

Meeting Minutes

FINANCE COMMITTEE

APRIL 11, 2000 AT 7:47 P.M.

CITY WATER DEPARTMENT PRESENT: Chairman Barr, Ald. Niedbalski, Rackow, Phillips, and Pazdernik

ALSO PRESENT: Comptroller-Treasurer Schlice; Mayor Wescott; Clerk Zdroik; Admin. Asst. Bumgarner; Directors Van Alstine, Schrader; Assessor Kuehn; Administrator Disher; Chief Carpenter; Capt. Dowling; Capt. Daubert; Records Administrator Helen Lee; Ald. Nealis, Walther, Kedrowski, Perlak, Aldinger, Sevenich; Marge Molski; Jo Ellen Seiser; Finance Clerk Freeberg; Gene Kemmeter (Gazette); Susan Kampmeier (Stevens Point Journal); Scott Krueger (WIZD)

ITEMS

1. Assessor s Report.

2. Consideration of Claims:

1. Doris Ostrowski
2. George Anderson
3. Cindy Tielens
4. Heather Lucas

3. Activation of Special Assessment - 3517 Stanley Street (Rutta).

4. Enhancement Grant Applications

1. Patch Street Sidewalk
2. Gateway Gazebo
3. Sidewalk - Highway 10 E
4. Pedestrian Bicycle Tunnel
5. Renovation of Steam Engine 2713
6. Acquisition of Abandoned Parcels - Hwy 10

5. Write Off of Uncollectible Personal Property Taxes.

6. Approval of Payment of Claims.

7. Adjournment.

ITEM #1 - ASSESSOR S REPORT

Motion made by Ald. Niedbalski, seconded by Ald. Rackow to accept the report of the Assessor and place it on file.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

Back to Top

ITEM #2 - CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS - DORIS OSTROWSKI, GEORGE ANDERSON, CINDY TIELENS, AND HEATHER LUCAS

Comptroller-Treasurer Schlice explained that after last months meeting, Chairman Barr, the Mayor and himself got together and discussed some options and hope to come up back to the committee within the next sixty days with some options to consider. Three of the claims are sewer back up claims and the other one is a transit accident and all four are being recommended for denial.

Motion made by Ald. Niedbalski, seconded by Ald. Pazdernik to deny the claims for Doris Ostrowski, George Anderson, Cindy Tielens and Heather Lucas.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

Back to Top

ITEM #3 - ACTIVATION OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT - 3517 STANLEY STREET (RUTTA)

Comptroller-Treasurer Schlice explained that this was one of the assessments that were deferred until they were annexed into the City.

Motion made by Ald. Niedbalski, seconded by Ald. Rackow to activate the special assessment at 3517 Stanley Street.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

ITEM #4 - ENHANCEMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS:

Back to Top

Comptroller-Treasurer Schlice stated that #6 should read vacant parcels instead of abandoned.

The City s share of these projects would be twenty percent.

Ald. Pazdernik questioned when we would know if they have been approved.

Director Gardner replied late fall.

#1 PATCH STREET SIDEWALK

Ald. Niedbalski questioned which side of the street the sidewalk would be on and who would be maintaining it.

Director Van Alstine answered the sidewalk would be on the south side of the street and the property owners would be maintaining it, which would include the City, as they are a property owner for a portion of it.

Ald. Niedbalski questioned how long the sidewalk would be.

Director Van Alstine stated that the City owns the part from the west side of the Patch Street bridge to the east side of the Fire Station.

Director Gardner stated the sidewalk would be from Michigan Avenue to Hoover Avenue.

Ald. Niedbalski questioned if there was enough foot traffic to warrant the sidewalk.

Director Van Alstine stated there is a lot of pedestrian traffic walking in the road.

Chairman Barr questioned why we couldn't put it on the other side of the street.

Director Van Alstine replied that when the City bought the right of way on the north side of the street, they didn't buy enough to put a sidewalk

Ald. Rackow stated that on the south side of Patch Street there is a well defined jogging track that people use, which would signify a lot of foot traffic in the area.

