

Minutes  
Transportation Commission Meeting  
Thurmaier Room- 2700 Week Street  
April 10, 2014

**Commission members in attendance:** Chairperson Nichole Lysne, Bob Woehr, Elbert Rackow, Ald. Mary Stroik, Ald. Jeremy Slowinski

**Excused:** Fred Hopfensperger, Hans Walther

**Others present:** Paul Stroik; Village of Whiting, Sam Levin; Village of Whiting, Director; Joel Lemke, Transit Manager; Susan Lemke

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. by Chairperson Nichole Lysne.

**1. Approval of the February 27, 2014 Transportation Commission minutes.**

*Elbert Rackow moved to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2014 Transportation Commission meeting. Ald. Mary Stroik seconded. Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.*

**2. Whiting Bus Service.**

As a follow up to Sam Levin's previous request to develop direct routes for Whiting residents to grocery store shopping, Manager Lemke presented information on the following: the number of minutes Whiting residents are currently on the bus to get to and from grocery shopping opportunities; staff responses to Sam's suggested new route ideas; a revised route suggestion from transit staff; and costs pertaining to revised or suggested routes. Statistics were also gathered regarding the number of connection riders that are transferring from Plover Taxi to Stevens Point Transit. It was determined that approximately 49% of all documented Whiting rides are individuals using the connection transfer at Tommy's Turnpike.

The Village of Whiting is currently paying \$18,250 for public transit service. It was determined that this amount should be reviewed to reflect current operational and capital costs for service. The total cost of service, based on operational costs at \$39,019 and capital costs at \$2,945 in 2014, total \$41,964. The Commission felt consideration should be given to granting Whiting an allowance for the 49% of riders who are not Whiting residents, who are either Plover or Stevens Point residents who board in Whiting, and are therefore counted as Whiting rides. They ride the bus through Whiting to travel between Plover and Stevens Point, etc. With a 49% allowance on the operational cost of the service, (not to include the capital cost reimbursement), the current amount of subsidy should be \$22,845. This cost would only apply to the current service provided to Whiting or the route revision proposed by Transit Staff which would not include added miles to the service and continue to offer connection service at Tommy's Turnpike. A route providing direct service from Whiting to Crossroad Commons, which Sam suggested we study, would reflect full cost to Whiting due to extra requested miles and the elimination of the connection at Tommy's Turnpike transfer.

*Bob Woehr moved to have the Transit Manager prepare a draft agreement, which would reflect the current operational and capital costs for the current public transportation service provided by the City of Stevens Point for the Village of Whiting, or the route revision Transit staff proposed. The draft shall be presented to the Village of Whiting Board President who will offer it to the Village Board for review. The cost shall reflect a 49% adjustment for connection rides. Upon approval of the Village of Whiting Board an agreement will be established between the City of Stevens Point and the Village of Whiting effective January 1, 2015, which will reflect operational and capital costs as budgeted in the 2015 Transit budget, and annually thereafter.*

*Ald. Jeremy Slowinski seconded. Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.*

**3. February 2014 claims/financial report.**

*Bob Woehr moved to approve the February 2014 claims/financial report. Elbert Rackow seconded. Ayes all Nays none; Motion carried.*

**6. Manager's Report:**

➤ **Staff Update**

The Transit Division part-time LNT Supervisor position has been filled by a Bus Operator who applied for the position, creating a Bus Operator vacancy. Two additional vacancies remain, one due to a retirement and the other due to a resignation. Management is in the process of filling the vacancy due to the resignation and will proceed in filling the other two vacant positions following approval by the Personnel Committee to do so.

➤ **Outstanding Public Service Award**

Manager Lemke received an Outstanding Public Service Award from the Wisconsin Urban and Rural Transit Association at the WURTA Legislative Day, held on March 4, 2014 in Madison at the State Capitol building.

*Bob Woehr moved to approve the Manager's report and place it on file. Elbert Rackow seconded. Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.*

**7. Next meeting date.**

The next Transportation Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, May 22, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

**8. Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:00 p.m.