

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING HELD AT THE GREENFIELD CITY HALL, COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ROOM 100, ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2014, AT 6:30 PM**

**1. Ald. Lubotsky called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.**

**Meeting called to order**

|                        |                |         |
|------------------------|----------------|---------|
| Roll Call:             | Ald. Pam Akers | Present |
| Ald. Thomas Pietrowski |                | Present |
| Ald. Linda Lubotsky    | Present        |         |
| Mr. Richard Kasza      | Present        |         |
| Mr. Richard Mrochinski |                | Excused |
| Atty Roger Pyzyk       | Excused        |         |

Also Present: Mr. Richard Sokol, Director of Neighborhood Services  
Mr. Dan Ewert, Superintendent of Public Works  
Mr. Jeff Katz, City Engineer

***At this time item #8 was discussed***

## 2. Approval of the November 26, 2013 Meeting Minutes

### Approval of the meeting minutes

**It was moved by Ald. Pietrowski, seconded by Mr. Kasza to approve the November 26, 2013 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously**

Motion was withdrawn as it was noted that the last Board of Public Works meeting was October 22, 2013.

**It was moved by Ald. Pietrowski, seconded by Mr. Kasza to approve the October 22, 2013 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously**

### 3. Citizen Commentary

## Citizen Commentary

**NONE**

#### 4. Director of Neighborhood Services Report

## Director of Neighborhood Services Report

Mr. Sokol informed the Board that the city has sold bonds for the 2014 CIP program and the final transmission of dollars will occur early in February. Our bond rating has remained the same at AA2 and our interest rate was approximately 0.5 points less than our financial advisor was expecting.

The Wildcat Creek project had a preconstruction meeting earlier in the month. At the Council level there was discussion regarding land acquisition which is now off the table. We have modified the plans so that we do not need the access to the land as originally anticipated. Significant improvements to the flooding issues will still be made in the Hwy 100 and West Cold Spring Road area. The work will begin in April.

A new series of videos are now available on Youtube and also the city's home web page showing some of the services provided to residents. The snow plowing video is being updated with current footage pertaining to the snow situations we're currently experiencing.

The Private Property I/I for 2014 is getting underway. By mid-February we are hoping to do a mailing to another 500 residents in the northeastern portion of the city which is Phase II of the five phases of the PP I/I program. We just recently completed mailing inspection results to all the people who had signed up for 2013's program. The review

of the videos that DPW has been putting together is going much slower than we expected. The amount of work is much more significant than originally realized so we are looking for ways to improve the efficiency of the process.

Ald. Pietrowski inquired about the monies budgeted for the Wildcat Creek mitigation and whether it was coming from the Storm Water Utility. Mr. Sokol noted that there was \$900,000 budgeted and the contract is approximately \$350,000 without land acquisition. Either the money won't be spent or Phase III of III may be done under the existing budget and then we will be done.

Ald. Pietrowski questioned the resolutions that we sent out last year and if we ever heard from the Public Service Commission regarding the LED lighting. Mr. Sokol stated that he has not received a response.

## **5. Superintendent of Public Works Report**

### **Superintendent of Public Works Report**

Dan Ewert commented on the harsh winter we're having and the pot holes and heaving of joints that have occurred on both concrete and asphalt roads. Public Works tries to get out and patch when not plowing and salting. In December we were out either salting or plowing 18 of the 31 days. In January we've had 20 days of salting and plowing and there are still 3 days left of the month. One of our larger salt trucks, a 12 ton truck holds \$629 worth of salt. The smaller trucks are 7 tons at \$367 per truck. Salt was \$52.49 per ton this year. Mr. Ewert would like to give the crew at Public Works a pat on the back as they have been working long and hard hours this winter. We have 14 plow routes and 14 plow trucks out during a plowing operation. Each route is approximately 8.8 miles and we have about 6 miles of alleys throughout the city to plow. They have given up a lot of their holidays to be in at least twice during the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

## **6. City Engineer Report**

### **City Engineer Report**

Jeff Katz reported that the street lighting project on South 27<sup>th</sup> Street is temporarily delayed. The new decorative street lighting from West Howard Avenue to West College Avenue is almost done. Some of the wiring is delayed due to the cold weather. They will continue the wiring when the ground thaws in the Spring. Currently the new lighting is lit from about West College Avenue to West Parnell Avenue and looks very nice. After the new lights are lit this Spring the old WE Energy lights will be taken down.

