

Minutes
Transportation Commission Meeting
June 27, 2011

Commission members in attendance: Bob Woehr, Ald. Jeremy Slowinski, Ald. Mary Stroik, Elbert Rackow, Hans Walther

Commission members excused: Chairperson Nichole Lysne

Others present: Bob Fisch, Bob Bowen, Susan Lemke, Matthew Brown (PC Gazette)

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Hans Walther.

1. Approval of minutes from the April 26, 2011 Transportation Commission meeting.

Elbert Rackow moved to approve the minutes from the April 26, 2011 Transportation Commission meeting. Bob Woehr seconded. Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

2. Discussion with possible action regarding Park Ridge, in relation to state statute 66.1021 (12).

Bob Woehr request this item be placed on the agenda. He indicated he feels Point Transit has been, and continues to be, in violation of state statute 66.1021 (12). The statute reads: Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, no transit commission may provide service outside the corporate limits of the city which establishes the transit commission unless the transit commission receives financial support for the service under a contract with a public or private organization for the service. This subsection does not apply to service provided by a transit commission outside the corporate limits of the city which establishes the transit commission if the transit commission is providing the service on April 28, 1994, without receiving financial support from a public or private organization for the service, and elects to continue the service.

Mr. Woehr acknowledged that the Park Ridge Village board addressed this issue in February requesting the City provide ridership statistics to them which will be reviewed in October. Mr. Woehr feels strongly that the City should notify Park Ridge in writing that if an agreement cannot be made in which Park Ridge subsidizes the City of Stevens Point, transportation services to Park Ridge should cease as of January 1, 2012. He stated if they are notified now they will have time to plan for it in their 2012 budget.

Ald. Mary Stroik questioned if Park Ridge was paying for service in 1994, as the statute language reads "This subsection does not apply to service provided by a transit commission outside the corporate limits of the city which establishes the transit commission if the transit commission is providing the service on April 28, 1994, without receiving financial support from a public or private organization for the service, and elects to continue the service". Manager Lemke stated she will check into exact dates; however she is certain that prior to her employment with the City which began in 1997 that Park Ridge did subsidize the City for service, but she is uncertain when it was discontinued or why.

Bob Woehr moved that the Mayor, or designee, notify the Park Ridge Village Board in writing that unless a contract is approved with and subsidy paid to the City of Stevens Point, effective January 1, 2012 Point Transit will cease all service, both fixed route and Point Plus, within the village. Elbert Rackow seconded. Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

3. Discussion with possible action regarding bids received for ARRA funded Support vehicle.

Manager Lemke reported that two bids were received for the ARRA funded staff support vehicle. Both bids met the specifications included in the Invitation for Bid document. The same vehicle, (year, make and model), was bid by each vendor. The bid quotes were \$33,952 and \$35,799. Manager Lemke has submitted all documents to the state for review with a recommendation to award the bid to the lowest bidder. At the time of the Commission meeting Manager Lemke had not received authorization to award the bid, therefore the names of the bidders cannot be released at this time.

Bob Woehr moved to authorize the Transit Manager to move forward with the purchase of the staff support vehicle upon state approval. Elbert Rackow seconded. Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

4. Manager's Report

- **State/Federal budget update**

The Governor's budget has been passed and Transit will remain in the segregated transportation fund. Transit workers were exempted from the collective bargaining provisions in the Budget Repair Bill which will allow the continuation of federal funding. A new \$5 million paratransit fund was created, however it is unclear at this time how the funding will be distributed. The 10% cut in state transit aid in 2012 remained in the budget. All Regional Transit Authorities created or enabled in the 2009-11 budget were repealed.

- **Facility update**

The National Environmental Protection Agency categorical exclusion is expected soon. The Federal Transit Agency has approved their portion of it; however research continues with the Historical Preservation division and is expected to be concluded soon.

- **Freedom pass sales**

Thirty-two Freedom passes have been sold to date. The number sold is up from last year's sales at this time.

- **Mechanic supervision change.**

Beginning the first week in June a supervisory change took place for the DPW mechanic assigned to the Transit Division. The Transit Operations supervisor now supervises the Transit Mechanic. The transition is going well.

- **Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin report**

Bob Fisch, a Stevens Point resident and a member of the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin presented the 2011 Wisconsin Bicycling Benchmarking Report to the Commission. A copy of the report can be obtained by contacting Kevin Leucke, author of Benchmarking report at Kevin.luecke@bfw.org or visit their website at www.bfw.org

- **Transportation Commission vacancy**

Judy Bablitch has resigned from the Transportation Commission.

Elbert Rackow moved to accept the Manager's report, Bob Woehr seconded. Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

5. Next meeting date.

The next Transportation Commission meeting will be held Monday, July 25, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

6. Adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.