

CITY OF STEVENS POINT

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING

Monday, June 9, 2014

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 Tricia Church; **Alderspersons:** George Doxtator(1st), Michael O'Meara(3rd), Jeremy Slowinski(6th) and Randal Stroik(9th).

DISMISSED: JoAnne Suomi(2nd)

ALSO PRESENT:

DIRECTORS: Michael Ostrowski – Community Development, and Tom Schrader – Parks and Recreation.

ALDERPERSONS: Mike Wiza(4th), Mary Stroik(5th), Roger Trzebiatowski(7th), Michael Phillips(10th) and Jerry Moore(10th).

CITY STAFF MEMBERS: City Attorney A. Logan Beverage, City Clerk John Moe, Deputy C/T Carrie Freeberg, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor Kelley Pazdernik, Interim Fire Chief Bob Finn, and Police Chief Kevin Ruder.

OTHERS PRESENT: Brandi Makuski – Stevens Point City Times, Brian Kowalski and Sari Lesk – Stevens Point Journal, Bruce Gerland, David Hansen and Kevin Hagen – AECOM Technical Services, Chuck Rasmussen – OTIE Engineer, Barb Jacob – 1616 Depot Street, MaryAnn Laszewski – 9th District, Cathy Dugan – 615 Sommers Street, and Bob Fisch – 1033 Smith Street.

Mayor Andrew Halverson called the Board of Public Works meeting to order on June 9, 2014 at 6:51 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 determination of direction in terms of the existing design contract for Business 51.

Director Schatschneider reiterated last months meeting we decided to switch gears from the Business 51 Project to the Hoover Road Grade Separation Project, however; we have some decisions that need to be made regarding the Business 51 Project. The decision before the board is what we want to do with the existing Tiered EA and 30% Design Contract with AECOM. Attached in the packet is a memo from AECOM explaining where we have been, where we are at and what we have for tasks that are left to be done along with corresponding dollar amounts.

Mayor Halverson added that the option we are looking to proceed with is additional dollars for the full environmental document as laid out in the AECOM Memo for a total cost of \$996,178.00 with \$820,578.00 being the amount of the existing contract then adding supplemental dollars to finish the process of \$176,600.00.

Aldersperson Doxtator said it looks like a no brainer on paper. 10 years from now it will cost us \$1.6 million to start this process over again.

Aldersperson Stroik asked if in 10 years from now this document would be binding or would Council at that time be able to start the process over if they choose at that time. He feels that Council in 10 years may look at the document and want to review it because it could be a completely different dynamic than it is today. He feels it is foolish to spend another \$300 thousand to put on a shelf for 10 years when we could spend that money on projects today.

Mayor Halverson added that the force of an environmental document once finished and a preferred alternative chosen would indeed be binding especially if the same regulations for the Federal Highway System as well as WisDOT interaction continue.

C/T Ladick asked how long this document would take to complete and how long would the plan sit collecting dust so to speak. Director Schatschneider said there is somewhere around 18 months of work yet to be done before it could sit anywhere from 8 to 10 years but it allows us to move forward with steps for when we are at the point when we can do the project. He reiterated that this will not be a document that gets finished then shelved; this will be a working document that will give us direction as we get closer to the date when we can do Business 51.

Aldersperson O'Meara added another advantage to getting the document far enough along is it would allow us to do individual parts to the project. We would have opportunities to do short segments on intersections we are having safety issues with. We may be eligible for Federal Safety Funds to fix individual intersections as needed as long as it fits into the final picture of the project. Another way it helps is if there would be a foreclosure or house or business for sale we would have a way to justify early acquisition.

Aldersperson Doxtator added that Aldersperson Suomi is excused tonight but is very concerned about the intersections that we are having major traffic problems with so if we complete this study it could help us fix certain areas.

Mayor Halverson added that he had discussions last week with Aldersperson Suomi and conveyed her support for wanting to fulfill the environmental documents for those reasons.

Aldersperson Slowinski asked if we move forward with this and this corridor completely explodes with changes are we going to have to start this process over. Mayor Halverson said in terms of the traffic assumptions that were built into the analysis and generation modeling; he can't foreshadow how it would be more aggressive. AECOM significantly increased the growth assumptions to accommodate for the former Ramada site, The University, and Sentry Insurance. He feels we will be adequate even at a 10 year look back at the model from today.

Aldersperson Wiza stressed his concerns with completing a document that will not be used for 10 years. He feels we would be throwing money away if we continue with this study. He feels we should take the advice of the people that have shown up at the public meetings and let the people 10 years from now decide what is best for them.

Aldersperson O'Meara added that we would not really be putting this document on the shelf for 10 years because as we have trouble with intersections, this will give us the ability to look at different segments and justify doing them in conformance with the overall plan.

Mayor Halverson moved approval of continuing with the full environment document and authorizes the Director and himself to enter into contract negotiations for the additional costs with AECOM for Business 51; seconded by Aldersperson O'Meara.

Ayes majority; nays minority; motion carried

2. Consideration and possible action to accept the Director's Report and place it on file.

Director Schatschneider reported an update on the status of the Seawall Project. We issued a check to FEMA for review fees and June 13th is their 90 day deadline. We are hoping for good news by the end of June. Mayor Halverson added that for the hopeful imminent authorization, the Community Development Office has started work to prepare for getting the Letter of Map Revision ready for approval from the Plan Commissions prospective for the July meeting.

Aldersperson O'Meara moved approval; seconded by Aldersperson Slowinski.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried

3. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Andrew Halverson adjourned the June 9, 2014 Board of Public Works Meeting at 7:10 P.M.