

St. Louis, Michigan
January 13, 2021

The Goal Setting Meeting of the Saint Louis City Council was called to order by Mayor James Kelly on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom. Public participation was made available by Zoom or call-in.

Council Members Present: Via Zoom Mayor James C. Kelly, Roger L. Collison, George T. Kubin, William R. Leonard, Thomas L. Reed (all members participated from within the City of St. Louis).

Council Members Absent: None

City Manager: Kurt Giles
Deputy Clerk: Bobbie Marr
Police Chief: Richard Ramereiz

Others in Attendance Via Zoom:

Keith Risdon – Public Services Director, Mark Abbott – Public Works Superintendent, Mike Parsons – Electric Foreman, Jessica Little – Library Director, Phil Hansen – DDA Director, Ralph Echtinaw – St. Louis Sentinel

The following items were discussed:

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NEW BUSINESSES & IMPROVEMENTS DOWNTOWN

4Seasons Gym & Tanning, St. Louis Optics, Flegel Tech Repair/Mom & Dad's, Main Street Pizza, Uptown Treasures, Commercial Bank, Gemini Apartment Project, Rhonda Clark building, River Rock, TCF National Bank, The Razors Edge, The Snack Guys Room 132 Gifts, LINK Learning Center, Hair We 'R Salon, The Crafty Pare, New To You

DOWNTOWN WI-FI INSTALLED

CLARK STATION GRANT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT EXTENDED

USDA GRANT FOR FARMERS MARKET FACILITY STUDY EXTENDED

REPLACEMENT OF MULCH IN DOWNTOWN BEDS WITH STONE

TREE REMOVAL ON M-46 ENHANCEMENT AREA

NEW PENNY PARK PLAYSCAPE

POOL HOUSE PROJECT COMPLETED – INTERIOR

LEPPIEN PARK PAVILION – wood striped and wood preservative applied

STREET PAVING PROJECTS – Michigan Avenue, Devon, Westgate, Olive Road, Hubbard,

PHASE II OF INSITUTHERMAL PROJECT UNDERWAY

MAPLE STREET PROJECT COMPLETED – \$1.25 MILLION

PINE STREET WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT – \$420,000

NEW BUCKET TRUCK PURCHASED

CITY WEBSITE REVISION

DIAL-A-RIDE – MILLAGE PASSED

M-46 MILL & ASPHALT OVERLAY COMPLETED – Hidden Oaks Drive to US-127 overpass

ST. LOUIS GARDEN CLUB FLOWER PROGRAM IN PLACE

PARKS & RECREATION

LEPPIEN PARK PAVILION ELECTRICITY

PENNY PARK safety surface

CLAPP PARK play equipment

BASKETBALL COURTS – Lincoln Park, School Tennis Courts

Additional HS Baseball Field

County Parks Millage PASSED

SALE OF CITY PROPERTIES

Future uses of Lentz Farm

Land north of Carrie Knause school

INDUSTRIAL PARK – expansions and available properties

Plasti-Paint – paint storage addition and loading dock

Jer-Den – zoning approval for expansion

Apex Marine – potential expansion

MARLOO EQUIPMENT – purchased Crippen building

BUILDING INSPECTOR SUCCESSION PLAN

AIRPORT – plans for County to operate

UPDATE ZONING ORDINANCE

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

LIBRARY REPORT

QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW

SOLAR ENERGY

CITY SIGNS

Electronic Message

Welcome Signs at City Limits and at Downtown entrance

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION(S)

APPLICATION FOR GREAT GRANT ROUND TWO

OTHER GRATIOT COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT APPLICATION

ONGOING/FUTURE ITEMS

UTILITIES

UPDATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

ST. LOUIS WATER SUPPLY REPLACEMENT – 4th Production Well
DEVELOPMENT UNDERWAY – completion scheduled for 2021

WATER SYSTEM

Other water main replacements – Prospect, Hebron, Berea, Tamarack, M-46

Fire hydrants painted – ongoing rotation

Orchard Hills area Water Main Extension (Superfund-related)

Lead (Pb) Service Line Elimination

WASTEWATER

State Revolving Fund (SRF) Project – Phase II – wastewater collection – athletic fields,
etc.

