

## COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

**April 24, 2000**

**6:00 PM**

Chairman O'Neil called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

**Present:** Aldermen O'Neil, Wihby, Clancy, Cashin and Lopez

**Messrs:** J. Angell, R. MacKenzie, W. Jabjiniak

### **TABLED ITEM**

On motion of Alderman Cashin, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to remove the item from the table.

Discussion relative to the replacement of the Library's telephone system.  
(Tabled 3/14/00)

Chairman O'Neil stated you all received a communication from Diane Prew with regards to the significant problems with the Library phone system. Jenny Angell from Info. Systems is here if you have any questions about it.

Alderman Lopez stated I agree with the request, I just want to ask one question in reference to the West Branch of the Library. As you are well aware, if the West Side Library was to be at the Brown School for example is that money that you still want to put into the West Side Library or would you know that before we do it.

Ms. Angell replied that would be something that we would investigate before we actually did it to make sure it wasn't something where the needs were going to change within the next year or so. The system that we would put in there, however, is pretty standard and we would take a look at it that if in fact we decided that we wanted to put it in the West Side Library that it is something that could be pulled out and used elsewhere in the City.

Alderman Lopez asked so you would make a final decision as to whether you would put it in there depending on what the Board does. I think it is a good idea.

Alderman Clancy stated I would hope that you wouldn't spend any money on the West Side Library until we find out what direction we are going in. In other words, I don't know how much money it is but I think I read it today and it is going to cost about \$7,000 for the West Side Library. Is that what it says here? No, \$3,000. I would hold off on that until we actually make a decision as to whether we are going to renovate the old Brown School or not. In the meantime, if some small department like PBS...

Ms. Angell replied PBS got the same phone system last year.

Alderman Clancy stated I was thinking about a small department. If there is a small department that needed something like that.

Ms. Angell replied there are a couple of small departments that do have older phone systems. Another one is Elderly Services, but that is another one that we would be looking at because you may be doing an Elderly Center so we would look at that carefully. What I did on this was I included the money because there is always a possibility that they may not move. I would want to make sure that I am covered so we would go through and check this all out. It is the same thing we did with City Hall when we originally got money for City Hall and then it was decided that they were going to rehab the building so we waited to see what was going on and we saved the money and used it in the rehab of the building. We would look at it the same way.

Chairman O'Neil stated is it my understanding that the issue with the West Side Library, even if they are eventually going to move which could be one or two years away, there are problems there now. It is not updating the system. There are problems there.

Ms. Angell replied the system at the West Side Library is just as old as the system at the main library. It is a different system, but it is old. There are failures. We put them on UPS's because the batteries don't hold anymore. It is just an old system. It is going to need to be replaced if they don't move and if they do move obviously it would probably be part of a larger system wherever they move to.

Alderman Clancy asked could this telephone system be moved from the West Side Branch over to the Brown School.

Ms. Angell answered I don't know what the requirements of the Brown School are. You do want to look at...phone systems have operating systems and they have training that is required and one of the reasons we have chosen this phone system is we have it in many of the other City buildings and we maintain those

systems. In the School Department, they have different people to maintain them so that would really need to be a choice of theirs. It might be something that would be appropriately sized but then you also have the training issue and if they have one phone system that is different from everything else they have it might cause some more problems. I wouldn't want to say yes it would be appropriate for one of the schools, but that is also an option.

Alderman Clancy stated the reason I say this is I see where they have problems over there now. If they have problems over there now, why don't we fix the problems they have and if they do put the library at the Brown School then we could bring the system over there.

Ms. Angell replied as I said I really can't speak for what is appropriate for the Brown School. I don't know what they have over there for size. I don't know what they have over there for support. This was based on the amount of lines coming in and the amount of telephone stations so the models that you pick have to be appropriate for what is going into the facility and while it might work at the Brown School and at a number of other schools, not knowing what the requirements are over there, I don't feel that I can answer that.

Alderman Cashin stated the telephone system is a piece of equipment just like any other piece of equipment. If we were to move the West Side Library and its equipment into a vacant building, we could move this telephone equipment with it, correct.

Ms. Angell replied yes, we could move this telephone system. The only thing I would caution you on is you were putting other facilities in this Brown School that you made sure it was sized so that it could grow large enough.

On motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Cashin, it was voted to approve the replacement of the telephone system for the Library.

Chairman O'Neil stated although we are trying to avoid new business, there are two items that the Planning Staff has asked us to address tonight. Why don't we take the quickest first, which I believe is EPD.

Mr. MacKenzie stated this is a project that was approved by the Board last year. It has gone through design. This is extending the sewer system in the South Mammoth Road area. It is paid for by EPD funds and at this point they are ready to go out to contract and we did want to try to get it quickly to the Board because they are waiting giving the contract to the contractor.

Chairman O'Neil stated and you did say that you would talk to Mr. Seigle about getting requests in to you in a timely manner.

Mr. MacKenzie replied yes.

On motion of Alderman Clancy, duly seconded by Alderman Cashin, it was voted to approve the CIP budget authorization for the South Mammoth Road Sewer Construction – Phase I.

Mr. Jabjiniak stated if you recall, back in February the Board approved \$30,000 of our Home Funding allocation for a City Employee Mortgage Assistance Program. We are providing down payment and closing cost assistance with that program and with a small change in HUD interpretation, we found it necessary to identify \$10,000 of an alternative funding source besides Federal HOME funds to utilize towards the Census Tract participation. There are two ways a person is eligible. One is by virtue of their income and the second one is by virtue of where they are located. If you buy a home in a low-income census tract, that would also make them eligible for this program. We have identified a source of program income to address this. It is not using local tax dollars.

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Clancy, it was voted to approve the CIP budget authorization for the City Employee Mortgage Assistance Program.

There being no further business, on motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Cashin, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee