

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING HELD AT GREENFIELD CITY HALL, COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ROOM 100, ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2015 AT 6:30 P.M.

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

Meeting called to order

Roll Call:	Ald. Pam Akers	Excused
	Ald. Bruce Bailey	Present
	Mr. Richard Kasza	Present
	Ald. Linda Lubotsky	Present
	Mr. Richard Mrochinski	Excused
	Atty Roger Pyzyk	Excused

Also Present: Mr. Richard Sokol, Director of Neighborhood Services
Mr. Jeff Katz, City Engineer

2. Approval of the October 27, 2015 Meeting Minutes

**Approval of the
10/27/15 Meeting
Minutes**

It was moved by Ald. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Kasza to approve the October 27, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously

3. Citizen Commentary

Citizen Commentary

James Lach of 10830 West Cold Spring Road spoke regarding the Greenfield Highlands and the issues with their ponds. Mr. Lach asked about the time line on repairing the other two ponds and why all four ponds are full. He stated the water is over the top of the liner and water is pooled behind the theater and in the parking lot.

Mr. Katz stated that during the lining of the pond there were inspections by our consultant to verify that they put the PVC liner in correctly. The liner was installed according to the manufacturer's specifications.

At this time Item #15 was discussed

4. Director of Neighborhood Services Report

**Director of
Neighborhood
Services Report**

Mr. Sokol advised that the Police Chief suggested that the Board consider changing our procedure for establishing handicap parking zones around residences. The Chief suggested that given the authority of the police department that those handicap zones might be established or created with a request through the police department and that we can eliminate some time lags and steps that are currently necessary in creating ordinance changes. Board members generally agreed with this proposed change.

Mr. Sokol has been working with the Cobalt project at South 84th Street and West Layton Avenue. The Building Inspection Group is working on a software conversion with BS&A. Road construction on the Lynndale project is close to completion for the year. Street bids have been received and some design work is being finalized for 2016.

The key tags for the new program at the Drop-Off-Center (DOC) are currently in production. The plan is to distribute them by mail to residents of buildings (four units or less) and select condos that are part of our solid waste disposal program. Beginning Feb 1st residents will bring the key tag to the DOC and it will

be scanned to create a record of what is being brought in to help identify patterns of abuse. The purpose of this new program is not to generate revenue. There are no plans to create a fee or charge a fee, it is simply to try to lower the wait time, provide better service, and try to identify potential abuse.

5. Superintendent of Public Works Report

**Superintendent of
Public Works Report**

NO REPORT

6. City Engineer Report

City Engineer Report

Mr. Katz spoke about construction projects. The Lynndale neighborhood work for this year is finished. All the roads have been reconstructed, sewers have been put in, landscaping done, and still a bit more work to do on putting up street lights. Next year will be the final layer of asphalt. The neighborhood has been transformed.

Bids were opened for the South 57th Street high school driveway, West Howard Avenue, and the City Center. All of these are on the agenda for approval tonight. Because we bid early, we have received excellent prices and good contractors.

Engineering is also involved with sanitary sewer repairs within the city and review of the Meijer store development. Meijer has finished their grading and demolition for the year and expect to start building in Spring.

7. Repeal Ordinance #2749 designating handicap parking at 3639 South 46th Place, Tax Key 555-1238. (Engineering)

**Repeal Ordinance
#2749
COMMON COUNCIL**

It was moved by Ald. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Kasza to repeal Ordinance #2749 designating handicap parking at 3639 South 46th Place. Motion carried unanimously.

At this time Item #9 was discussed

8. Discussion and decision to provide No Parking Zone at 3930 West Honey Creek Circle, Tax Key 646-0034. (Ald. Lubotsky) (BPW 10/27/15)

**Provide No Parking
Zone at 3930 West
Honey Creek Circle
LEGISLATIVE**

Mr. Sokol noted that he spoke with Asst. Chief Schlecht today who indicated that an officer has tried to talk with the owner of the van that is parked on the street but was unsuccessful. The van owner is a third shift employee and the police believe he is now moving the van at night to conform to the parking regulations. The issue has now been referred to the code enforcement official at the fire department for follow-up.

Mr. Sokol personally visited the neighborhood and has seen the van parked during the day. The police stated they would continue to enforce the ordinances and laws of the city but believe the vehicle is parked their legally.

Robert G. Dallman of 3930 West Honey Creek Circle stated that the van does not move and considers it storage. He read Ordinance #9.10 regarding storage of junk on any public right-of-way and Ordinance #9.12 regarding parking in public right-of-way. Mr. Dallman also made reference to the parking policies for the City of West Allis where nightly parking permits must be purchased and special requests are limited to three times per month.

