

CITY OF STEVENS POINT

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING

Monday, January 11, 2016
Lincoln Center – 1519 Water Street
Stevens Point, WI 54481

MINUTES

PRESENT: Mayor Mike Wiza, Comptroller/Treasurer (C/T) Corey Ladick, Director of Public Works Scott Schatschneider and Tricia Church; **Alderspersons:** George Doxtator(1st), Garrett Ryan(3rd), Mary Kneebone(7th) and Mary McComb(9th).

EXCUSED: Heidi Oberstadt(4th)

ALSO PRESENT:

DIRECTORS: Michael Ostrowski – Community Development and Joel Lemke – Public Utilities and Transportation, and Tom Schrader – Parks and Recreation.

ALDERPERSONS: Denise Mrozek(2nd), Brian Van Stippen(5th), Jeremy Slowinski(6th), Tony Patton(8th), Mike Phillips(10th) and Shaun Morrow(11th).

CITY STAFF MEMBERS: City Clerk John Moe, City Attorney Andrew Beveridge, Police Chief Martin Skibba and Fire Chief Bob Finn.

OTHERS: Nate Enwald – P.C. Gazette, Brandi Makuski – Stevens Point City Times, Ryan Barz and Bruce Gerland – AECOM, William and Bonnie Maher – Maher Water Corporation, Bob Fisch – 1033 Smith Street, Cathy Dugan – 615 Sommers Street, Chuck Glodowski – 5276 Howard Avenue, Bob Larson – 3283 Lindbergh Avenue, David Shorr – 2509 Peck Street, Mary Meyer – 1450 Water Street, Tori Jennings – 1632 Ellis Street, Trevor Roark – 601 Washington Avenue, Barb Jacob – Division Street, Mathew Brown – 1556 Plover Street and Jim Spreeda – 1741 Ellis Street.

Mayor Mike Wiza called the Board of Public Works meeting to order at 6:24 p.m. on January 11, 2016. The meeting was held at the Lincoln Center located at 1519 Water Street in Stevens Point.

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

Director Schatschneider had nothing to add to his report but stated he was open for questions.

C/T Ladick made the motion to approve the Director's Report and place it on file; seconded by Alderperson McComb.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

2. Consideration and possible action to approve the ordinance modifications in Sections 9.02(b)2, 9.04(a) and 9.06(a) on Ellis Street between Church Street and Strongs Avenue.

Aldersperson Ryan asked if we could put up additional signage for the change to the bike route.

Aldersperson Doxtator agreed with Aldersperson Ryan; however, it will be a one-way street and bikers should not be going the wrong way on a one-way street. He also asked for additional wording in the ordinance that states that this is temporary.

Mayor Wiza reminded all the Alderspersons that they can consider changing any ordinance at any time. He also stated that his intention is to bring this back for consideration after a reasonable amount of time has passed in an attempt to resolve the problem.

Aldersperson McComb moved approval for the ordinance modifications in Sections 9.02(b)2, 9.04(a) and 9.06(a); seconded by Aldersperson Kneebone.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

3. Consideration and possible action to approve a decision regarding a second/future entrance into the Stevens Point Industrial Park.

Mayor Wiza explained that after further discussion and evaluation it has been determined that a second access is not warranted at this time due to Skyward moving in the spring and the vacant Joerns building. Until those buildings get repurposed, the recommendation is to not forget about it, but put it on hold until it is needed.

Aldersperson Doxtator asked what kind of clearance the multiuse path will have for emergency vehicles. Director Schatschneider stated that the fire department said it would work as long as we have snow cleared on the path in the winter.

Aldersperson Doxtator motioned to approve the decision regarding a delay to a second/future entrance into the Stevens Point Industrial Park; seconded by Aldersperson Ryan.

Mayor Wiza clarified that the motion on the table is to suspend work and delay action on the future entrance to the Industrial Park.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

4. Consideration and possible action to approve the proposed design alternative for the Coye Drive and Hoover Road intersection improvements.

Mayor Wiza stated that we have had many discussions on this and are now at the point where we need a decision. The proposed design is the best alternative for the most people.

Bob Larson thanked the Mayor for taking his call and answering some of his concerns; however, he had a few more come up since. He asked what the cost would be if the road was left as it is and signal lights were installed. Director Schatschneider stated that it would not work because it

is currently geometrically unacceptable for signal lights as it is. Mr. Larson then asked if we looked up the accident reports at this intersection and compared it to Fourth Avenue and Division Street that has signals but no turn lanes. Director Schatschneider explained from an engineering standpoint, crash data is only one of seven things that are looked at to see if an intersection warrants signals.

William Maher stressed his concerns with taking away the Hoover Road entrance to their business. He feels his business will be handicapped when there are delivery trucks blocking his only entrance. He asked if the cost to build this intersection included compensation to the businesses that will be affected. Mayor Wiza and Director Schatschneider stated that it does.

Bonnie Maher stressed disappointment with the vague explanations she received in the memo from AECOM and Director Schatschneider. She stated that the city took enough of their land when the median on Hoover Road was put in. She feels the project is not worth closing off an entrance to their business. She said they will more than likely build and move their business somewhere else. She pointed out that vehicles using the right turn lane would already be slowing down to prepare to turn onto Coye Drive; therefore, she feels leaving the entrance into their business would not pose a safety issue.

Kathy Dugan feels we should be looking at making some accommodations to our small businesses as we do for our large corporations.

Alderson Slowinski agreed that this is a very difficult intersection. He stated that he honestly feels we have made every attempt to work this out. He really feels bad for Maher's business but he simply cannot see any other way to make this intersection work. He stressed the importance of having turn lanes in order for this project to work. He pointed out that the business to the north will also be losing an entrance as well.

Barb Jacob guarantees that taking away an access point away will impact Maher's and to a small business, that can be detrimental.

Mayor Wiza affirmed that the cost of property acquisitions to all the affected businesses has been taken into account in the estimated cost of the project. He reminded everyone that we have researched every possible suggestion and worked on them for months. He echoed Alderson Slowinski regarding Maher's not being the only business losing an access off Hoover Road.

Mayor Wiza motioned to move forward with the proposed design alternative to the Coye Drive and Hoover Road intersection improvements; seconded by Alderson Doxtator.

Alderson Ryan asked if we could possibly look at changing the addresses of the businesses that will be losing access off Hoover Road to a Coye Drive address. Mayor Wiza said that is definitely something we can look into.

Alderson McComb stated that she is impressed with the amount of attention that staff and council members have given to try to solve this problem. She believes that staff and engineers have done all they can to design the best way possible.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

5. Discussion/Update regarding design progress for Sixth Avenue.

Director Schatschneider explained that Sixth Avenue is scheduled for a complete reconstruct this year. In the design process, we are proposing adding sidewalk city funded as part of the project. He explained that this is a section of town that definitely warrants sidewalks and we should take opportunities like this to install sidewalks where it makes sense. He stated that this item was put on the agenda as an introduction to how we would like to plan to proceed with this project.

Aldersperson McComb added that she has had discussions with Director Schatschneider and is pleased to announce that we have also planned to mark bike lanes as part of this project.

6. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Mike Wiza adjourned the January 11, 2016 Board of Public Works Meeting at 7:02 p.m.