I & I Reduction Implementation ongoing

Possible lining projects

Berea Street sewer reconstruct

Michigan Avenue pump station replacement

Devon Street metering station upgrades

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

NEXT VELSICOL INSITUTHERMAL PROJECTS – PHASE II/BURN PIT

LED light replacement on Victorian poles

ADD Victorian poles on M-46 from Clinton to East Street

SANDBLAST AND REPAINT BASES OF M-46 LAMP POSTS

Spillway Gate rehabilitation

2400/4160V distribution conversion and new 12, 470V circuit
New Prospect Street Circuit – Burn Pit
Update Distribution System Study
Remote Disconnect Meters
Outage Management System
Purchase Back Yard Pole/Bucket Machine
Building painted to match New City Hall
Buy new Christmas decorations annually
Shoreline Protection Program – possibly use as grant matching funds
Screen trees and/or new fencing around North Mill Street substation

ONGOING/FUTURE ITEMS

UTILITIES (CONTINUED)

STREETS/BRIDGES/TRANSPORTATION

Main Street Bridge replacement or rehabilitation
Possible coordination with Small Urban and/or SRF Phase II
Small Urban funded project – 2021
State Street between Michigan & Main Streets
NEXT Small Urban funded project
North Main Street from M-46 to Center Street
Other Local/Major Streets resurfacing
East Saginaw, North Union, North Main, Whitney
Prospect Street between Corinth and Hebron reconstruction
Water Main being designed
Hebron between Prospect and Olive reconstruction
ESTABLISH TRUCK ROUTE THROUGH DOWNTOWN

REPAIR 100 BLOCK OF SOUTH MAIN STREET (BR-127)
2016 work did not include this area – M-46 to RR tracks

PUBLIC SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORT (ATTACHED)

DOWNTOWN

REPAIRS/RENOVATIONS OF M-46 ENHANCEMENT GRANT AREA

BLIGHT, ZONING ISSUES and VACANT BUILDINGS

MOTOR POOL

PURCHASE BACK YARD/POLE BUCKET MACHINE

OTHER FLEET REPLACEMENTS

St. Louis Police Department

SAFETY & SECURITY:

- Identify all city property that is not "open to the public" and post as "private property – no trespassing" or similar signage.
 - o Goal/Purpose
 - Notify any person(s) that the property/building is not open to the public and "non-authorized" personnel should not enter the property.
 - A misconception that city property is "public property" and the public can enter the property as they please.
 - We have had a few instances over the years of people being "curious" and entering areas of our utility departments or the surrounding area of our utility departments. Some have stated that "nothing said it's private" or "there is no sign saying I cannot enter."
 - Homeland Security would consider certain areas of high-value targets for damage or domestic terrorism. These same areas are critical infrastructure for the City of St. Louis and Surrounding areas and should be protected/guarded.
 - Electric Department
 - Water Department
 - Wastewater Treatment
- Install security camera monitoring at our utility departments and locations of high value
 - o Goal/Purpose
 - The public works complex, dam, and electric department are critical to our infrastructure. Property and equipment of high value are kept on premises.
 - These could be targets for vandalism, theft, or destruction.
 - These locations are not always manned and could be easily targeted.
 - Cameras may not stop a criminal but would deter most.
 - Cameras could capture valuable information/evidence.

SIGNAGE:

- Check for properly posted signage around the City of St. Louis
 - o i.e. "No parking 2 am-6 am" at all entrances to the City of St. Louis
 - o i.e. properly marked and posted handicap parking spaces in public parking areas
 - o i.e. check for trees/shrubs/vegetation blocking road signs or obstructing the view of road signs or intersections.
- Have the area in front of the police garage striped and posted as "no parking."