Ald. Phillips stated that the grant affects a lot of people and questioned whether Consolidated was notified about this.

Director Van Alstine stated that if the grant is successful, it would come back to the finance committee and it would be decided on whether or not **to assess the 20% of the City's share back to the property owners. There would be a public hearing where everyone would be notified of the potential project.**

Ald. Phillips questioned the maintenance part of this and whether it would be the property owners responsibility to maintain it.

Director Van Alstine stated it would be the property owners responsibility.

Ald. Kedrowski questioned that since this is a sidewalk just like any other part of town, why not assess the property owners and put it in. **When sidewalk was put in on Heffron Street, his dad was assessed and he had to pay for it so he questioned why the property owners shouldn't have pay for this one.**

Ald. Niedbalski stated that it took fifteen years to get sidewalk on Division Street and part of it was that it had to go into the budget and those monies had to be allocated. In this case 1/4 mile of this sidewalk would be on City property and also he noted that we have to maintain and plow it.

Ald. Kedrowski stated that he is not talking about the maintenance he is inquiring about picking up the cost. Any other place that sidewalks are put in, the property owners have to pay, why is Patch Street or Hwy 10 voided of that responsibility. It is not fair. He stated that he is against putting in grants to pay for that sort of thing, if we need it, put it in and charge the property owners.

Mayor Wescott stated that this discussion is good because these items are back before us, but these are the same items that were approved in the last cycle. He stated that these have all been submitted before and he requested they be brought back before the Council because it is time as a community that we submit projects to be considered for state funding.

Ald. Aldinger added that a disk golf is going to be set up in that area also. It is a recreational area and this is an enhancement grant. This area may not benefit the property owners as much as it will the other people who will be using it.

Motion made by Ald. Niedbalski, seconded by Ald. Pazdernik to approve the filing of the enhancement grant for the Patch Street sidewalk.

Ayes: Chairman Barr, Ald. Niedbalski, Rackow, and Pazdernik Nays: Ald. Phillips
Motion carried.

#2 - GATEWAY GAZEBO

Director Schrader stated that the DOT owns a strip of land between Frontage Road and Business 51 and we have been maintaining it for the past twenty years. They would like to put an entrance gazebo that would be a trail head to Schmeekle Reserve and the Green Circle. It would also provide information for tourists that would be staying at hotels. The trail would extend through the woods just south of Northpoint Drive into Schmeekle Reserve and it would take some of the foot traffic off the sidewalk.

Ald. Kedrowski questioned if this would involve putting a sidewalk on the south side of Northpoint Drive in front of the Holiday Inn.

Director Schrader replied that it would.

Ald. Kedrowski then stated that falls back into his last argument that if it is part of the grant, the Holiday Inn should be paying for it and not an enhancement grant.

Director Schrader commented that the Holiday Inn should pay for it, but if the City can get grant money to help offset 80%, it would help the taxpayers.

Ald. Niedbalski questioned whether or not this would be a manned gazebo.

Director Schrader replied it would not be manned.

Ald. Kedrowski stated it is a great project except for the sidewalk part.

Motion made by Ald. Pazdernik, seconded by Chairman Barr to approve the filing for the enhancement grant for the Gateway Gazebo.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

#3 - SIDEWALK - HIGHWAY 10 E

Director Van Alstine explained that this is for a sidewalk on the north side of Highway 10. He doesn't believe the whole thing is in the City so if we got grant money, we could put sidewalk in everywhere and we would still be able to assess the 20% against the people that are in the City.

Ald. Rackow noted that this project would also have sidewalk along Wildwood Drive to Bannach Elementary School.

Motion made by Ald. Rackow, seconded by Ald. Pazdernik to approve the filing for the enhancement grant for the sidewalk on the north side of Highway 10.

Ald. Phillips questioned whether the property owners would maintain the sidewalk.

Director Van Alstine replied yes.