There is an upcoming Public Information Meeting on January 29<sup>th</sup> for three projects. One for South 116<sup>th</sup> Street and West Sunset Lane area; South 36<sup>th</sup> Street and West Allerton Avenue and South 43<sup>rd</sup> Street from West Edgerton Avenue to West Grange Avenue. Because we will be looking at more comprehensive planning for all of South 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, from West Layton Avenue all the way into Greendale this PIM will be just to get people's input. Construction of the project will be delayed until 2015.

## **7. Discussion and decision regarding Mitchell Highland parking regulations. (Ewert / Lubotsky)**

### **Mitchell Highland Parking Regulations**

Ald. Lubotsky stated that she spoke with Chief Wentlandt and he did an all call regarding the parking regulations in Mitchell Highlands. One resident has complained about a few residents not following the parking regulations. The Chief did the automated call to the neighborhood and we have not heard any feedback negative or positive since the call went out. There does seem to be a few issues with South 46<sup>th</sup> Street with some home owners that own a tremendous number of cars but we cannot monitor the number of cars one family owns.

***At this time item #9 was discussed***

**8. Discussion and decision regarding installing a street light in the alley way between West Howard Avenue and West Lynndale Avenue at South 35<sup>th</sup> Street. (Lubotsky)**

**Installation of Street Light in Alley Way on S 35<sup>th</sup> St between W Howard Ave and W Lynndale Ave**

Ald. Lubotsky was contact by a resident concerned about the dumping of trash in the alley way.

Ruth Goryl of 3854 S 35<sup>th</sup> Street – Ms. Goryl stated that she lives on the south side of an empty lot. In the fall of the past two years (mid-September to mid-November) dumping was sporadic and required special pick-up. The dumping was done on the adjacent empty lot. Ms. Goryl would like to see a heavy duty light put in the corner of the alley due to the darkness at night. Every neighbor has an obscured view of the corner because of shrubbery or garages. Ms. Goryl feels the light would be a deterrent for anyone who is using the area for dumping. A friend of Ms. Goryl's put up a camera on the garage and they are currently reviewing what was captured but it isn't much. As soon as the camera went up the activity stopped.

Dan Ewert did acknowledge that DPW has been cleaning up the debris when it is called in to the Police Department. The vacant lot is owned by Joseph and Diane Kumprey.

Mr. Sokol acknowledged that there would be an approximate \$25 a month operating fee for a new light. There currently is a light in the alley way along with spill over light from the service station. Mr. Ewert suggested that the Board could request that the Police Department put up a higher quality camera. Ms. Goryl noted that she has asked the Police Department to provide a camera but was told it was fruitless because the battery would go dead before the information would be able to be pulled off.

Mr. Sokol suggested trying to clear out brush from the corner and speak with the Police Department about a camera. The Board will also ask WE Energies to update the lights in the alley and then review this situation in Spring.

***At this time item #11 was discussed***

**9. Discussion regarding pavement failure report at Mitchell Highlands (Pietrowski)**

**Pavement Failure Report at Mitchell Highlands.**

Ald. Pietrowski inquired as to whether staff went out to look at the Mitchell Highlands area. Mr. Katz stated that he spoke with the engineer who was involved with the project originally eight years ago and one of the engineers at the firm who is more knowledgeable took a look at the road based on pictures, due to the weather. Overall the engineer said that some areas had cracking that was more than expected. He felt it wasn't so extreme that we should see it as overly premature failure. Cracking around manholes was primarily due to heaving and that type of failure was probably due to poor soils. At the intersections cracking typically occurs when cross pavings are done on two separate days and it's a cold joint which can result in cracking. Good maintenance and crack filling would go a long way.

