



Public Works Committee Meeting
February 11, 2020
6:00 p.m.
Cravath Lakefront Room
Municipal Building-2nd Floor
312 W Whitewater St
Whitewater, WI 53190

MINUTES

1. Call to order and roll call

The meeting was called to order by Allen at 6 p.m. The meeting was held in the Cravath Lakefront Room at the Municipal Building.

Present: Allen, McCormick and Schulgit
Others: Brad Marquardt

2. Approval of minutes from January 14, 2020

A motion to approve the minutes from the January 14, 2020, meeting was made by Schulgit and seconded by McCormick.

Ayes: All via voice vote (3)
Nays: None

3. Hearing of Citizen Comments

No citizens appeared to speak at this time.

4. Old Business

There was no new business.

5. New Business

a. Discussion and Possible Action approving consultant for the DPW Facility Analysis and Space Needs Assessment.

Marquardt stated this was sent out in December and posted on our website and on the League's website. They were looking for a consultant to come in and do an assessment of the Public Works Facilities at the Streets Garage on Starin Road. The consultants were responsible for going through the buildings and determining the condition, deficiencies and taking note on what it would take to bring it up to code or to fix them. Also, we wanted them to look at the space that is being utilized vs what space would be needed to adequately house all of our materials, equipment, and the items we have at the farm out in the Business Park that we know we will have to relocate at some point. Then, we wanted them to come up with some conceptual layouts including costs with each layout and the pros and cons along with those layouts. We asked for a draft report by June so we can finalize that by the July 14th Public Works Committee meeting. That would give us time to put something into the CIP for next year. There were five respondents. All five were well qualified. Freeman, Neumeister, Boettcher and Marquardt went through the proposals and ranked them independently. They came up with a consensus and would like to recommend Kueny Architects out of Pleasant Prairie to do the study. They are in between the low and the high but closer to the low-end cost wise. Staff feels confident based on what they provided in their proposal and they come

highly regarded throughout the industry. What set Keuny apart was that in their proposal they had laid out that they have a structural engineer on staff. They also listed who their plumbing and electrical and civil subs would be for the study and that was missing from the other top proposal. Allen asked to see the two top proposals. Marquardt will provide that information electronically before the next Council meeting. Allen moved to make a tentative approval to send Item 5a on to full Council after the Public Works board has a chance to review the proposals and seconded by Schulgit.

Ayes: All via voice vote (3)

Nayes: None

b. Discussion and Possible Action approving the purchase of a Valve Turner with Vacuum for the Water Department.

Marquardt stated this machine is based on a trailer and not mounted to the back of a truck. It is a machine that goes over the valve and hooks on the valve stem that is down in the ground. We typically have guys wrenching on it, either breaking the valve stem if they are stuck, or getting back injuries. So, this machine goes over the valve. It will start turning and if it feels resistance up to a certain point, it will back off. You can then try turning it the other way, and the ease of going back and forth with the rocking motion will break the valve loose so it can turn. It also keeps track of the number of turns electronically. This model does have a hydro vac on it. We do have a vac truck at the Wastewater plant; however, it stays at the Wastewater plant. Going back and forth to get the truck is very inefficient after hours, or especially during the week when the Wastewater staff may be using it. There was one estimate for around \$61,000 when we started looking at this. It was not included in the CIP budget. We've had two items in this year's budget, the service truck that was budgeted at \$104,000, which included a crane on it. After looking at the budget and thinking about what staff really needed, they decided a crane wasn't necessary and found a truck for less, which was a \$49,000 savings. To update the chemical addition was \$20,000 and they were able to get it done for \$8,000, which left a \$12,000 savings. Therefore, there is \$61,000 left and they would like to do a budget transfer at Council and reallocate those unused funds toward this valve turner. Allen moved for approval but asked to include some kind of pictures in the Council packet and seconded by Schulgit.

Ayes: All via voice vote (3)

Nayes: None

c. Discussion and Possible Action approving WE Energies easement in Starin Park.

Marquardt said we are installing a new generator in the park for water well #7. It is located at the very north end of Starin Park. Currently, WE-Energies has an overhead line that crosses the parking lot and feeds the well. They have to do some updating to their service in conjunction with the generator that is going in. In doing so they noticed they never received an easement from the City to be on City property. This approval would be just to clear the paper trail reflecting they do have an easement for their utility lines on private property. McCormick moved to approve the WE Energies easement in Starin Park and seconded by Schulgit.

