

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING
Monday, October 11, 2010
Lincoln Center – 1519 Water Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Mayor Andrew Halverson, Comptroller/Treasurer (C/T) John Schlice, Director Joel Lemke and Tricia Church; Alderpersons: Tom Mallison(1st), Michael O’Meara(3rd), Roger Trzebiatowski(7th), Randal Stroik(9th), and Brian Brooks(10th).

ALSO

PRESENT: **DIRECTORS:** Tom Schrader, Kim Halverson and Michael Ostrowski.
CITY STAFF MEMBERS: City Assessor Jim Siebers, Human Resources Manager Lisa Jakusz and Mayoral Assistant Kelley Pazdernik.
ALDERPERSONS: Joanne Suomi(2nd), Mary Stroik(5th), and Jeremy Slowinski(6th).
OTHERS PRESENT: Matthew Brown - Gazette, Brian Kowalski – Stevens Point Journal, Barb Jacob – 1616 Depot Street, Reid Rocheleau, 408 West Cedar Street (Whiting).

Mayor Halverson called the Board of Public Works meeting to order on October 11, 2010 at 8:24 P.M. The meeting was held at The Lincoln Center Conference Room, 1519 Water Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481.

1. Consideration and possible action to accept the Parking Meter Report for September, 2010 and place it on file (attachment)

There was no discussion regarding the September, 2010 Parking Meter Report.

C/T Schlice moved to accept the Parking Meter Report and place it on file; seconded by Alderperson Stroik.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

2. Airport Manager’s Report (attachment)

There was no discussion regarding the Airport Manager’s Report.

C/T Schlice moved to accept the Airport Manager’s Report and place it on file; seconded by Alderperson Brooks.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

3. Consideration and possible to approve the October 4, 2010 Airport Committee Meeting Minutes (attachment)

Mayor Halverson highlighted the meeting and noted that there was quite a bit of discussion on snow and ice control.

Alderson Stroik moved to approve the October 4, 2010 Airport Committee Minutes and place them on file; seconded by Alderson Mallison.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

4. Consideration and possible action to accept Traffic Study #TS-06-10; to place stop signs for westbound traffic on Mary's Drive at Country Club Drive and westbound traffic on Hummingbird Lane at Finch Lane (attachment)

Director Lemke explained the one on Mary's Drive is the current driveway to the Spectra Print property. The one on Hummingbird Lane is in the Whitetail subdivision and is requested to make it consistent with the other T-intersections in that subdivision.

Alderson O'Meara warrants the stop sign on Mary's Drive at Country Club Drive but doesn't understand the reason for the stop sign on Hummingbird Lane. He does not feel it is a good idea to put too many stop signs in and feels we should do another traffic study to remove the others in that subdivision.

Alderson O'Meara questioned if we could separate the traffic study to place a stop sign on Mary's Drive but not on Hummingbird Lane. Mayor Halverson said if that is how you would like to vote then do so and if there is a second, we may proceed with it that way.

Alderson O'Meara moved to separate the vote; Mayor Halverson asked for a second and there was none, motion failed.

Mayor Halverson asked for a motion to accept the Traffic Study #TS-06-10 as a whole.

Alderson Mallison moved to accept the Traffic Study #TS-06-10 as written; seconded by Alderson Brooks.

Ayes majority; nays Alderson O'Meara; motion carried.

5. Consideration and possible action to approve the downtown square project as conceptually presented and authorizing the use of available funds to begin preconstruction activities related to this project including the procurement of materials, contracting of professional services, and obtaining of necessary permits (attachment)

Mayor Halverson explained the estimated cost breakdown in the attachment. He feels based on the cost estimates and the design as presented, that it looks possible to construct in 2011 with little to no additional dollars associated with the project.

Alderson Mallison questioned what happens if the earmark falls through. Mayor Halverson explained we would have to make up or modify the size and scope of the project by either making it a smaller project; or, not doing the project at all; or, allocate the additional dollars from the 2011 borrowing from streets.

