



City of West Allis

Meeting Minutes

Public Works Committee

Aldersperson Gary T. Barczak, Chair

Aldersperson Vincent Vitale, Vice-Chair

Alderspersons: Thomas G. Lajsic, Cathleen M. Probst, Rosalie L. Reinke

Tuesday, November 7, 2017

8:00 PM

City Hall Room 118 (Mayor's conference room)

SPECIAL RECESS MEETING

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Barczak called the meeting to order.

B. ROLL CALL

Present 5 - Ald. Barczak, Ald. Vitale, Ald. Lajsic, Ald. Probst, and Ald. Reinke

C. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. [2017-0700](#) Discussion regarding Communications from City Administrator requesting approval to fill the vacant positions of Electrician, Equipment Mechanic, Lead Inventory Services Specialist, Maintenance Repairer-Street and Sewer (2), and Truck Driver (3).

This matter was Discussed.

2. [2017-0701](#) Discussion and direction regarding the use of City Staff or Contractors for Electrical Work.

The Director of Public Works/City Engineer and Alderman Tom Lajsic explained this item to the Board of Public Works and Administration and Finance Committee. Currently, the City replaces street/alley lighting and traffic controls with in-house staff. The question is if the City wants to contract out this work in the future. In order to do so, the City would need to contract with a consulting electrical engineer or hire an electrical engineer in order to get plans in a "biddable" form. If an electrical engineer was hired, part of the duties would be to supervise the electrical division at the Public Works Yard. The Director of Public Works/City Engineer cautioned that he had no estimates at this time if contracting out the work would be cost effective or not. Only after trying it for a while could actual costs be examined and compared with estimated in-house costs. Alderman Lajsic pointed out that with the City having some problems hiring electricians there could be an advantage for contracting out and some of the costs related to hiring an electrical engineer would be offset with not filling positions in the Electrical Division.

After a general discussion, there was unanimous consensus to contract out street/alley lighting, traffic controls and other related work. The Director of Public Works/City Engineer informed the group that the next step would be to hire a consulting electrical engineer for work planned in 2018 and the necessary information for hiring an electrical engineer would be forth coming when available. This plan was also agreed to.

This matter was Discussed.

3. [2017-0703](#) Request to appoint an Interim Public Works Director and a City Engineer.

This matter was Discussed.

D. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m.