Ald. Pietrowski questioned the soil boring process. Mr. Katz commented that the soils of a project are important and it should be looked at carefully for all road projects. Mr. Sokol also mentioned that we have begun using geo-fabric which is something relatively new for Greenfield in road projects where soils are a concern. The geo-fabric is intended to keep the more organic soil separated from the base. It is too early to tell whether it's having much of an impact but it is another step that is relatively cost effective.

**10. Discussion and decision to increase the speed limit on South 124<sup>th</sup> Street from 30mph to 35mph. (Sokol)**

**Increase Speed Limit on  
S 124<sup>th</sup> St from 30mph  
to 35mph  
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Sokol noted that staff was asked to try to standardize the speed limit on South 124<sup>th</sup> Street and we suggested that it be standardized at 30mph through coordination with New Berlin and Hales Corners. New Berlin's traffic engineer did a speed study and saw that the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile average speed on the street was around 38mph. They therefore decided that 35mph was an appropriate speed limit because it was probably what people were going to drive anyway. Hales Corners agreed with that and has formally changed their speed limit from 30mph to 35mph and have asked us to make an adjustment to match them at 35mph.

Ald. Pietrowski asked how one determines what the speed limit of a road is from an engineering standpoint when doing a speed study. Mr. Katz advised that when a road is designed the design speed is based on a lot of factors; width, clear zones, sight distance, number of intersections, driveway usage, etc. West Layton Avenue has a 50mph design speed which usually means the speed limit would typically be about 45mph. A better judge of speed limit is the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed. Mr. Katz distributed a bulletin from TIC (Traffic Information Center) which talks about setting speed limits and how when you set a speed limit at the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile what you are doing is setting it at a speed that 85% of the people are going to obey because they feel comfortable at that speed. Mr. Sokol noted that the Alderperson of the District and the Mayor both concur with the 35mph speed limit.

**It was moved by Ald. Lubotsky, seconded by Ald. Pietrowski to change the speed limit to 35mph on South 124<sup>th</sup> Street. Motion carried unanimously**

Under discussion Ald. Pietrowski inquired if the No Trucking signs have gone up along this stretch of roadway. Mr. Ewert will need to check.

***At this time item #12 was discussed***

**11. Discussion and decision to create a City ordinance prohibiting parking in front of mailboxes. (Lubotsky)**

**Create a City  
Ordinance Prohibiting  
Parking in Front of  
Mailboxes  
NEXT AGENDA**

Ald. Pietrowski said that he spoke with the City Attorney today and this issue was addressed by the Board of Public Works a number of years ago and we were not able to take this type of action.

Ald. Akers indicated that she received a phone call two weeks ago from the Shirley Crest neighborhood due to the fact that they do not have alternate side parking rules and parking is limited which causes some to park in front of mailboxes.

Ald. Lubotsky spoke with a couple at one of the street project PIM's who are frustrated and frequently have to chase down the mail carrier just to get their mail.

Michael Lechner of 4404 W Tesch - reported that in the last few years he has been having issues with people parking in front of his mailbox and the mail carrier leaves a note stating they were unable to deliver mail. Mr. Lechner would like to see No Parking from 6am to 6pm to help alleviate the problem.

Mr. Sokol read an email sent to Ald. Lubotsky from the Police Chief. The Chief wrote that there have been a limited number of complaints in which vehicle owners were contacted to move their vehicles. If an ordinance were enacted, invariable many parking citations would be issued to homeowners parking in front of their own

mailboxes or guests of homeowners. Some areas of the city would have limited or no parking if enacted. The Chief also commented that parking in front of a mailbox does not necessarily obstruct the box. If the carrier can get out of his truck and walk up to the mailbox it is not obstructed. If the carrier refuses to get out of the truck that is a customer service issue.

Mr. Sokol asked the Lechner's if they had in fact contacted the Post Office and asked the manager what their recommendations are. Mrs. Lechner responded that they were advised to put notes on the vehicles which they have done.

