

CITY OF PALOS HEIGHTS



WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE Meeting Minutes June 26, 2018

Chairman Bylut called to order the regular meeting of the Water and Sewer Committee at 6:18 p.m. in the Palos Heights Administration Building, 7607 W. College Drive, Palos Heights, IL.

Present were Chairman Bylut, Alderman McGrogan, Public Works Director Scott Smith, Karl Schramm, Bob Murphy, and Recording Secretary Pat Sheppard. Alderman Fulkerson and Alderman Basso arrived late. Also present were representatives from RJN Group.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Bylut moved to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2018 meeting, seconded by Alderman McGrogan. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Director's Report: Scott Smith

- Water Main Repairs. A contractor was brought in to replace approximately 40 feet of pipe on Elm Court (in Palos Pines) that was in poor repair.
- Manhole Rehabilitation Project. Scott noted that RJN Group oversaw this project and Kim Construction was the contractor. Based on RJN's recommendation, Scott requested approval of a payout of \$79,935.75 for work completed and in compliance with the plans and specifications. He noted a 10% retainage was being held. Alderman McGrogan moved to approve payment to Kim Construction in the amount of \$79,935.75 for work completed on the Manhole Rehabilitation Project, seconded by Chairman Bylut. On a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried. **AGENDA**
- Rt. 83/127th Street Watermain Project. Scott reported the project was on track to go out for bid this fall, but work would probably not commence until 2019. He noted upon the awarding of the contract bid, the City would have to pay the state 50% of their contribution. He also noted that the Village of Alsip would be the clearinghouse for the payments on this project. Alderman McGrogan suggested having the City Attorney look into a tri-party agreement for that.
- Westgate South Lift Station. In the past there had been problems at this lift station with clogging pumps. One of the pumps had been replaced with a new grinder pump which was working good. Scott said they were going to replace the other pump as well.
- Plat Approval for Spectrum Utilities. Scott stated the City Attorney and Spectrum's attorneys had reviewed an agreement to cover the maintenance/repair costs of the watermain off of the right-of-way. Scott requested approval of the plat. Chairman Bylut moved to approve the Plat for the Spectrum Utilities, seconded by Alderman McGrogan. On a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried. **AGENDA**
- 127th Street Watermain Improvement Project. Scott informed the committee that the contractor, Airy's Inc., had recently completed the landscape restoration of the area where the watermain improvements were made along 127th Street. He requested approval of a payment in the amount of \$47,220.55, noting retainage was being held.

Chairman Bylut moved to approve payment to Airy's Inc. in the amount of \$47,220.55 for work completed on the 127th Street Watermain Improvement Project, seconded by Alderman McGrogan. On a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried. **AGENDA**

Sanitary Sewer System Presentation

Scott explained to the committee that RJN Group had been working on the Sanitary Sewer Project for the past couple of years to bring the City in compliance with MWRD's new regulations. He noted this was a long-term capital project that would have to be budgeted for. Scott introduced the Project Manager Joe Sullivan and David Elgren, both with RJN.

Mr. Sullivan informed the committee that the presentation (attached) was a status update of the Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Program. In 2014, The City of Palos Heights hired RJN Group to provide assistance in developing and implementing a City-wide comprehensive sanitary sewer system evaluation and repair program that incorporated mandates and requirements outlined in Article 8 of MWRD's Watershed Management Ordinance. The City of Palos Heights had approximately 61 miles of sanitary sewer mains, 1,260 manholes, 9 lift stations, 21,500 linear feet of sanitary forcemain, and 4,790 residential and business services.

Mr. Sullivan explained that back in the 1980's, municipalities were mandated to comply with MWRD's ICAP-1 (Infiltration/Inflow Corrective Action Program), but sewers age and deteriorate over time. The USEPA conducted a Special Condition Assessment of the NPDES Permits that required MWRD to put together a program for the satellite separate sewer communities requiring them to follow suit with other regulatory programs which included looking at the sewer capacities, management and operation of the system, and reduction of inflow. In the first 5 years of the program, communities were required to investigate and repair 10% of their system.

