

Minutes  
Public Works Committee  
March 25, 2014

The City of Algoma Public Works Committee met on Tuesday, March 25, 2014 at City Hall. Chairman Beyer called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

Roll Call:

Members present: Jan Dart, Dave Meyer, Lee Dachelet, Kelly Koss, Hans Nell, and Roy Beyer.

Members absent:

Also present: Mark Lentz, Administrator Jeff Wiswell, Dick Riederer, Troy Seidl, and Jeff Hoffman

Chairman Beyer noted that the meeting was held in compliance with the open meeting law.

**Moved by Nell, seconded by Dachelet to approve the Agenda. The motion carried.**

**Moved by Meyer, seconded by Dart to approve the February 25, 2014 meeting Minutes. The motion carried.**

**Public Comment:** Chairman Beyer welcomed Mr. Jeff Hoffman from United Water to our meeting.

**Presentation and Approval of Bills:** Mark presented the bills. **Moved by Dart, seconded by Meyer to approve the bills. The motion carried.**

***Report on Wastewater Treatment Plant - United Water***

The report was delivered by Troy Seidl.

- Digester Gas Compressor 1 failed. Several troubleshooting steps were attempted to return it into service. Testing included all three pressure switches, removal and cleaning of pressure tubing, and cleaning and inspection of the gas/water separator. The problem was that the shaft from the motor had broken and was no longer driving the compressor. Both the motor and gas compressor were brought to Vacuum Pump and Compressor for assessment. The shaft had shorn off and the compressor was out of tolerance. The compressor unit needs to be replaced or rebuilt and the motor will need to be sent out for machining.

- Digester Gas Compressor 2 failed. (There are only two in our system). The water line providing the water seal to the compressor needed to be plumbed in a different way. Gas Compressor 2 has been problematic for some time and it was determined that the initial installation of the water pressure sensor was in the wrong location. After the plumbing

was switched around, the unit started and has been running without any failures. The plumbing for gas Compressor 1 has also been changed to reflect the manufactures drawings.

- Oil appeared in the influent flow in a volume large enough to cover the surface of both Primary Clarifiers. The source of the oil has not been determined. Most of the oil was captured in the Primary Scum Pit but there was some that had worked its way through to the Aeration Basins and Final Clarifiers. Only a small amount made it to the Filter system where it was removed. None of the oil made it through the facility to the receiving waters. There were no ill effects to the treatment process although much work was required to keep the Primary Scum Beaches open. The captured oil can be processed in small volumes by digestion.

- The Channel Monster (Sewage Grinder) was making some loud noises and was turned off until it could be inspected. Inspection showed the blades on one half of the unit had fallen and the shaft had been badly worn. We are obtaining pricing for the repair or replacement of the unit as it is a necessary part of the process to protect the pumps downstream from plugging up with rags and debris.

- The cold weather affected the WWTF. The roof drain system had frozen in the ground where it exits the facility to the sewer system. Warmer temperatures caused thawing of snow that filled the roof drain lines throughout the facility and began to leak at several joints. Water was running from the insulated pipes in five or six locations inside the Control Building. We used the city's Pressure Washer/Jetter to steam the drain line open.

***Public Works Director's Report:*** Mark presented this report.

- The majority of the work by the Street Department has been opening drains and catch basins as well as flushing sewer mains.

### ***Old Business***

- **Sunset Ave. Construction Project:** The Committee reviewed and discussed the alternatives of the Sunset Ave. Construction Project.

**Moved by Dart, seconded by Dachelet to recommend to the Council that the Sunset Ave. Construction Project be postponed for 2014 and revisited as a project for 2015. The motion carried.**

### ***New Business***

- Sewer Credit Requests - One sewer credit request for \$ 63.58. **Moved by Koss, seconded by Nell to grant the sewer credit request. The motion carried.**

- ADA Parking Stalls - Algoma Elementary School. This seems to be solved for the time being.

- 2015 WWTP rate analysis - The Committee was once again made aware of the rate analysis done last year and that we will need to bring a sewer rate recommendation to the Council at budget time.

**Moved by Nell, seconded by Dart to convene into Closed Session: Pursuant to**

**Wisconsin statute 19.85 (1) (c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility and relating to candidates for the position of Public Works Director. Roll Call Vote 6 yes 0 no.**

**Moved by Koss, seconded by Dart to reconvene into open session. Roll call vote: 6 yes 0 no.**

The next meeting of the Public Works Committee will be on April 29, 2014 at 5:30 pm at City Hall.

**Moved by Nell, seconded by Dart to adjourn. The motion carried.**  
The Public Works Committee adjourned at 6:57 pm.