Ald. Kedrowski stated that if we find out that the grant has not been approved, the sidewalk should be put in and charged to the property owners.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

#4 - PEDESTRIAN BICYCLE TUNNEL

Motion made by Ald. Phillips, seconded by Ald. Rackow to approve the filing for the enhancement grant for the pedestrian bicycle tunnel on Church Street.

Director Van Alstine stated that two parcels are privately owned and two are City owned.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

#5 - RENOVATION OF STEAM ENGINE 2713

Ald. Kedrowski stated that he would like the amount of the project double checked on, it should be noted that the Steam Engine has been made a City landmark.

Ald. Phillips questioned the amount also and asked what was requested from room tax.

Ald. Kedrowski replied \$126,000.

Motion made by Ald. Phillips, seconded by Ald. Pazdernik to approve the filing for the Renovation of Steam Engine 2713, but decrease the amount to \$150,000.

Ald. Rackow commented that the grants that the Room Tax Committee have recommended are not approved yet. He stated that it may be unwise to change the cost not knowing the outcome of the other grants.

Director Van Alstine replied that the increased cost was for engineering costs if this is a state or federal funded project, he is not qualified to design it and it would have to go to an outside designer.

Ald. Phillips questioned what building was being referred to.

Ald. Kedrowski replied the train. He questioned if this could be held off until Monday to give them time to check on figures.

Director Gardner stated the applications need to go out on Friday but they can be withdrawn at Monday's meeting.

Ald. Niedbalski questioned whether it included the building.

Ald. Kedrowski stated that it would have to, plus they must have put a large figure in for engineering.

Ald. Phillips stated he would like to withdraw his motion.

Ald. Pazdernik also withdrew his second on the motion.

Motion made by Ald. Niedbalski, seconded by Ald. Phillips to approve the filing for the enhancement grant for the renovation for Steam Engine 2713 in the amount of \$243,000.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

#6 - ACQUISITION OF ABANDONED PARCELS - HWY 10

Director Gardner stated that these properties are on Clark Street and one is the old Yacht Club and another is the old Clark Street gas station. If the City was to acquire the property it would be landscaped and turned into more parking. All three of the properties are privately owned.

Ald. Phillips questioned if the property is free of contamination.

Director Van Alstine stated that would be a condition of the purchase.

Motion made by Ald. Rackow, seconded by Ald. Pazdernik to approve the filing for the enhancement grant for the acquisition of vacant parcels on

Highway 10.

Ald. Phillips questioned if the City purchases the land would they would ever consider reselling it for development.

Director Gardner replied that it would be used for parking and green space.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

Back to Top

ITEM #5 - WRITE OFF OF UNCOLLECTIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES

Comptroller-Treasurer Schlice explained that these are uncollectible because of bankruptcy, inability to locate owners, or due to numerous court judgements against them, it would not be worth going after them. This does not preclude collections at a later date if circumstances would change.

Motion made by Ald. Rackow, seconded by Ald. Niedbalski to approve the write offs of the uncollectible personal property taxes.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

Back to Top

ITEM #6 - APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Motion made by Ald. Rackow, seconded by Chairman Barr to approve the payment of claims in the amount of \$279,395.84.

The claims were discussed.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

Back to Top

Adjournment at 7:30 P.M.

The meeting minutes reproduced on this website are derived from the computer files used to produce the official minutes for the City of Stevens Point, but are unofficial. The minutes on this web site cannot be certified under s. 889.08, Wis. Stats., and cannot be considered prima facie evidence under s. 889.04, Wis. Stats. Certain tables, maps, and other documents that are a part of the official minutes are not included in the files reproduced on this website. Please consult the printed minutes, available in the City Clerk's Office, for the official text. The decisions made by City of Stevens Point boards, committees, and commissions (other than the Police & Fire Commission) are advisory only and are not binding on the city until affirmed at a meeting of the Common Council. Some of the minutes on this web site might not be approved by the Common Council as of today.