Ald. Bailey asked that this item be put on the Legislative Committee agenda so the West Allis Ordinance can be reviewed for adoption.

Remove from next agenda and refer to the Legislative Committee

At this time Item #13 was discussed

9. Discussion and decision to place a street light at South 38th Street and West Mangold Avenue, and adjoining areas. (Public Works)

**Place Street Light at South 38th Street and West Mangold Avenue
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Sokol noted that it was a suggestion by a resident to install a street light at South 38th Street and West Mangold Avenue. Public Works has reviewed the suggestion and believes that the entire area of South 37th Street should be better illuminated. There are five locations that Public Works would like to recommend that lights be added along with the light suggested at South 38th Street and West Mangold Avenue.

It was moved by Ald. Lubotsky, seconded by Mr. Kasza to approve all new lights as indicated. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Discussion and decision to relocate two street lights on West College Avenue near South 31st Street. (Ald. Saryan)

**Relocate Two Street Lights on West College Avenue near South 31st Street
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Sokol noted that a resident has contacted a city representative regarding street lighting on West College Avenue. College Avenue in this area is a County Trunk Highway. The resident generally wanted lighting added adjacent to his property. Given the distribution of the existing lights we believe and recommend that two lights be relocated and one light be added and the location of the second new light that was requested be denied.

It was moved by Ald. Bailey, seconded by Ald. Lubotsky to approve relocating two street lights on West College Avenue near 3134, add one new light and deny a new light at 3402 West College Avenue.

Under discussion, a concern was raised on possible complaints from neighbors on the relocating of the lights and if they will feel it is now too dark in the area.

Motion amended to remove street light at 2936 West College Avenue, add two lights at South 31st Street and West College Avenue and 3118 West College Avenue and deny a new light at 3402 W College Avenue. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Discussion and decision to install two street lights on South Honey Creek Drive. (Ald. Saryan)

**Install Two Street Lights on South Honey Creek Drive
NEXT AGENDA**

Mr. Katz stated that Engineering received a request for a street light at the intersection of West Abbott Avenue. A resident contacted Ald. Saryan and stated that it is very dark when you drive especially with the curve on South Honey Creek Drive. Staff looked at the lighting in the area and West Abbott Avenue and it would also be a good idea to have one light at West Upham Avenue especially since it is near the school it will keep the area lit for night events.

Staff recommends that we do add those lights but we would like to send a letter to the residents who live near the area to make sure that there are no objections.

NEXT AGENDA

12. Discussion and decision to install street lights on South 38th Street and West Layton Avenue. (Ald. Lubotsky)

**Install Street Lights on South 38th Street and West Layton Avenue
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Katz noted that a resident phoned who lives on the end of the cul-de-sac at South 38th Street and West Layton Avenue. It is very dark at night when driving into this cul-de-sac and staff agrees with installing a street light at this location. A light was also requested at the end of the cul-de-sac but there is already a light in the area so the second request would be denied.

It was moved by Ald. Lubotsky, seconded by Mr. Kasza to install a street light at the intersection of South 38th Street and West Layton Avenue and deny a light at the north end of the cul-de-sac. Motion carried unanimously.

At this time Item #14 was discussed

13. Discussion and decision to place a stop sign or yield sign at the southwest corner of South 40th Street and West Mangold Avenue as well at South 39th Street and West Kimberly Avenue. (Ald. Saryan)

**Place Stop or Yield Sign at South 40th Street and West Mangold Avenue and also South 39th Street and West Kimberly Avenue
NEXT AGENDA**

Mr. Sokol stated that the Board was asked to look at these two intersections, which are three-way intersections. Typically the city does not put stop or yield signs on three-way intersections in residential neighborhoods.

Beth Brigham of 3980 W Kimberly Avenue stated that the reason they brought this up is that it's a fairly new neighborhood with curved roads from West Mangold Avenue through West Kimberly Avenue down to South 37th Street. In the neighborhood association meetings it has been repeatedly mentioned that people are driving too fast through the neighborhood. About a year ago a neighbor's dog was killed and a few months ago a child on a skate board was nearly hit because a vehicle was going too fast, had to swerve and hit the curb.

There is also a playground in the area and when the weather is nice there are a lot of children playing who tend to spill out into the street. Many people also walk around the neighborhood or walk their dogs.