Alderson Mallison questioned that if in November, the earmark does not go through and we are then short \$300,000, does it then come back before Board of Public Works to decide how we want to make up that gap at that time. Mayor Halverson said that is correct. He mentioned that part of that gap could be made up by leveraging additional funds we saved this year in DPW because of the bid savings we experienced this year; or, use a greater percent of the 2011 borrowing to offset that shortfall.

Alderson Trzebiatowski questioned if we would still be out the \$67,000 to Rettler Corporation for the project even if we were to decide to drop the project. The Mayor said that is correct but he does not feel that we should look at it as being out \$67,000 for design and engineering because at some point, this is a project the City should move forward with.

Alderson Trzebiatowski has had a few people argue about the one million dollars we are looking at for just the downtown area in this economy and not helping other area businesses. He would like to know how we can justify and sell this to the public. He also feels that he is not 100% sold on this either.

Mayor Halverson explained that there is a big need to do something downtown due to the current conditions specifically of the southwest area of the square with 1) The street lights are broke, 2) the sidewalks are cracked, 3) the cobble stone is in disrepair, 4) the concrete is broke on what where the benches that were there previously. He feels if we do not start investing in this kind of thing, we will never be able to grow our downtown or collective community.

Alderson O'Meara feels this is a good project and a good time to do it because all the projects that are being bid right now are coming in low and the interest rates are at a historically low rate. He would also like us to look again at the permanent canopies or structure it so they may be added in the future.

Alderson Trzebiatowski asked if we have a mechanism set up for a return to the city on any of these investments. He feels the vendors should have permits for use of the facilities and should contribute towards any long term maintenance of this project. Mayor Halverson said we have already started internal conversations about a more rigid process for permitting the use of the spaces for the farmers market. He feels that the real payback or return is the presence of them being there.

Alderson Trzebiatowski is concerned about things he heard about the power usage from vendors that are at the farmers market. There are some that are hooked up to the City's power to run cookers, refrigerators, freezers, etc. and then some that were told they had to provide their own power sources. Mayor Halverson said we are going to have to look at and work through some of these challenges.

Alderson Brooks feels that if we provide to the vendors who run the farmers markets, we are actually giving something to the community for all the citizens of Stevens Point to gather and use.

Alderson Brooks moved approval for the downtown square project as conceptually presented and to authorize the use of available funds to begin pre-construction activities related to this project including the procurement of materials, contracting of professional services, and obtaining of necessary permits; seconded by Alderson O'Meara.

Reid Rocheleau – 408 West Cedar Street (Whiting) is all for the downtown square project. He has attended some of the downtown square committee meetings and feels the direction at this point is now more oriented towards the public. He also feels we should be putting more effort into selling this project to the public.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

6. Consideration and possible action to hire Rettler Corporation of Stevens Point for pre-construction services related to the re-construction of the downtown square including final design and engineering services in the amount of \$67,000.00 (attachment)

Aldersperson O'Meara mentioned that we should not do an AIA Standard Format Contract because it is very one-sided. He feels the City Attorney can draw up a contract for \$67,000.00.

Aldersperson O'Meara moved approval as it was read; seconded by Aldersperson Stroik.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

7. Consideration and possible action to approve the contract contingency amounts relating to projects that are bid and let by the Department of Public Works (attachment)

Mayor Halverson explained that this is the exact same attachment that the Finance Committee already acted on.

Aldersperson Stroik moved approval; seconded by Aldersperson Brooks.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

8. Director's Report (attachment)

C/T Schlice moved to accept the report and place it on file; seconded by Aldersperson Brooks.

Aldersperson Trzebiatowski mentioned that there is still a lighting issue at the material recycling drop-off in the park and is creating a safety hazard now that it is getting dark earlier in the evenings. Mayor Halverson thanked him for bringing that up and it will be addressed.

Aldersperson Brooks questioned how long Church Street/Division Street is going to be blocked with the work being done. Director Lemke said both the concrete work and Wisconsin Public Service with utility work ran together and should all be done in the next couple weeks. Aldersperson Trzebiatowski requested signs be put up regarding the width restrictions because of a Fahrner Asphalt truck that was stuck due to a wide load.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

9. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Halverson adjourned the October 11, 2010 Board of Public Works meeting at 9:07 P.M.