

UTILITY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, September 6, 2022
6:00pm

PRESENT: Members Turchi, Carroll, Hegy

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Utilities Brian Rhodes, Sewer Utility Director Dave Piquett

Call to Order – Alderperson Turchi called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers of Hartford City Hall, 109 North Main Street.

Public Comment Period – None.

Update on Electric Service Interruptions and Water Main Breaks – Director of Utilities Brian Rhodes provided an update on the following:

1. On July 6 there was an outage on the 1000 block of W Sumner Street. A contractor dug into the primary cables which caused the outage. The line crew repaired the damage and restored power. 3 customers were affected.
2. On July 11 there was an outage at the intersection of S Main Street and Kossuth Street. There was a cutout in the intersection that broke and caused the outage. The cutout was repaired and power was restored. 4 customers were affected.
3. On July 23 there was an outage at the intersection of Rogers Street and Washington Street. A tree fell which caused the line fuses to fail. There was weather in the area which caused the tree to fall. This outage affected about 100 customers.
4. On July 31 there was an outage at the intersection of Misty Meadows Boulevard and E Loos Street. A red-tailed hawk made contact with the power lines which caused the outage. This outage affected about 200 customers.
5. On August 3 there was an outage at the intersection of Airport Drive and Cleveland Avenue. A switch gear failed which caused the outage. The line crew was able to isolate and repair the switch gear and restored power. This outage affected about 150 customers.
6. On August 6 there was an outage in the parking lot behind the Mineshaft. The Utility Department was notified of a service wire that was arcing in the parking lot. In order to repair the service wire, it had to be de-energized, which also cut power to the Mineshaft and Bank Shot area. The outage lasted about 30 minutes and affected a total of 30 customers, including the Mineshaft and Bank Shot.
7. On June 6 there was an outage in the Village of Slinger on Kettle Moraine Drive. A termination site of a transformer had failed. The line crew repaired the termination site and restored power. The outage affected 50 customers.
8. On July 5 there was an outage in the Village of Slinger on Highway 175. An old switch gear failed which caused the outage. This outage affected about half of the village. The repair was completed right away.
9. On August 2 there was a water main break in the 700 block of South Main Street. This was a 6-inch water main and it was repaired the same day. About 15 customers were affected.
10. On August 31 there was a water main break at the intersection of Harrison Street and Troeller Court as a result of the road construction going on there. This was also a 6-inch water main and was repaired the same evening.

Discussion and consideration of purchasing 100 utility poles from the Bell Lumber and Pole Company at a cost not to exceed \$80,485.80 – Director Rhodes explained that 2 projects in this year's CIP, East Lincoln

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Avenue and Summit Street, will require about 45 poles to be replaced. The pole inventory has been depleted over the last year or two due to other projects, so the purchasing of 100 utility poles would be to fulfil the needs of the 2 CIP projects and then to also replenish the inventory. Utility poles are competitively bid through WPPI's joint purchasing program and Bell Lumber and Pole Company was awarded the contract for 2022.

MOTION by Alderperson Carroll, seconded by Alderperson Hegy approving the purchase of 100 utility poles from the Bell Lumber and Pole Company at a cost not to exceed \$80,485.80.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Presentation of Utilities 2023 – 2027 Capital Improvement Program projects –

Director Rhodes explained that Hartford Electric budgets around 1 million dollars for capital projects. He also explained that the revenue bonds will be paid off by the end of 2024, which will in turn free up some capital that the department can work with.

2023 projects for Hartford Electric:

- Bucket truck replacement, this will be replacing a truck that is 20 years old
- Electric instructure for TID 12, which may or may not go through, this involves HADC land
- LED streetlight replacement, which is an ongoing program
- West Rogers and West Washington rebuild project, which is broken down into two projects, based on the size of the project
- Shop and warehouse HVAC replacement, this project is being completed this year so that the roof can be replaced the following year
- Monroe substation breaker replacement, this is replacing breakers that are 30+ years old

2024 projects for Hartford Electric:

- Voltage conversion upgrade on Highway U, Western Drive and decommission airport substation have been merged into one project for 2024; this is due to time constraints in previous years and part availability due to supply chain issues
- Bucket truck replacement
- All of the other projects in 2024 are rebuild projects and ongoing projects from previous years

Director Rhodes explained that 2025-2027 projects are either overhead or underground re-conductoring projects, except for a digger truck replacement in 2027 and a pickup truck replacement in 2026.

Alderperson Hegy asked what the reason was for holding projects over that were previously approved. Director Rhodes explained that it was due to workload and part availability. There may have been other work projects that came up in previous years that took priority so then other projects were held over. There were also issues with obtaining parts for some of the previous projects.

Director Rhodes explained that Hartford Water budgets around \$650,000 for capital projects.

2023 projects for Hartford Water:

- Well rehab program, this is an ongoing program
- South Main Street watermain replacement
- Water meter replacement program, this is an ongoing program
- TID 12 project
- Shop and warehouse HVAC replacement, shared with Hartford Electric
- Mobile well house generator for Well #10

2024 projects for Hartford Water:

- West Rossman watermain replacement

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- Utility building roof replacement, shared with Hartford Electric

Director Rhodes explained that after 2024, most of the projects are watermain relay projects, but the cost increases after 2024. This is due to the size of projects increasing.

Director Piquett explained the Sewer Utility operational budget pretty much remained the same. He then explained the CIP projects for the Sewer Utility.

2023 projects for Sewer Utility:

- Replace UV disinfection system, the current system is 25 years old and the manufacturer no longer supports the current version

2024 projects for Sewer Utility:

- Final clarifier rehab, the current system is 25 years old and the inner workings of the clarifier need maintenance

2027 projects for Sewer Utility:

- Aeration basin rehab, this is basically replacing everything except the concrete of the aeration basin

Update on the request from the Village of Iron Ridge Sanitary District to the City of Hartford to provide treatment of their wastewater – Director Piquett explained that about a year ago, the Village of Iron Ridge had approached the city about bringing their wastewater to the city to be treated. At that time, Iron Ridge was still evaluating all options but was advised to contact the city if they decided bringing their wastewater to the city was what they wanted to do. Iron Ridge has since decided that they would like to bring their wastewater to the city. A preliminary meeting was held, and both municipalities decided they needed more information from the consulting engineers, Ruckert & Mielke, before anything moves forward. Director Piquett pointed out that Iron Ridge’s daily flow is small enough that it would not have a significant impact on current or future capacity, and all costs associated with this option would be absorbed by Iron Ridge.

Adjournment – MOTION by Alderperson Hegy, seconded by Alderperson Carroll for adjournment at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Hetzel, City Clerk

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