



Public Works Committee Meeting  
December 6, 2017  
6:00 pm  
Cravath Lakefront Room  
Municipal Building-2nd Floor  
312 W Whitewater St  
Whitewater, WI 53190

## MINUTES

### **1. Call to order and roll call**

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m., by Stephanie Goettl. The meeting was held in the Cravath Lakefront Room.

Present: Stephanie Goettl, Jim Allen, Carol McCormick

Absent: None

Others: Brad Marquardt, Cameron Clapper (City Manager)

### **2. Minutes: Review and approval**

Motion to approve minutes from the October 18, 2017 by Jim Allen and seconded by Carol McCormick.

Aye: All via voice vote (3)

Nay: None

### **3. Hearing of Citizen Comments**

- No citizens appeared to speak.

### **4. Old Business**

- There is no old business at this time.

### **5. New Business**

- Discussion and possible action regarding specific directives for Public Works Committee, direction for staff, and possible necessary additions to ordinance** – for discussion purposes - an example of duties was taken from the City of Wausau. Duties include recommending the purchase, sale or leasing of real estate by the City and to recommend the use or disposition of vacant or unutilized City-owned real estate; to review certain plats; to locate and recommend the acquisition of areas for municipal purposes, such purposes to include the requirements for expansion of the City street system and improvements therefor, to conduct hearings on official map proceedings and street an alley vacation; to investigate, determine and recommend to the Common Council capital outlay improvements program for Public Works, such program to include the construction of new streets, sewer, watermains, and such other improvements to streets as the construction of curb and gutter, paving and sidewalk, and to determine priorities on locations therefor; to handle street light and maintenance policies; and to investigate and recommend pavement marking, street signage and on-street parking. Cameron Clapper suggestion action be taken on this item. A motion was made by Carol McCormick to approve the language and seconded by Jim Allen.
- Discussion and possible action regarding a stop sign at the intersection of Peck and Whiton Streets** – A resident called witnessing a few near misses of pedestrians crossing the street since school started. A map was shown regarding the location of concern. After discussion, it was suggested this concern be referred to the Whitewater Police Department and to leave the stop signs at their present locations. The PD should contact us if they have any concerns.
- Discussion regarding 500 N. Walton Street blind driveway issue and Walton Street lighting issues** – It was noted the lighting issue is bad in that area and we need brighter bulbs and bulb

replacements on that street. It's too dark down that street. There is an issue with one particular light. WE-Energies own the lights and poles. We need to ask WE Energies to put in brighter lights. It is very dangerous with the pedestrian traffic. Staff was directed to discuss the lighting with WE Energies.

Driveway issue – a new property owner moved in this summer and contacted the City in reference to it being difficult to see to the north when backing out of his driveway. The owner requested the City look at installing a speed bump, a stop sign, a yield sign or any other device to help slow vehicles down. After much discussion, it was decided that this is not a City issue.