Sue and Mark Kruschke of 6035 S 40th Street have also noticed that the traffic goes very fast. Coming down the hill you have to be very careful of cars coming the other way because there is no stop sign, it's an uncontrolled intersection.

Mr. Sokol noted that the general engineering guidance that we follow says that we shouldn't use a stop sign to slow traffic down. We should use a stop sign when necessary to control traffic. Staff will contact the police department and ask them to set up a speed check program in this area and see if that is effective before we look at other alternatives.

The residents present stated that they did come to City Hall to get the Children Playing lawn signs and that the signs were vandalized.

NEXT AGENDA

At this time Item #4 was discussed

14. Discussion and decision to award contracts for road construction for South 57th Street, West Howard Avenue, and City Center. (Katz)

**Award Contracts for
Road Construction on
South 57th Street, West
Howard Avenue and
City Center
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Katz announced that bids were open on three projects over the last month. We have received very good prices in comparison to what we have experienced in the past. Staff recommends that we accept these bids contingent upon the sale of long term bonds next year. Contracts would not be signed until bonds are approved in late January or early February.

The Howard Avenue project is partly in Milwaukee and Milwaukee has agreed to pay their share which is approximately \$100,000. This project also includes some traffic signal upgrades at South 35th Street and West Howard Avenue including the installation of EVP for emergency vehicles.

The City Center project is a resurfacing of the roadway on South 60th Street from West Cold Spring Road to West Layton Avenue and on West Layton Avenue from South 60th to South 51st Streets with a resurfacing along with other upgrades including lighting and crosswalk improvements.

It was moved by Mr. Kasza, seconded by Ald. Bailey to award contracts for road construction on South 57th Street to Zignego, West Howard Avenue to Stark Pavement, and the City Center to Payne & Dolan. Motion carried unanimously.

At this time Item #17 was discussed

15. Discussion and decision to amend Resolution #3492, to reduce the street reconstruction special assessment rate where sidewalk will be installed adjacent to a residential property. (Katz)

**Amend Resolution
#3492 to Reduce Street
Reconstruction Special
Assessment
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Katz stated that reconstruction of high traffic streets in Greenfield include sidewalk and the main reason for including sidewalk is because it is not safe for people to walk on the street in a high traffic area. By City Ordinance, properties that have sidewalk adjacent to their property are required to remove the snow. The city recognizes the fact that removing the snow from sidewalk is an additional responsibility that a homeowner has over someone who doesn't have sidewalk. Properties on a reconstruction project in Greenfield are Special Assessed for street reconstruction per Resolution #3492. This is a proposal to reduce the assessment for properties that are adjacent to a sidewalk. For any property that the city intends to install sidewalk in front of, their Special Assessment would be reduced with the intention of compensating those property owners for the fact that they have that additional responsibility for removing snow.

Staff recommends reducing the street reconstruction Special Assessment rate by 35% where sidewalk would be installed adjacent to a property. On South 43rd Street a typical property is approximately 100' wide. Based on our recommendation to amend Resolution #3492, a property owner would receive a savings on their Special Assessment of approximately \$1,000 per parcel.

It was moved by Ald. Lubotsky, seconded by Mr. Kasza to approve amending Resolution #3492 to reduce the street reconstruction special assessment rate where sidewalk will be installed adjacent to a residential property by 35%. Motion carried unanimously.

Under discussion Ald. Bailey asked how this will affect the overall budget of the project.

Mr. Katz stated that this change will not affect the approved 2016 budget. Because special assessments can be paid over 10 years we do not pay for the project out of the current special assessments. The money that is assessed goes into a fund that gets carried forward for future projects. This resolution would be valid from this point on and all new projects.

16. Discussion and decision to include sidewalk as a part of the project to reconstruct South 43rd Street from West Grange Avenue to West Layton Avenue. (Katz)

**Include Sidewalk as Part of Project on South 43rd Street from West Grange Avenue to West Layton Avenue
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Katz stated city Municipal Code #9.02(2) requires sidewalk installation on all quarter-section streets because the Common Council declared to the city that we needed to have sidewalk on these major roads. Sidewalk is proposed for the South 43rd Street project on the west side only. City staff recommends that it is only necessary to put sidewalk on one side of these quarter-section streets and it is put on the side that fits based on existing utilities.

