

MARCH 21, 2016 PROPERTY AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE COMBINED MEETING MINUTES
3 p.m. Council Chamber. Members present: A. Hraban, M. Hraban, B. Morgan. Others present: A. Christianson, K. Gorsegrner, L. Gotham, A. Kenyon, D. Parker, M. Reynolds.

Call to Order:

Mike Hraban called the Property Committee to order and Al Hraban called the Public Works Committee to order.

Tour:

Those present traveled to a handful of locations to view conditions, as follows.

Ranger Station

The concrete block garage houses a good deal of equipment and other items that are not used. In some cases it isn't even clear who items belong to. If such items can be moved out or sold three stalls might be gained. It was generally agreed that a proposal should be secured to repaint at least the block garage and the steel storage building as the City can't expect residents to keep up their property if the City itself does not do so. Whether or not to save the former office is less certain in part because it isn't handicap accessible. The garage portion is used to store former children's museum displays.

Library

The area where water ponds was viewed again in consideration of possibly just piping it over the bank and diffusing it into a rip rap catch area from which it would follow a grassy swale to the lake. There was also discussion of removing vegetation such as sumac trees from near the south end of W. 4th St. to create views of the Lake.

Dilapidated House

A seriously dilapidated house along C.T.H.J near the city limits was viewed. Adjacent owners R. and G. Kostick have asked that it be removed as it is, at the very least, an eyesore. Atty. Kenyon will be asked to begin paperwork necessary to raze it.

Old Smoky

Those present viewed what will need to be done to prepare Old Smoky for repainting this summer. Ernie Mogenson may be able to redo the cab window that needs attention.

Folks returned to City Hall at 4:24 p.m.

City Hall Security:

There was discussion of potential security improvements at City Hall. One option might involve using the present Clerk's office as a visitor waiting area, which could be accomplished in part by installing a door into it from the entry airlock area. From there approved visitors could be buzzed in to see who it is they desire to. The cameras installed a few years back have served to calm some visitors. It was noted that discontinuance of an entry carpet service as a budget saving measure has resulted in premature failure of the carpeting. On the other hand it would make more sense to install commercial grade tile [original still underlies carpet] in halls or other high traffic locations.

PW Equipment:

Pickup

It was agreed that a new pickup should be ordered with a lift gate, a plow package and that a plow should be purchased to go with it.

Snow Blower

Fair Mfg. will be bringing a new demo here for viewing as their current model has improvements over the decade old model that was viewed at Phillips a few weeks ago.

Salt Box

Whether a new salt box is purchased from Lake States or Monroe Truck Equipment, either will remove the current packer unit and tag axle from our old trash packer chassis and sell or otherwise get rid of them as part of the arrangement to mount the new salt box. The funding for this was carried forward from the 2015 budget.

Steamer

The City's steamer is another 20 year old piece of equipment that should be considered for replacement. It is critical this time of year when it is all the City has to thaw out frozen catch basins and so on.

Military Mural:

One vendor has quoted \$4,603 for light fixtures for the military mural. A check of some other locales has found that other communities don't light them. It may be that just providing security lighting in the nearby alley is enough.

Rail Yard:

With uncertainty over what CN will include in its proposed rail yard at Sheldon, a question was raised whether it makes sense to put any money into the current local yard north of Pederson Ave. Mr. Christianson will try to establish contact with CN to learn the answer. That CN itself won't spend any money on the north yard here remains a concern.

Street Work:

Asst. DPW Parker has prepared a preliminary cost estimate suggesting it may cost \$21,000 to resurface that portion of High School Drive lying just north of the main parking lot, which section is by far the worst of that road.

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m. in deference to the All Committee meeting scheduled at that time. This didn't allow much discussion of 2016 roadwork planning.