- d. **Discussion regarding restriping the Highway 59 round-a-bout from 2 lanes to 1 lane** – The DOT was contacted and they indicated this could be done. It would require a lot of paint stripping which the City would then be responsible for in the future. All of the black lines on the map would be paint stripping which we would then be responsible for. The red lines on the map would be removed. The DOT would do this at their cost during the Milwaukee St. project in 2019. The CDA has also heard complaints from local businesses regarding the center of the curb in the round-a-bout. Their semi drivers have a hard time maneuvering this round-a-bout. Could the entire middle curb in the center of the round-a-bout be cut down? They are going to move forward unless they hear negative comments from us. The committee directed Brad Marquardt to communicate with the DOT regarding these concerns.
- e. **Discussion regarding installation of sidewalk on Ann and Franklin Streets** – Politically, it is extremely hard to add sidewalks in places that don't have sidewalks. In the past, we had policies that do replacements and add sidewalks when there is reconstruction of a street. We do have a complete streets ordinance. Sidewalk discussion is the east side of Franklin and the North side of Ann from Franklin to Tripp. We could improve the existing sidewalks and not add the additional sidewalk? The question is would we need to add sidewalks where there currently isn't any sidewalks? The direction from this committee is to replace the existing sidewalk on the west side of Franklin and south side of Ann.
- f. **Discussion regarding installation of sidewalk on Clay and Esterly Streets** – There was discussion regarding the replacement of all the existing sidewalks on Clay St. A question was asked if all of the sidewalks need to be replaced? All of these sidewalks aren't that old. Cameron Clapper mentioned it may have more to do with the significance of the other improvements required. Often during these projects the sidewalks are damaged as utilities and stormsewer are part of this project. Wetlands are also involved in this area. The project went through a public information meeting where the sidewalk was shown on both sides of Clay Street for the entire length. What came out of this meeting was there are wetlands on the north side between Rice and Taft, and a hill that would require a retaining wall and sloping. There is also a house that sticks into the ROW by Esterly. It was decided that the sidewalk on the north side probably doesn't make sense. The consensus was that we keep the sidewalk on the south side and extend it from Taft to the round-a-bout sidewalk. Steve Stone made a comment regarding the public information meeting. There was a proposal from the Engineering firm of taking additional ROW on the North side. The committee commented that there are a few houses there and they are too close to the street and there wouldn't be enough room for a sidewalk. The recommendation by the committee on Clay Street is to have sidewalks on the south side from the beginning of the project at Dann Street to the round-a-bout and on the north side from Rice to the round-a-bout. There was discussion about Bishop St. and Newcomb St. and eliminating a street or making the streets one-way. Brad Marquardt will talk with Chuck Nass and bring this topic back at a future meeting.

On Esterly Street, no sidewalk currently exists. The proposed plans are showing a sidewalk to be added to the west side only. There was discussion on the need to have sidewalk on two sides of a not very populated residential street. The direction of the committee was to move forward with a sidewalk only on the west side of Esterly Street.

There was discussion if these recommendations on sidewalk questions needed to go to Council? The committee agreed that this is why the committee was set up, to discuss design issues. The

entire Council will see the project when the entire design is done. We want to streamline these items before the project goes to Council.

- g. Discussion and Possible Action regarding Amendment #2 to Task Order 16-04, Franklin and Ann Street Reconstruction for CDBG Environmental Review Document** - A CDBG grant was awarded for this project and it requires an environmental review as part of the design portion. Strand would be the best one to do this while they are the ones designing this at a cost of \$13,800. This will be going to the next Council Meeting for approval also. This is in addition to the work they are already doing. A motion was made by Jim Allen and seconded by Carol McCormick.

Aye: All via voice vote (3)

- h. Discussion and Possible Action regarding Amendment #1 to Task Order 16-03, Clay Street Reconstruction for Phase II environmental investigation** – This has federal money attached as well, so an environmental review needed to be done. Phase 1 was done and there were two properties that were identified as potential contaminated parcels. Strand recommended doing a phase 2 on one of them, that being the fiberglass place. There is existing soil contamination, but it was not defined on site. Ground water samples were not taken as they are not part of a phase 1. The soil samples indicated a release of solvents and/or petroleum at the site and it is unknown whether the ground water has been contaminated. We anticipate doing dewatering because of underground utilities. That is why they recommend doing a phase 2 to see where the contamination is. If it is in the ROW, we will have to put specifications together to tell the contractor how to remediate the ground water during dewatering. The second property was based on a recommendation from the DOT's engineer who reviews the local program. They recommended doing the second property as well. The reason they are recommending doing this is there could be an underground storage tank on the north side of the property and it could be leaching into the soil. They want to make sure we don't run into problems during construction. The committee agreed it doesn't sound like this is optional. Strand's task order is \$11,300 and there is an additional \$2,500 plus \$1,200 to do the actual probe work and lab work that Strand will consult with to get the work done. The actual task order for Strand is \$11,300. A motion was made by Jim Allen and seconded by Carol McCormick.

Aye: All via voice vote (3)

**6. Set date and time for regular scheduled meetings** – Meetings are tentatively scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., starting in January 2018.

**7. Future Agenda Items** – No new items for the agenda at this time.

**8. Adjournment** – Motion to adjourn at 7:02 p.m., by Jim Allen and seconded by Carol McCormick.

Aye: All via voice vote (3)

Nay: None

Absent: None