The city received a petition against sidewalk representing 59% of the properties on the west side of South 43rd Street. High traffic streets need sidewalk because it is not safe to walk in the street. Sidewalks are for the use by all residents that live on both sides of the street and in the surrounding neighborhoods. All users of public sidewalk need to be represented. A sidewalk will allow parents to walk with their children to the playground, gazebo and the walking path at Creek Wood Park on South 43rd Street and West Edgerton Avenue. The cost of the sidewalk is included in the approved 2016 budget for the project. It is the staff's recommendation to include sidewalk as a part of the project to reconstruct South 43rd Street from West Grange Avenue to West Layton Avenue.

The following individuals spoke against the proposed sidewalk:

Frank Nagorski of 4821 S 43rd Street
Steve Oravetz of 4761 S 43rd Street
Jerald Esselman of 5319 South 43rd Street
Frederick Treu of 5055 South 43rd Street
Ron Derdowski of 5175 South 43rd Street
Kathy Graham of 5411 South 43rd Street
Randy Keltner of 4300 W Grange Avenue
Mike Thieman of 5165 South 43rd Street
Carol Mack of 4857 South 43rd Street
Miroslawa Kowalczyk of 5155 South 43rd Street

The following spoke for sidewalk:

Art Arena of 4955 South 43rd Street

Patrick Berry of 4835 South 43rd Street asked if West Edgerton Avenue is going to be rebuilt with two sidewalks because of the federal funding, why aren't they paying for it on South 43rd Street

Mr. Katz stated that we have a federal grant that was applied for on a significantly expensive project. Not all roads qualify for a federal grant based on the type of road it is.

James Lach of 10830 West Cold Spring Road stated he called his insurance company to verify liability when sidewalks were installed in his neighborhood.

While the city is responsible for the sidewalk, if the resident does not maintain it, shovel the snow and remove the ice, and someone slips and falls, the resident could be held negligent. The resident does have to maintain it.

Mr. Katz noted that staff takes a project like this very seriously. We are looking at the needs of everyone, the needs of the residents that live on the west side of the street, but also the needs of the people that live on the east side of the street and in the adjoining subdivisions and the people from surrounding neighborhoods.

The sidewalks and roadway are for everyone. About 30% of the population including children, are people that do not drive. You also have to remember that the idea of walking in the street isn't realistic as far as safety goes. Do we have to wait until we have a fatality to determine if sidewalks are needed?

Staff spoke with the police chief, who has been with the city for 25 years and he relayed a story about an individual who was killed by a drunk driver while riding their bicycle on West Morgan Avenue that had no bike lane at the time.

Ald. Lubotsky read a statement from Ald. Akers who could not attend the meeting.

Ald. Bailey noted that snow shoveling is the concern and wonders what the cost would be if the city was to absorb the cost and clear the sidewalk from West Layton Avenue to West Grange Avenue. Mr. Katz stated that the only place the city currently clears sidewalks is in front of City Municipal buildings and some bridge overpasses. Mr. Sokol advised that Public Works currently has two vehicles for cleaning sidewalks that are kept busy during snow events. An additional vehicle would need to be purchased at about \$55k, along with an additional staff person at \$12 - \$14 per hour for the seasonal laborer. Staff has discussed this idea in the past, but is not sure that is the best long term policy for the city.

Ald. Lubotsky informed the retired residents that Milwaukee Department of Aging does have volunteers as well as Interfaith which is another organization you can call that has volunteers that will come and clear your snow and do lawn maintenance as well.

Mr. Kasza stated that this reconstructed road is not just for the current residents, it is supposed to last 54 years. It has to fit the needs of the neighborhood for 54 years. We cannot take the chance of it being underbuilt for whoever is in that neighborhood 20 years from now.

It was moved by Mr. Kasza, seconded by Ald. Lubotsky to include sidewalk as part of the project to reconstruct South 43rd Street from West Grange Avenue to West Layton Avenue. Motion carried unanimously.

Under discussion Ald. Bailey commented that he would like to look into having the city plow the sidewalk for the residents before he casts a vote. He was reminded that the city would then need to plow sidewalks for all residents of Greenfield, not just those on South 43rd Street. Mr. Sokol noted that we would be looking at \$75,000 to \$100,000 more per year if the city does plow. There is time between now and the let of the contract to discuss the issue of snow plow service.

At this time Item #8 was discussed

17. Other topics for future agendas

Sidewalk installation on West Howard Avenue from 4700 to 4900
Greenfield Highlands

**Other Topics for
Future Agendas**

18. Adjournment

Meeting Adjournment

**It was moved by Ald. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Kasza to adjourn the Board
of Public Works meeting at 9:04 PM. Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Young
Administrative Assistant
Department of Neighborhood Services

Date distributed: 12/9/15