

October 27, 2006

To the Public Works Committee

Subject: Common Council Resolution File Number 040406

Dear Honorable Members:

The City Engineer has received a request from Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) seeking permission to modify telemetry antennae at 21 locations, which were previously granted permission, and for permission to install telemetry antennae at an additional four locations as part of its Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System. Said SCADA system is to allow MMSD to monitor and control flows in its sewerage system remotely via radio communication.

In 2002, the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee granted permission to MMSD to install telemetry antennae at 44 locations throughout the City. The antennae and associated facilities were to be installed, within the public right-of-way, on City street light poles, WE Energies poles or on MMSD poles.

In 2004, MMSD requested permission to modify 31 of these antennae because “the small antennas have shown unacceptable radio signal strength.” This number had, subsequently been revised to only 22 antennae. Additionally, MMSD requested permission to install an additional eight antennae and associated facilities; however, MMSD has eliminated four of the additional sites. The majority of the new antennae will be the “whip” type, which are 32 inches long, 1 ½ inches in diameter, straight, and attached to the top of poles. There are only five of the “yagi” type antenna, which are 32-inch long directional antennae with five vertical elements. Of the “yagi” antennae, four are to be attached to city streetlight poles and one will be attached to a new pole by MMSD.

We are not aware that these antennae and/or poles will have an adverse effect on the general use of the public right-of-way or on City poles. We have, therefore, prepared the attached a resolution, which, if adopted, will allow MMSD to attach these antennae to City poles; install their own poles; and use, maintain and generally be responsible for all of these antennae within the public right-of-way.

Very truly yours,

Jeffrey S. Polenske, P.E.
City Engineer

Jeffrey J. Mantes
Commissioner of Public Works

MDL:lja
Attachment