter months they are responsible, in the spring, to remove that and replace it with hot surface. Also, there were questions about the amount of money it's going to cost the contractors to complete it and Scott (Long) is asking if it's in conflict with the city ordinance. The city ordinance says your department (street) will do that for \$10 per cubic foot. So, if the city ordinance says that, and we are telling them (the contractors) they have to go back in and do their own repairs, it's conflicting information. Scott Richardson stated he's not read the ordinance but the contractors know they have to maintain the cut for two years, and if it settles, it is their responsibility to repair it. When a contractor signs the street cut permit, they know they have to maintain it. Technically, if a contractor signs one thing and then reads the ordinance and sees that the Street department will do the repair @ \$10 cubic foot, we need to make sure our ordinance reflects what they are signing, so there's not a conflict. The ordinance would have to be updated to increase the fee, but Scott Richardson is not in favor of increasing or even going that route, because if his department has to fix the repairs and charge the contractor, that money does not replace the money being spent by the street department and the time it takes to chase the contractors down. Another question, where does the city's responsibility begin and end because these residents are paying property taxes which the city derives revenue from. Sewer lines are expensive propositions apparently, (never put one in) any type of repair you do on street cuts and we know we want to cover ourselves as a city but what responsibilities do we have to property owners for the taxes they pay. I want to make sure all of our ordinances are up-to-date. We want to make sure if we need to change it that it coincides with the street cut permit as far as maintenance for two years after the repair.

Attorney Lehman read aspects of the ordinance.

1. **Permit.** No person shall excavate or make holes in any street, alley or sidewalk in the city without first obtaining a written permit from the city engineer.
2. **Backfilling hard street and sidewalk surface.** Only the city street department or a person authorized by the board of public works and safety shall backfill and resurface holes and excavations in the hard surfaced portion of any street, alley or sidewalk. Any person who excavates or makes a hole in any of the hard surfaced portions of any street, alley, or sidewalk shall assume all liability for injury to the public caused by the hole or excavation until the time the street department has begun the work of backfilling.
3. **Backfill material.** Every hole or excavation made in the hard surfaced portion of any street or sidewalk shall be backfilled with gravel before resurfacing.
4. **Resurfacing charges.** The board of public works and safety may establish rates for backfilling and resurfacing any hard surfaced portion of any street, alley or sidewalk, subject to the approval of the council. A record of all rates shall be kept on file in the office of the city building inspector and open to public inspection. Every person who excavates or makes holes in any street, alley or a sidewalk shall pay to the City of Wabash a sum of ten dollars (\$10.00) per cubic foot to cover the cost of backfilling and resurfacing any such street, alley or sidewalk. All payments shall be made within ten (10) days after receiving notification of the total amount due.

That was done in 1986. Attorney Lehman said we need to do something about that and change it. The rate was set over 25 years ago.