

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING
Monday, May 13, 2013
Lincoln Center – 1519 Water Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Mayor Andrew Halverson, Comptroller/Treasurer (C/T) Corey Ladick, Director of Public Works Scott Schatschneider and Administrative Assistant Tricia Church; **Alderspersons:** George Doxtator(1st), JoAnne Suomi(2nd), Michael O’Meara(3rd), Tony Patton(8th) and Randal Stroik(9th).

ALSO PRESENT:

DIRECTORS: Joel Lemke, Michael Ostrowski, and Tom Schrader.

ALDERPERSONS: Mary Stroik(5th), Jeremy Slowinski(6th), and Mike Phillips(10th),

CITY STAFF MEMBERS: City Attorney A. Logan Beverage, City Clerk John Moe, Deputy C/T Carrie Freeberg, Mayoral Assistant Kelley Pazdernik, Fire Chief Tracey Kujawa, Assistant Police Chief Marty Skibba.

OTHERS PRESENT: Brandi Makuski – Stevens Point City Times, Gene Kemmeter – Portage County Gazette, Chris Jones – Stevens Point Journal, Barb Jacob – 1616 Depot Street, Cathy Dugan – 615 Sommers Street, Marcy Kirsch – 2801 Sims Avenue, Bob Fisch – 1033 Smith Street, Sarah Wallace – Portage County Planning and Zoning, and Jeff Sandberg and Bruce Gerland - AECOM.

Mayor Andrew Halverson called the Board of Public Works meeting to order on May 13, 2013 at 7:38 P.M. The meeting was held at The Lincoln Center at 1519 Water Street in Stevens Point, WI 54481.

1. Consideration and possible action on discussion regarding responses from the Minnesota Avenue Parking Questionnaire.

Mayor Halverson explained that a questionnaire was mailed out to residents and Alderperson Suomi walked along the corridor.

Alderperson Suomi said she had an opportunity to contact 10 home owners and discussed with one homeowner on the phone. She got a wide range of “leave it alone” to “no parking all the time” to “no parking during events”. She feels the City needs to develop a new Ordinance for temporary parking for large community events at Georke Field or K.B. Willett Arena.

Mayor Halverson said we came to the consensus that the temporary signage is going to make the most sense. He feels that we should be able to install them and be able to put them down as needed during situations that we know based on what is going on either at the ice arena or Georke Field. We will have to spend some time internally with Director Schrader to determine which events are going to rise to the level of using the signs. He asked that the Board of Public Works direct staff to get an Ordinance together for next month. In the meantime if we do have events that arise, we can use our discretion along with a Mayoral Order function to sign appropriately until we have an Ordinance in place.

Alderperson Stroik asked if in order to put the signs down, will this require overtime for someone to come in before street parking is allowed or who will be working the signage? Mayor Halverson

said it was discussed along with the Police Department that the officers in patrol of that area will have a 2 to 4 hour window during the evening to get the temporary signs down for the next day in order to make sure no one will be parking there by the time needed.

Alderson Suomi asked for clarification in terms of the protocol and how the City staff is feeling about who will be doing what with the signs and when. Mayor Halverson clarified that the Parks and Recreation Department will be communicating with the Police Department to inform them of any anticipated events so an officer knows when to put the signs down at night the day before an anticipated event.

Alderson Stroik move that we ask staff to put together a proposed Ordinance to restrict parking on Minnesota Avenue during events that arise to a certain threshold; seconded by Alderson Suomi.

Marcy Kirsch – 2801 Sims Avenue asked what the results were for the letters that were sent out to determine the consensus. Director Schatschneider said that originally there were 6 responses but then more came in right before my report went out so they were added. Of the 19 total that were sent out, 10 replies came back, 7 supported “no parking during special events” and 3 supported “no parking permanently”.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried

2. Consideration and possible action to authorize to enter into design contract discussions with 5 Bugles Design for Architectural Services pertaining to upgrades for the Fire Station #1.

There was no discussion or questions regarding the design contract.

Alderson Stroik moved approval; seconded by Alderson Doxtator.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried

3. Discussion regarding the Energy Savings Contracting Proposals.

There was no discussion or questions regarding the Energy Savings Contracting Proposals.

Alderson Patton moved approval; seconded by Alderson Doxtator.

Alderson Stroik asked for clarification on what the motions are for. Mayor Halverson reported that it is recommended by staff that we do not move forward with the performance based contract primarily because we feel we can do this one in-house.

4. Consideration and possible action to accept the Director’s Report and place it on file.

Director Schatschneider added that next month Agenda will include a lengthy report regarding parking. Staff has been working on recognizing areas of concern and possible solutions for the future.

Alderson Suomi moved approval to accept the report and place it on file; seconded by Alderson Patton.

5. Business 51 Project update: Preliminary Design Alternatives Presentation with Bruce Gerland and Jeff Sandberg with AECOM.

Due to the size of the presentation from AECOM, it will be provided electronically on our website.

Bruce Gerland and Jeff Sandberg explained the PowerPoint Presentation to update us on their progress of the Business 51 Project.

Mayor Halverson asked for comments or questions from the Elected Officials or the Board only. He stated that the public will be able to engage and ask questions to the consultants at the public information meeting on Thursday, May 16, 2013 at Jefferson School.

Aldersperson Patton asked if there was a study done to determine how much bike lanes are used. Jeff Gerland said in general there was not but his understanding it is a "you build it and they will come" scenario. On a road such as Business 51, it is hard to measure the demand for bicycle traffic by taking count because there are most likely people that would ride bike on Business 51 that don't due to the safety issues. Aldersperson Suomi added that as a bicyclist, she would much rather prefer ride on Michigan Avenue than Business 51.

Aldersperson Patterson stressed his concerns with raised medians. He said he knows they funnel traffic but he feels people seek other ways to try to avoid them or get around them.

Aldersperson Suomi commended the process that AECOM is taking in the intense information that is shared.

Aldersperson Stroik asked if we are planning to bypass the whole south side triangle that we acquired with the last construction. Mayor Halverson said that we do not want to have to tear all that out and disrupt that section again, but that will be determined at a later date.

Aldersperson Doxtator added that if we want to be far sighted we need to look at what they are doing in Plover and tie the whole project in from Highway 54 to Sentry Insurance.

Aldersperson Phillips asked how the underpass is considered in the new way construction. Mayor Halverson said the underpass is owned by Canadian National Rail and will not be considered at all. Mayor Halverson added that unless we want to multiply the cost of the project by 2 ½ times, the underpass will not be an option. The underpass may not need to be replaced for at least another 35 to 40 years.

Mayor Halverson added again that the public informational meeting will be held this Thursday, May 16th at 5:30 p.m. at Jefferson School. Everyone is welcome to attend.

6. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Andrew Halverson adjourned the May 13, 2013 Board of Public Works Meeting at 8:22 P.M.