POLICE ADMINISTRATION:

- Accreditation – start the process of getting the St. Louis Police Department "Accredited"
 - o Accreditation status represents a significant professional achievement.
 - Accreditation acknowledges the implementation of written directives, policies, and procedures that are conceptually sound and operationally effective.
 - o Accreditation is a progressive and time-proven way of helping law enforcement agencies calculate and improve their overall performances.
 - The foundation of Accreditation lies in the voluntary adoption of standards containing a clear statement of professional objectives.
 - o Federal Funding will soon be available only to or limited to law enforcement agencies that are "accredited" or certified to have policies in place that meet specific standards.
- Uniform Update
 - o Test and Evaluate a uniform consisting of an external vest with the ability to remove specific equipment from the duty belt and mount the equipment to the external vest.
 - There are many documented incidents of law enforcement officers who suffer from back/hip issues due to the weight of a duty belt that is worn around the hips. This has led to many law enforcement officers who now suffer from back pain and discomfort.
 - There are several practical advantages that a police officer will immediately notice when wearing an external vest carrier.
 - The first advantage is comfort. Because the vest is worn outside of the uniform, it becomes easier to adjust throughout an officer's tour of duty.
 - Officers who work in areas that become particularly hot will be able to remove the vest to provide relief as well (this would only be done in safe, secure areas).
 - Officers will be able to lighten the load of their duty belts. An external vest carrier would allow equipment that would normally be attached to the duty belt to be mounted to the external vest. Only specific equipment would be allowed to be mounted to the external vest. I still want a professional appearance and not a "tactical" appearance.
 - Though these individual items may only weigh a few pounds each, any officer working on the street can testify to the tremendous amount of relief provided by taking a few pounds off his or her waist.
 - Additionally, smaller framed officers may not have room on their duty belts for all of the equipment their departments allow them to carry. An external vest would allow an officer to carry mandatory equipment they may not have room for on their duty belt, life saving equipment, or spare equipment.

**POLICE
VEHICLES:**

- Replace police radios
 - o This will be a long-term project. Our current police radios (car/handheld/base radio) are over 10 years old.
 - o Soon our police radios will not meet expected technology requirements. We are expecting mandatory federal changes that will require encrypted radio capabilities for public safety. Our radios cannot be encrypted.
 - o Our police radios have already exceeded the "end of support" date from the manufacturer. We will eventually reach a point where our radios will not be repairable if they break. The manufacturer is no longer manufacturing parts for our radios.
- Patrol Cars
 - o Our current fleet consists of two (2)- 2020 Ford Explorers and one (1)-2016 Dodge Charger as patrol vehicles used daily. We also have one (1) –2014 Dodge Charger that is used as an administrative vehicle and not for daily patrol purposes.
 - o Our newer explorers have low mileage on them. The 2016 charger is reaching the end of life for patrol purposes and will need to be replaced soon.

Library:

Recent Accomplishments:

Applied for and received a CARES grant for the purchase of three laptops and four hotspots to increase digital inclusiveness.

Remodeled the public restrooms: new flooring, new sink hardware, fresh paint

Painted the foyer to the library, opting for a fresh, clean and simpler look.

Updated our public access network so patrons can now sign themselves on to a computer, which reduces face-to-face interactions, decreases wait time for patrons, and increases staff availability for other activities.

Enabled printing from devices (smart phones & tablets) on our public access network. Rearranged the library to be in compliance with social distancing mandates.

Added curbside service for patrons.

Replaced the roof on and made necessary repairs to the gazebo.

Hired the St. Louis High School wood shop class to build two end tables and a coffee table to complement the armchairs purchased last year.

Reorganized the adult and juvenile fiction collections in the library, which involved handling and moving approximately 9,000 books. The project made both collections more user friendly and freed up needed space.

Made necessary repairs to window trim and siding on the building.

Future Projects:

Paint the interior of the library.

Finish the meeting room and reading room projects (we halted progress on these projects due to social distancing mandates).

Replace two now 20-year-old printers and 12-year-old photocopier with one more efficient printer/copier that can serve the needs of both public and staff.

Replace the library's roadside sign.

Increase our digital/remote access services.