Mr. Sokol offered two solutions, to move the mailbox adjacent to another driveway or to consider a general parking ban in front of this property on a one case basis, which will eventually become the case around the city to address this issue. Ald. Pietrowski added that he would like to get some consult from the Post Office. Ald. Akers feels that until we can come up with a resolution that the Police Department should be contacted to ask the vehicle owners to move their cars.

Mr. Sokol stated that a representative of the city should contact the Post Office management and come back next month with some potential resolutions.

#### **Next Agenda**

#### ***At this time item #2 was discussed***

#### **12. Discussion and decision regarding the 7-year Capital Improvement Program. (Sokol)**

**7-year Capital  
Improvement Program.  
NEXT AGENDA**

Mr. Sokol noted that he is not looking for any decisions this evening but wanted to introduce the topic briefly. The current 7-year Capital Improvement Program map was distributed and some significant changes were discussed. The South 62<sup>nd</sup> Street and West Armour Avenue neighborhood was originally scheduled to be repaired in 2014. In 2009 we tried a technique that did not work very well so we went back in and made a more significant repair and that seems to have held up extremely well. We are suggesting that we defer it again as it is still holding up.

This year under our current CIP we are planning to redo the South 67<sup>th</sup> Street and West Holmes Avenue area which was originally planned for 2016. With adjusting for these two projects there is a chance to accelerate other projects, fill in with new projects or leave the vacancies as is. We can discuss next month whether we want to make adjustments.

Ald. Pietrowski asked if the Holmes area is a total reconstruction or a mill and overlay. Mr. Sokol stated that the eastern portion which has curb and gutter is getting surface treatment repairs and the western portion is getting a complete reconstruction.

#### **Next Agenda**

#### **13. Discussion and decision regarding bids received for 2014 Street Projects. (Katz)**

**Bids Received for 2014  
Street Projects.  
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Katz noted that on January 23, 2014 bids were opened for about half of the 2014 street projects. Engineering is recommending that the Common Council approve the following: City Hall Parking Lot, South 112<sup>th</sup> Street from West Cold Spring Road to West Beloit Road, and West Plainfield Avenue from South 92<sup>nd</sup> Street to South 98<sup>th</sup> Street with the low bid being from Black Diamond for \$502,000 and West Bottsford Avenue from South 68<sup>th</sup> Street to South 70<sup>th</sup> Street low bidder was Stark Asphalt for

\$146,000. Two projects at South 122<sup>nd</sup> and West Carpenter area as well as the South 65<sup>th</sup> and West Holmes area will go through the Special Assessment Process.

There is a second bid opening scheduled for Feb 27<sup>th</sup> for South 45<sup>th</sup> and West Norwich area, the Sanitary Sewer Lining Project, South 51<sup>st</sup> and West Edgerton Avenue to Konkel Park, South 116<sup>th</sup> and West Sunset area and the South 36<sup>th</sup> and West Allerton area.

Mr. Katz stated that he's been in discussion with the Mayor to potentially add additional 2014 projects. We received lower than expected bid prices due to the early bidding so if the money is available we would add South 116<sup>th</sup> Street from West Edgerton Avenue to I-43 and South 60<sup>th</sup> Street from West Edgerton Avenue to West Layton Avenue. If funds are available Engineering we will be coming back to the board and asking for approval of one or more of those projects.

Ald. Lubotsky asked if the South 60<sup>th</sup> Street project would improve the flow of traffic merging into one lane. Mr. Katz said we would be looking at trying to improve that as best we can. There will be a meeting with the school and the Police Department along with the construction engineer to address the issue.

**14. Other topics for future agendas**

**Other topics for future agendas**

West Howard Avenue traffic circle and its effects on the homes in the area.

**15. Adjournment**

**Adjournment**

**It was moved by Ald. Akers, seconded by Ald. Lubotsky to adjourn the Board of Public Works meeting at 7:50 PM. Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Young  
Administrative Assistant  
Department of Neighborhood Services

Date distributed: February 11, 2014