Ayes: All via voice vote (3)

Nayes: None

d. Update on STH 59 Truck Detour Route.

Marquardt said with the third phase of the Highway 59 project, Highway 59 (Milwaukee St.-Elkhorn Rd.) is closed from Highway 12 to the roundabout. That means trucks cannot utilize anything on the east side. It was in the plans that the local detour route would be to use Janesville St. up to Franklin St. and turn right on Main St. That would be the same for the other trucks and cars westbound, left on Franklin St. and down Janesville St. The issue he has with that is the intersection of Franklin and Main have very hard turning movements. With the extra trucks that will probably be using this, if those trucks are in the left turn lane on Main St. to turn south, the northbound trucks turning east won't have enough room to make that swing. Typically, they would go into that left turn lane or wait until there is an opening to

utilize that lane. His recommendation was for northbound we send them on Whitewater St. up to Main St and leave the westbound/southbound as is. The one issue with that is during the 4th of July when Whitewater St. is closed at 4th St. What he would like to do is from 6 a.m., Monday, June 29th to 12:00 noon on Friday, July 3rd is to utilize 4th St. They would turn on Whitewater St. and come to 4th St., where the street is blocked for the 4th of July, and have traffic go north on 4th St., which turns into a one-way St. between Center and Main St., northbound. That will give them the entire road to utilize to make the turn onto Main St., which is a right angle turn to begin with. What is in the contract, that is part of plan, is from noon on Friday, July 3rd through 6:00 a.m., on Monday, July 6th the detour is shown to utilize Walworth Ave. So, Janesville St. to Walworth, west on Walworth to Elizabeth, north on Elizabeth to Main, Main to Tratt, north on Tratt to Starin and then Starin out to Newcomb St. He knows this sounds bad for trucks but we are talking the 4th of July weekend when there probably won't be as many trucks on the road. He had concerns when he first saw this about the detour but after thinking about it, he has less concerns sending vehicles that way. The reason he believes it was set up that way was for the 4th of July parade that is on Main St. They had to get vehicles away from downtown area during that time. Allen stated when sending them out Tratt, he suggested contacting the University as a courtesy to make sure they don't have any construction out that way on Starin. Allen stated when they are on Tratt you could give them the alternative to go out to Hwy U as well. Marquardt stated the detour will be posted on Starin out to Newcomb because that's the most direct route the State would like to see. Marquardt stated it will be marked by the DOT as it laid out in their plans, so their contractor is responsible for it. McCormick stated it was her understanding when they started on the roundabout to the bypass there was going to be at least one lane open. Marquardt stated it will be closed to thru traffic; however, they do need to keep access to Pete's Tire and the Learning Depot. Allen brought up that we need to help the businesses or anyone on the east side with signs on the bypass, Cox Rd. and Howard Rd. Marquardt stated the University is aware of it as they were last year. Allen would like Marquardt to reach out to the company that puts up the blue wayfaring signs along communities telling drivers about gas stations, restaurants, etc. Allen thinks this is something that should be coming out of the tourism council in Whitewater. Allen asked Marquardt to collect all of that information and then reach out to the businesses in Whitewater to see if they want to participate. Since they are reworking the entire ordinance on tourism, we can see if there are any dollars available to help with this project. He realizes this is a long-term solution; however, we do need a short-term solution to this now if we are going to reroute traffic on Cox Rd., Howard Rd. and Bluff Rd. Allen asked if there is any way to get the DOT to leave one lane open. Marquardt stated there is not.

6. Future Agenda Items

There were no future agenda items to be added at this time.

7. Adjournment

Allen entertained a motion to adjourn. It was moved by Schulgit and seconded by McCormick.

Ayes: All via voice vote (3)

Nays: None

It is possible that members of, and possibly a quorum of members of, other governmental bodies of the municipality may be in attendance at the above-stated meeting to gather information over which they may have decision-making responsibility; no action will be taken by any governmental body at the above-stated meeting other than the governmental body specifically referred to above in this notice.

**Anyone requiring special arrangements is asked to call the
Office of the City Manager / City Clerk
at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.**