Utilities:

Project:

1. *Finish construction of Maple Street Project by June 30, 2020 - Spicer*
2. *Finalize West State Street Paving plan and proceed with MOOT Bid in **SPRING 2021**. Begin construction of project in Spring 2021. Includes R.R. x-ing with water main, minor sanitary sewer repairs, new asphalt pavement, concrete curb and gutters and sidewalks.*
3. *Replace old 4" and 6" water mains on West Prospect and Hebron streets. Replace two sanitary sewer problems and replace approximately 50 feet of sewer on Teman north of Prospect. **DESIGN ONLY, CONSTRUCTION in 2021***
4. *Solicit and select engineering firm for planning and design of new sanitary sewer pump station, equalization basin at WWTP, upgrade Union Street Pump Station, reconfigure new sanitary sewers to Union Street and new pump station.*
5. *Replace existing Michigan Street Pump Station- Design in 2020, reconstruct in 2021.*

6. Commence with Hydraulics Study for Bank Stabilization on Pine River, Main Street Bridge Scour Critical Repairs, Dam FERC Re-classification, Emergency Spillway and Kayak/Canoe Takeout- Put-in Dock.
7. Develop a new MDOC agreement regarding blended water and sewer rates for the complex as a whole. Also address the question of ongoing maintenance of the Prison Pump Station as the MDOC is currently seeking bid proposals from engineering firms to redesign the current facility, independent of the City. As they will be designing and building it, I would recommend that the City forego any further maintenance oversight on the new station. The station only serves the prison facility and is located entirely on Prison property. The City's only role is maintenance which could be handled more effectively by an independent contractor. If the City is forced into this maintenance, then I would still recommend that an independent contractor be hired to perform the necessary work and an administrative *fee*, not less than 15%, be added to the invoicing to the State.
8. GAWA Projects:
 - a. Well # 12 Exploration
 - b. Well #12 Development and Construction
 - c. Well #12 Raw Water Line Extension
 - d. Overall SCADA/Communications Upgrade
 - e. St. Louis City Well Abandonments
9. Look into the removal of Engines 2 and 3 from Electric Plant.
10. Modify piping within Electric Plant after Well #1 abandonment.
11. Move Electric and Water Department personnel to using Cartegraph for time sheets, MISSDIGs and asset management.
12. Develop a utility usage oversight methodology using our SENSUS technology to "flag" water and electric use anomalies to "normal" usage so that the City can identify potential problems sooner than the monthly bill processing.
13. Develop a water service verification program to meet the requirements of the EGLE LCR current rules. Materials verification must be 100% complete by January 1, 2025.
14. Work on Succession Planning and staff development.
15. Have a temporary staff gage installed outside of my window to monitor river depths near the fishing platform. Include permanent gage in future stabilization project.

Project:

1. MOOT Bid in Winter 2020/21 for West State Street Paving project. Begin construction of project in Spring 2021. Includes R.R. x-ing with water main, minor sanitary sewer repairs, new asphalt pavement, concrete curb and gutters and sidewalks. Engineer is ROWE.
2. Bid and construct new water mains, replacing old 4" and 6" water mains on West Prospect, Hebron, Berea and Tamarack streets. Replace two sanitary sewer problems and replace approximately 50 feet of sewer on Teman north of Prospect. Design and permitting completed by ROWE in 2020.
3. Work with OHM Advisors for planning and design of new sanitary sewer pump station, equalization basin and additional work at WWTP, upgrade Union Street Pump Station, reconfigure new sanitary sewers to Union Street and new pump station. Proceed with Phase I work as approved in 2020.
4. Proceed with construction to replace existing Michigan Street Pump Station and install a new Pine River sewer crossing between Cheesman and the Michigan Avenue PS. Project was bid in 2020. Engineer is Spicer.
5. Proceed with construction modifications to WWTP Fine Screen Facility and Lab Room Hood as bid and awarded in 2020. Engineer is Spicer.
6. Spicer Group was directed to prepare proposals for the following activities; Hydraulics Study for Bank Stabilization on Pine River, Main Street Bridge Scour Critical Repairs, Dam FERC Re classification, Emergency Spillway and Kayak/Canoe Takeout- Put-In Dock. MDOT Critical Bridge funding was awarded for FY 2025 for Scour Critical Repairs.
7. This effort was "pushed back" so I have moved it into 2021. Develop a new MDOC agreement regarding blended water and sewer rates for the complex. Also address the question of ongoing maintenance of the Prison Pump Station. MDOC has selected an engineering firm to redesign the current facility, independent of the City. As they will be designing and building it, I would recommend that the City forego any further maintenance oversight on the new station. The station only serves the prison facility and is located entirely on Prison property. The City's only role is maintenance which could be handled more effectively by an independent contractor. If the City is forced into this maintenance, then I would still recommend that an independent contractor be hired to perform the necessary work and an administrative fee, not less than 15%, be added to the invoicing to the State.
8. Developed a water service verification program to meet the requirements of the EGLE LCR current rules and with the aid of Spicer Group have submitted grant applications for EGLE funding. Need to begin verification program this summer. Also seek grant funding for water service line replacements (both private side and public side) if investigation finds either lead or galvanized materials. Materials verification and certification must be 100% complete by January 1, 2025.

