

SERVICE COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 27, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Chairperson Jan Materni. Committee members present were Jan Materni and Jonathan Smith. Committee member Cory Kuhlman arrived at 5:36 p.m. Also present were Bridgette Kabat, City Administrator, Kate Sandretto, Law Director, and Amber Rathburn, Finance Director.

CITIZENS' CONCERNS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 22, 2021 meeting were approved with no objections.

FALL, STREET, SUBDIVISION CONTRACT TREE PLANTING

Ms. Sandretto stated that we are looking to plant 211 trees, with the majority of them being paid for by the planners of new developments. North Branch Nursery has won the bid for this project. Mr. Smith asked about an Arborist position and if it is contracted out. Administration stated that employees internally have all of the qualifications to handle this and, in fact, Public Service is looking to create an Arborist position. Mr. Smith asked if trees will be going down 25, along with the multiuse path. Ms. Kabat explained that as they design the multiuse path, they will be able to understand the space left in the right away, if there is enough room for trees to thrive. The Committee agreed 3-0 to send this to Council with their recommendation.

2022 BUDGET

Ms. Kabat walked the Committee through the 2022 budget. The repairs and maintenance line includes Rivercrest ball field projects, replacing the partitions in the restrooms at Rivercrest and Municipal parks, Three Meadows Pond erosion control, and running a two inch water line that could possibly be done in house. Mr. Smith brought up the kayak launch at Hood Park regardless if receive the grant or not for it, which Ms. Kabat made a note of. Mr. Kuhlman asked about the Inspector, which Ms. Kabat explained is actually the City's Electrician and Building Maintenance Technician. Mr. Smith asked if when we purchase cleaning supplies, office supplies, etc. are they either locally produced or made in America. Ms. Kabat stated that there is currently no requirement in the codified ordinances or administrative policies for that, but that something could be put into place potentially.

Ms. Materni mentioned that fuel costs effect the Service Committee in many ways from operation of equipment to materials used to repair the roads and hopes that we have enough money set aside in the budget. Ms. Kabat stated that during the budget amendment process and we can evaluate it and allocate more money if needed. Mr. Kuhlman asked is the safety training line item would be absorbed if we hire a Safety Coordinator, which Ms. Kabat confirmed is true. Mr. Kuhlman also asked about maintenance and if they will receive specific training on electric vehicles since they are being added to the fleet. Ms. Kabat said yes and that they also get annual

training. Mr. Kuhlman said it was brought to his attention that the City's public fill station for electric vehicles are much slower than most others, so that might be something to look into, as well as that is something to consider when the City gets electric vehicles and their own stations. Mr. Smith wants to make sure the cars we are purchasing are beneficial to American workers and will be looking closely at that.

Mr. Smith asked about crosswalk indicators and if they are in the budget. Ms. Kabat stated they will be in the amended budget. Ms. Materni asked if there is a regularly scheduled traffic control device replacement that happens automatically. Ms. Kabat said Rob Ross is budgeting two each year for the next several years. Ms. Materni stated it would be a good idea to have solar panels with battery backups, so if electricity goes out, there would be a backup for so many hours for traffic lights to run on. Mr. Kuhlman asked if they could get a breakdown of what gets recycled. The Committee members all agreed it would be great to get quarterly updates on the effectiveness of the recycling program.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Kuhlman asked for an update on the closure of Indiana Avenue. Ms. Kabat said that their contractor is still looking to replace their subcontractor. Mr. Kuhlman asked if there is a way to sign up for emails regarding traffic updates. Ms. Kabat stated that it is not something we have at the moment and that she will bring it up with Engineering, IT, and the new PIO when we hire them.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Materni, Chairperson
Service Committee

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 24, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.