



City Council Meeting – July 20, 2020

Council Questions & Public Comments

Before each Committee of the Whole or City Council meeting, questions that have been posed by the City Council relating to [the agenda](#) for that evening will be posted to the City's website. Below are the responses to this week's questions. In addition, we have included all public comments that were received in advance for the July 20, 2020 City Council meeting.

Staff Responses to Council Questions

Agenda Item 8. Reports

b. May 2020 Financials

Q: Page 76 - The average price per kWh is up about 10% for all rate classes? Why?

A: The utility's cost per kWh delivered is up due to COVID19 and the resulting reduction in sales. The PCA (purchase cost adjustment) passes variations in purchase power cost on to the customer base - both positive and negative. To the extent the utility continues to experience reduced kWh sales, the cost per kWh sold will run higher across the board for our customers. Last month saw a partial recovery in kWh sales and if that continues then the cost per kWh reported will also start to recover.

Q: Page 77 – What would the full year impact be on the water fund if commercial usage continues at about 50% of prior year levels?

A: There would be a significant impact, which is why anticipated capital expenditures have been reduced, delayed, or deferred. City staff monitors the usage (and account receivables) on a weekly basis to make adjustments as needed. Certainly, if the situation does not improve more drastic measures will need to be taken.

Agenda Item 11. Municipal Bills for Payment

1) G. Snow & Sons, \$2,300

Q: What "water service" was provided?

A: 409 & 415 Franklin St. were served by one lead service line. The service was leaking; therefore, the City directionally drilled in two new copper services for each address.

2) Lowes, \$1,911.20

Q: What was the unauthorized charge?

A: The card issuer notified the City that an employee's credit card had been compromised. This was this resulting credit from that unauthorized charge.

3) Union Pacific Railroad Company, \$3,587.14

Q: What is the current revenue associated with the commuter lot and does it make economic sense to continue with the current arrangement? When does the lease term end?

A: Based upon the Mayor's Executive Order 2020-04r (as ratified by the City Council), the City applied payments for parking permits issued for the third quarter (March through May) to the fourth quarter (June through August). A decision will need to be made by the City Council as to when the City will resume daily parking fees and permit parking. It should be noted that the parking lot is also used on weekends for non-commuter parking purposes.

The City has reached out to Union Pacific seeking a temporary reduction in lease payments due to the lack of commuter ridership. The UP and Metra are currently in negotiations to turn over all commuter operations to Metra (currently operated by UP). This may have some bearing on the lease moving forward.

The current lease was originally assigned to the City in 1986. It renews on an annual basis unless terminated earlier by either party on a thirty-days' written notice. The current lease rate has been in effect since 2000.

Public Comments - Attached

From: [Lindsey McCall](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for City Council Meeting 7.20.20
Date: Monday, July 20, 2020 11:54:55 AM

On tonight's agenda, I see that the City will be considering annexation of 30 acres for a light industrial district in accordance with the 2025 Strategic Plan. Has this 30 acres also been considered for affordable housing initiatives or will it strictly be industrial?

Thank you,
Lindsey McCall