

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE UTILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION
GARDNER, KANSAS
Page No. 2024-04
April 4, 2024**

The Utilities Advisory Commission of Gardner, Kansas, met in Regular Session on April 4, 2024, at City Hall. Present were Chairperson Barbara Coleman, Vice Chairperson Bryce Augustine, Commissioner Nate Plahn and Utilities Department Director Gonzalo Garcia. Utilities Specialist Erin Groh was not in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Barbara Coleman.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Standing approval of the minutes as written for the February 1, 2024, meeting of the Utility Advisory Commission.**

Motion by Commissioner Plahn seconded by Vice-Chairperson Augustine, to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion carried 3-0 Aye

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Consider a recommendation to the City Council to authorize the City Administrator to execute a supply contract for the materials for Circuit 31 Overhead Powerline Rebuild. (CIP EL4000)**

Director Garcia discussed how the existing one mile of three-phase overhead power line is located on the north side of the RR tracks that runs west from 120 S. Moonlight Rd. (Substation 2) to 135 W. Warren St. (Former Old Cramer's Products Bldg.) This line was constructed over 40 years ago and has reached its useful life expectancy. We have had issues in the past of the phases slapping together from high wind storms. When that happens, it blinks the circuit which causes the substation recloser to open and close causing customer's lights to flicker on and off. The power line was constructed with 8 ft. cross arms and the neutral wire was installed below the phases. The new power line will be constructed with 10 ft. cross arms and 50 ft. poles with the neutral wire installed above the phases for lightning protection. The new power line will be installed where the existing power line is located.

This circuit serves all of our businesses on the south side of Main St. from S. Center St. to S. Moonlight and residential customers as well. This circuit provides the means to "Back-Feed" one feeder circuit from the other in the event that one of the circuits is damaged. This connection follows Best Management Practices to provide system redundancy and improved system reliability.

City staff issued an Invitation to Bid for Circuit 31 Overhead Powerline Rebuild EL4000. The invitation was published in The Gardner News and on the City's website, and also picked up by multiple plan rooms. A total of three (3) companies requested the bid documents, and one (1) company submitted a bid, which was opened on March 1, 2024.

The submitted bid for the Circuit 31 Overhead Powerline Rebuild.

Vendor	Total Cost Tax Included
Anixter Inc.	\$136,949.29

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The quoted prices are subject to escalation/de-escalation at time of shipment due to market fluctuations of metal prices.

Commissioner Plahn felt that after 40 years it was time to replace the line. Augustine asked how long it takes to get the material and Garcia said that he didn't have the information at the time of the meeting.

Motion by Vice-Chairperson Augustine, seconded by Commissioner Plahn to approve a recommendation to the City Council to accept the bid from Anixter, Inc. for the materials for Circuit 31 Overhead Powerline as received on March 1, 2024 and authorize the City Administrator to execute the supply contract for the purchase amount of \$136,949.29 plus insurance shipping charges. The quoted prices are subject to escalation/de-escalation at time of shipment due to market fluctuations of metal prices.

Motion carried 3-0 Aye

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Project Updates.

Garcia gave an update on the Kill Creek Resource and Recovery Facility (WWTP) and said that Crossland Heavy Contractors is procuring a guaranteed maximum price and once we have that price we can proceed with phase 2. The guaranteed maximum price will be presented to Council and must be approved first before proceeding to the second phase. Currently it is in the design phase.

For the new intake structure at Hillsdale Lake, Burns and McDonnell has been selected to do the design build, phase I. They will come up with an actual proposal and come up with the cost of the construction.

For the Fats, Oils and Grease Program (FOG), the department started a new cycle of FOG permits and inspections and fees were due April 14th. Staff is conducting annual inspections of facilities. Chairperson Coleman asked if they are due every year and Garcia confirmed that fees and inspections are due each year. Reminder letters have been sent out.

The Line Maintenance building [at the Utilities Campus on Santa Fe St] known as Option I has been approved by City Council and they also approved Option II which includes Electric [Distribution]. All of Utilities will be under one roof. The main benefit of having everyone together is it will help issues be resolved faster since it will be easier to get a hold of people more quickly. In addition, Line Maintenance is needing more space.

Chairperson Plahn asked for an update on Gardner tying into Johnson County Water. Gonz said that is the 183rd St Interconnect and he stated that the department received back signed easement documents and now we are waiting on the actual specifications of the construction that would take place. Hopefully that will come in about a month or so.

At Kane Street there is a water line that has asbestos or some similar material so we are trying to replace that piece of water line. Approximately 500 feet of pipe have been replaced but there is about 2500 feet that needs to be replaced, so it is still being worked on.