9. GAWA Projects: Engineer is FTCH- Fishbeck
 - a. Well# 12 Exploration- Authorized and proceeding
 - b. Well #12 Development and Construction
 - c. Well #12 Raw Water Line Extension
 - d. Overall SCADA/Communications Upgrade
 - e. St. Louis City Well Abandonments
10. Ongoing Equipment replacements and modifications at WWTP
11. Look into the removal of Engines 2 and 3 from Electric Plant.
12. Modify piping within Electric Plant after Well #1abandonment. This has been discussed with Fishbeck.
13. Move Electric and Water Department personnel to using Cartegraph for time sheets, MISSDIGs and asset management. Due to the Covid, this effort has been slowed. The Water Department has information on their iPad and have been working with them this Fall for asset management and MISSDIGs. Internal time and materials management will take place during 2021. Spicer is working to develop the Electric GIS program by adding meter locations to the GIS. Additional information, i.e., transformers and service areas per transformer, have yet to be included. The 2020 Covid pandemic has delayed many aspects of this effort.
14. Develop a utility usage oversite methodology using our SENSUS technology to "flag" water and electric use anomalies to "normal" usage so that the City can identify potential problems sooner than the monthly bill processing.
15. Work on Succession Planning and staff development.
16. Have a temporary staff gage installed outside of my window to monitor river depths near the fishing platform. Include permanent gage in future stabilization project.

Potential Additional Projects-2021

Design:

12" Water Main Replacement along M-46 from Watson St to Pine Street

8" Sanitary Sewer and Lift Station- River Court from N. Main to Union St. PS

8" Sanitary Sewer Replacement on Seaman Street

Construction:

DPW Project: Remove and Replace existing sanitary sewer line West Saginaw

DPW Project: Misc. Sewer Line & Wye Replacement per SAW Grant Study

At this time I would expect that the City should see construction work on West State Street (Paving and minor utility work) as our MDOT Small Urban Paving Project, Water Main Replacement and paving upgrades on West Prospect, Hebron, Berea and Tamarack Streets, the Michigan Avenue Pump Station along with a new sanitary sewer river crossing from Cheesman to the pump station, and continued work at the WWTP on the Fine Screen Building and the Lab. Additional equipment replacement and facility modifications will continue as we try to continually upgrade the treatment system.

Design work which is anticipated for 2021 will include the OHM planning and study work towards our sanitary sewer system improvements including the Union Pump Station, a new system pump station, plant and collection system improvements and an equalization basin. Under GAWA we expect that GAWA Supply Well #12 will be designed and built this year as well as the necessary transmission main from the well to the existing transmission main on Luce Road. Along with this *effort*, the existing supply wells formerly utilized by the City must be abandoned as well as related observation well and previously drilled test wells. This work is to be funded by EPA, so we have directed the engineer, FTCH, to submit cost proposals. Work within the City would include Wells Number 1, 4, 5, 6, and 8 along with the mineral springs associated observation wells, distribution system modifications at these wells and building removals (except at Clapp Park).

Also, the City will be performing LCR required service line materials verifications, hopefully with the aid of an EGLE grant which was applied for in December 2020. Notification of award would come in March 2021.

Member Kubin was excused from the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

Public Comments.

There were none.

Adjournment.

Moved by Reed, supported by Collison, to adjourn at 11:11 a.m.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Reed, Collison, Leonard, Kelly

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Bobbie Marr, Deputy Clerk