

December 8, 2017

A joint committee meeting of the Water and Sewer, Streets and Alleys Committees of the Village of Arthur, Illinois, was held on Friday, December 8, 2017, in the Village Board Room. Streets and Alleys Chairperson, Matt Bernius, called the meeting to order at 7:00 AM. Roll call was answered by Trustees Matt Bernius, Mike Hilgenberg, Jenni Marner, and Paul Pearce. Others in attendance were Village President Rod Randall, Public Works Supervisor Grant Corum, Terry Clark, and Eli Schrock.

New Business

- Trustee Marner gave an update on the Welcome Center area and noted that the Community Relations and Tourism Committee has a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 20 at 6:00 PM to look at first design concepts from MSA Professional Services. It was also noted that the Village property next to the railroad on the west side of Vine Street still needs to be developed/improved in some way.
- Trustee Bernius led discussion about parking and sidewalks at the 300 Block of South Ash Street near the Arthur Elementary School. He talked about the Village's past grant request to the Safe Routes to School program and that funds may be again available in the future. Improvements to the school's parking and student drop-off areas and the Ash Street sidewalks between the Elementary and High Schools need to be considered.
- There was discussion about a proposed sidewalk ordinance. New ADA rules require a five foot clearance on public sidewalks for handicap accessibility. The proposal could require that downtown merchant signs and merchandise would have to be removed from downtown sidewalks each day when the business closes. Downtown business owner, Eli Schrock, explained that for his type of business, leaving merchandise out on the sidewalk 24/7 is good advertising and generates after hours sales. He estimated that if he had to take his merchandise in and out every day, it would take an hour of time and cost his business sales and the Village would then lose sales tax revenue. M. Bernius commented that part of the proposed ordinance would limit signs by outside vendors on public property rather than to keep downtown business from having signs during business hours. Public Works Supervisor, Grant Corum, will check to see that the Village complies with the five foot clearance requirement by checking the trash containers, planters, and benches on the sidewalks downtown.
- M. Bernius expressed some concern about some water/flooding issues around Glasgow Road and Masterbrands Cabinets. He would like Mike Sullivan of CSI to look at the situation, get some topographical mapping of the area, and work with Grant Corum to continually monitor the area. Possible improvements might be to create a detention pond to slow run-off water from surrounding farm ground.
- M. Bernius also expressed concerns that some provisions in the Village's Collective Bargaining Agreement should be reviewed to assure that employees are in compliance in matters such as wearing proper attire for safety and identification. Grant will look into costs of providing public works employees with some kind of uniform outerwear for the winter. There was discussion that the Arthur Fire Department could easily make identification cards for Village employees.
- There was discussion about utilizing the Lease Purchase Agreement the Village has on the purchase of new equipment. It was decided that the current 1999 model street sweeper is still in good condition, but the 1988 model vacuum truck is in need of replacing. A good used vacuum truck has been located and, when available, the committee will bring a recommendation to the Board for approval to purchase the new truck and sell the old vacuum truck.
- G. Corum presented an update on the progress of the Village's Capital Improvement Plan. He noted that personnel from the Farnsworth Group have been in town preparing for the sewer lining part of the CIP. The project of making a section of the sewer plant explosion-proof has been delayed in trying to find a way to allow for the removal of the "rake" if/when necessary, which would require being lifted through the roof of the building. Work that needs to be done at the water plant and chemical room can be done internally. Public works employees have had to frequently repair holes in air lines at the waste water plant so that area needs to be moved up as a CIP's priority. New air blowers in the plant can save as much as \$1500 monthly in electricity if replaced.

- G. Corum also talked about future public works projects including: replacing more signs and posts throughout the community, cutting down and leveling boulevards that have gotten too high, looping water mains to help keep the Village's drinking water fresher, replacing fire hydrants that are not functioning well, discussing drainage options and improvements on Ash Street with Mike Sullivan, working on drainage issues behind Arthur Country's Inn, and looking into improving the drainage ditch on Route 133 at Morningside Addition which is steep and difficult to maintain.

General Discussion - None

Adjourn

J. Marner made a motion to adjourn. M. Hilgenberg seconded. All members voted YEA. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 AM.

APPROVED



Committee Chairperson

ATTEST



Village President

DATE

12-18-17