Cedar Niles Lift Station & Forcemain - A site survey has been done on it which will be used to layout all easement documents to start the easement document creation. It goes from Clare Rd to the lift station on 191st St.

Winwood Park Relief Sewer Project- It is a project to alleviate some bottlenecks we have from the East Lift Station going to the North Lift Station. The design is 30% done. The easement documents will be created

and acquisition will be moving forward as the design proceed towards 90% review submittals. In order to increase the flow out to Kill Creek WWTP, the sewer line needs to be fixed to move the sewer towards the plant.

Backflow- First round of reminder letters went out in March via Naviline (software City uses). Chairperson Coleman asked what the deadline is for the Backflow and Garcia said June 1st.

Augustine asked for an update on the big issue on south Moonlight that there was a while back [due to a water outage affecting residents] and Garcia said we identified the valve that was not on the GIS which since has been updated. Augustine said he thought some were not showing up and recorded correctly and just wanted to ask about it. Garcia said that at Elm Street recently there were two water breaks two days apart. Garcia said that there was money budgeted to fix up to \$250,000 of water mains and at the meeting Garcia couldn't say exactly which sections will be replaced, but the areas that need to be replaced will be identified in the next year.

2. Electric Reliability Report- 1st Quarter 2024.

Director Garcia discussed the Electric Reliability Report using the APPA standards. The data reported in the meeting is as follows:

APPA Reliability Indexes

	SAIDI (Minutes/Year)	CAIDI (Minutes/Year)	ASAI (% based on year)	MAIFI (Interruptions per year)	SAIFI (Interruptions per year)	Customers Affected	Interruptions Per Mile (150.8 Miles)
Target	< 90 minutes	< 190 minutes	≥ 99.98 %	TBD	TBD		
2021	107 minutes	230 minutes	99.98 %	0.0012	0.2889 %	8947	317.84
2022	41 minutes	97 minutes	99.99 %	0.0049	0.1658 %	9181	409.18
2023	21 minutes	39 minutes	99.99 %	6.391	0.543 %	5004	30.51
January 2024	1 minute	91 minutes	99.99 %	0.0000	0.0110 %	104	0.68
February 2024	3 minutes	18 minutes	99.99 %	0.0113	0.0005 %	1461	9.28
March 2024	0 minutes	51 minutes	99.99 %	0.0011	0.0001 %	1	0.006
YTD	4 minutes	23 minutes	99.99 %	0.0125	0.165 %	1566	10.38

Garcia said that he is still waiting for Nexgrid to provide him information on how they calculate the MAIFI and SAIFI and why they numbers are so low. He said that he compared March 2024 and for some reason for the past three years March has been a low occurrence month. Maybe it is due to it being a warm month.

Augustine said he likes seeing the data from the APPA and he would also like to see a comparison between March 2023 and March 2024 to compare those numbers.

3. Sewer 1st Quarter Repair Report 2024.

Director Garcia presented the Wastewater Collection report for the 1st quarter of 2024. Line maintenance staff completed 9 sanitary sewer line repairs affecting 9 customers, with 2 due to roots, 5 due to residents' issues and 2 due to other issues. The average workday response time was 19 minutes and the average workday repair time was 1 hour and 8 minutes. The average after-hours response time was 18 minutes

and the average after-hours repair time was 1 hour and 4 minutes. The overall average response time was 18 minutes and the overall average repair time was 1 hour and 6 minutes.

4. Water 1st Quarter Repair Report 2024

Director Garcia presented the Water Distribution Repairs Report for the 1st quarter of 2024. Line maintenance staff completed 14 water distribution service repairs affecting 110 customers: 3 due to line failure; 1 due to valve failure, 1 due to damage by others, 1 due to residents' issues, and 8 due to other issues. The average workday response time was 25 minutes and the average workday repair time was 3 hours and 25 minutes. The average after-hours response time was 1 hour and 41 minutes and the average after-hours repair time was 12 hours and 7 minutes. The overall average response time was 1 hour and 8 minutes and the overall average repair time was 8 hours and 23 minutes.

Chairperson Coleman asked if fiber companies hitting the water lines had become an issue and if the city is compensated. Garcia said that the several lines had been hit and normally the fiber companies have to get a plumber to fix the lines and if we have to fix anything then we will bill the fiber companies to be reimbursed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Director Garcia said that per the attendance policy for the UAC, commissioners cannot miss three consecutive meetings without a valid excuse. In a year, commissioners cannot miss more than 1/3 of the meetings. Vice-Chairperson Augustine asked if the City Council is trying to fill the openings and Commissioner Plahn said that it is listed on the city website.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Plahn, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Augustine to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Motion carried 3-0 Aye

/s/ _____ Erin Groh

Utilities Specialist
City of Gardner Utilities Department