In 2015, an MWRD priority basin in Palos Heights was selected and mapped out with the assistance of Scott Smith; high risk sewers were identified at 122nd & Harlem and 131st & Ridgeland; critical lift stations were determined at Menominee and 70th Avenue; capacity issues were identified along 127th Street. The area (priority basin) included 14% of the system. All of the required reporting to MWRD was completed in 2015 for compliance.

In 2016 and 2017, the City invested in six (6) flow meters, four (4) of which covered 60% of the City's sewers; strategic flow monitoring was done at 127th and Austin; hydraulic modeling was done on Rt. 83 and at 127th & Austin; 23,200 linear feet of sewers were cleaned and televised; the TV data was reviewed; a manhole inspection and rehabilitation bid package was prepared for Rt. 83 and a portion of the high risk area; the Menominee and 70th Avenue lift stations were inspected and assessed. Included in the presentation were detailed maps of the area showing where the flow meters, rain gages, sewer mains and lines, manholes, etc. were located which Mr. Sullivan explained.

David Elgran explained the next portion of the presentation which detailed the results of the analysis of the flow monitoring and hydraulic modeling in graph form. He explained during a heavy rainfall, the system saw a lot of surcharging in some areas and overflows (water coming out of the grounds). There were five (5) general strategies that could be used for wet-weather problems: 1.) Flow Reduction – rehabilitate the system, 2.) Capacity Increase – pipes, pumps, forcemains, WWTP, etc., 3.) Storage – above or underground storage tanks, 4.) Diversion – move it to another spot, and 5.) Operational – cleaning, change pump set levels, etc. Mr. Elgren did not feel the first two strategies would be work for Palos Heights. He said the goal of the program

was not only to comply with MWRD requirements but to help alleviate overflows. Their hydraulic modeling recommendations were: 1.) College Drive – keep the sewer line clear with TV and jetting, flow reduction, 2 million gallons of storage, and 2.) 127th Street – reduce some back pitch sewers, plug existing overflows into Menominee Basin, replace pumps at 70th Avenue, and flow reduction.

Mr. Sullivan added they had started to identify repairs that would be part of a capital improvement program. Based on the TV review they had done, they identified five (5) point repairs, two (2) locations for spot liners, 4,600 linear feet of priority lining, and 128 mainline grouts, all of which were in the public sector. In the private sector they had identified 28 service connection t-liners and 68 service grouts to reduce infiltration.

In connection with the Manhole Rehabilitation Project, Mr. Sullivan referred to the map which showed the location of all the manholes in the City. The manholes marked in red had been inspected and the City was working with the contractor on the repairs.

The findings of the Menominee and 70th Avenue lift stations investigations were that when drawdowns were conducted there was low flow rates at each station. It was recommended to replace the impellers. Recent updates at the lift stations included the installation of a bypass pump/valve vault at 70th Avenue.

Moving forward to complete the five-year short-term program, work for 2018 and 2019 included 45,632 linear feet of non-toxic smoke testing, 166 manhole inspections, dyed water setups, 44,100 linear feet of CCTV and review, and fix high priority deficiencies. Mr. Sullivan noted that part of the short-term program included setting up a private sector program by July 1, 2019. This program would include reviewing and updating the current ordinance, develop a 50/50 cost share program, adopt a closing ordinance, and develop a procedure to trigger inspection and compliance when homeowners apply for an addition or demolition permit. “Easy fix” items of the program included replacing cleanout caps and disconnect downspouts. Other possible options were Community Block Grant Program (CDBG) funding for qualified homeowners; consideration of conducting a Pilot Building Inspection Program and/or a Pilot Lateral Televising Program. There was some discussion regarding the benefit of this program for homeowners.

The final step in the short-term program was developing a long-term O&M program by July of 2019 and implemented by 2020. This program should include: MWRD IICP compliance reporting; development of a long-term CIP; continue flow monitoring; and cleaning, televising, inspecting and rehabbing a minimum of 2% of the system per year.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Chairman Bylut moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman McGrogan.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Sheppard
Recording Secretary