

Meeting Minutes

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

June 25, 2001 6:00 P.M.

City Water Department

300 Bliss Avenue

Mayor Gary W. Wescott, presiding

Roll Call: Present: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Filipiak, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Nealis, Phillips, Moore

Excused: Ald. Seiser

Also Present: C/T Schlice, Clerk Zdroik, Director VanAlstine, Nikki Montgomery (Intern-WIZD), Gene Kemmeter (Portage County Gazette)

1. Discussion of future Capital Improvement projects.

Comptroller-Treasurer Schlice distributed copies of the project blueprint showing capital expenditures, operational budget, joint Public Works and Water Department projects, Water Department only projects, and studies. A copy of the project blueprint is attached.

At this Special Common Council meeting, the Council is being asked to review the project prioritization submitted by the alderpersons with an annual expenditure of approximately \$2 million.

On top of the list for capital expenditures consideration is the Lincoln Center project, followed by the Highway 10 project. The Council approved the Lincoln Center project but has not approved borrowing for it. There is no final plans for the Lincoln Center project yet.

Ald. Phillips felt the south side reconstruction on Church-Division Streets from Monroe to Dixon Streets should be the top priority. He urged the City to consider purchasing the vacant buildings in the 2200 block of Division Street now. Purchasing the properties when they are vacant will save the City some relocation costs, the Alderman said.

Director Van Alstine said there is a possibility the City will get grant funds for the purchase of the vacant properties on Division Street in 2002. The funds for the project will not be available until 2004 or 2005 according to the blueprint. A south side underpass tunnel is also being considered along with the south side reconstruction.

Ninth Ward Alderman Nealis is concerned about standing water on some properties on the west side. He distributed copies of pictures showing what heavy rain can do to some properties on the west side. Copies of the pictures distributed by Ald. Nealis are attached. He feels the west side sewer project should have a high priority. The estimated cost for the project is \$3.2 million and a storm sewer study that will cost approximately \$50,000.

Eighth Ward Alderperson Molski also voiced her concern on the installation of storm sewer on the east side. She reminded the other alderpersons about the substantial amount of real estate taxes collected from the east side residents.

On the Water Street reconstruction, some alderpersons agreed that the project should be put on hold until the south side reconstruction is completed.

Director Van Alstine recommended doing one study a year, such as TIF4, railroad quiet zone, storm water west side, flood plain, Water Street consultant, and storm water east side.

C/T Schlice asked the alderpersons to prioritize the projects again and submit their listings to him within the next two weeks and another Special Common Council meeting will be scheduled later.

2. Adjournment - 7:45 P.M.

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