

Meeting Minutes
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 10, 1999 - 6:20 P.M.
PORTAGE COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX-1462 STRONGS AVENUE
CONFERENCE ROOM 1

PRESENT: Mayor Wescott, C/T Schlice; Alderpersons Aldinger, Barr, Kedrowski, Nealis, Perlak,

ALSO

PRESENT: Director Van Alstine, Design Engineer Yauch, Superintendent Krieski, Clerk Zdroik, Chief Carpenter, Captain Daubert, Personnel Specialist Jakusz, Administrator Disher, Director Schrader, Director Gardner, Assessor Kuehn, Attorney Molepske, Peggy Rentz, Susan Kampmeier, Scott Krueger, Reid Rocheleau; Alderpersons Niedbalski, Pazdernik, Phillips, Rackow, Sevenich, Walther

1. PARKING METER REPORT (ATTACHMENT-AGENDA PACKET)

Mayor Wescott presented the April 1999 Parking Meter Report.

C/T Schlice moved, seconded by Alderperson Barr to accept the April 1999 Parking Meter Report and place it on file.

Ayes - all; Nays - none; Motion carried.

2. AIRPORT ACTIVITY REPORT (MARCH & APRIL, 1999) (ATTACHMENT-AGENDA PACKET)

Mayor Wescott told the Board this report was included in their packet.

C/T Schlice moved, seconded by Alderperson Aldinger to accept the March and April 1999 Airport Activity Report and place it on file.

Ayes - all; Nays - none; Motion carried.

3. CONSIDERATION OF BIDS: (ATTACHMENT)

A: #2-99 BRILOWSKI ROAD SANITARY SEWER AND WATER MAIN PROJECT

Director Van Alstine said the low bid was from Rezin Construction of Tomah in the amount of \$152,300.00. He said it was within budget and he recommended approval and they have worked for us in the past.

Alderperson Kedrowski moved, seconded by Alderperson Nealis to accept the low bid from Rezin Construction of Tomah Wisconsin in the amount of \$152,300.00 for the Brilowski Road Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Project.

Ayes - all; Nays - none; Motion carried.

B. #10-99 1999 TOPSOIL, SEEDING, AND FERTILIZING PROJECT

Director Van Alstine said the low bid received was from Stuczynski Trucking of Stevens Point in the amount of \$25,015.00. He said this is a portion of all the contracts and it is within budget and he recommended approval.

C/T Schlice moved, seconded by Alderperson Perlak to accept the low bid from Stuczynski Trucking of Stevens Point Wisconsin in the amount of \$25,015.00 for the 1999 Topsoil, Seeding, and Fertilizing Project.

Alderperson Kedrowski asked the director to explain this project.

Director Van Alstine said the contractor fills in the areas around sidewalk construction where the concrete was dug out and does all the work on street replacement.

The Mayor called for a voice vote on the motion.

Ayes - all; Nays - none; Motion carried.

C: #11-99 1999 CURB, GUTTER, AND SIDEWALK REPAIR PROJECT

Director Van Alstine said the low bid was from Wroblewski Concrete of Stevens Point in the amount of \$95,132.50, he said it was within budget and he recommended approval.

Alderperson Perlak moved, seconded by Alderperson Aldinger to accept the low bid from Wroblewski Concrete of Stevens Point in the amount of \$95,132.50 for the 1999 Curb, Gutter and Sidewalk Repair Project.

Ayes - all; Nays - none; Motion carried.

4. REQUEST FROM HOSTEL SHOPPE TO USE CROSBY LOT FOR GT BMX/FREESTYLE BICYCLE AIRSHOW (ATTACHMENT-AGENDA PACKET)

Director Van Alstine said in previous years this had been held in the mall parking lot but the mall wanted to move it to an outboard lot this year. He said there had been insurance concerns and the Hostel Shoppe has agreed to include Stevens Point on the insurance certificate.

C/T Schlice moved, seconded by Alderperson Nealis to approve the request from the Hostel Shoppe to use the Crosby Lot for GT BMX/Freestyle Bicycle Airshow as outlined in their correspondence and to name the City of Stevens Point as additional insured.

Ayes - all; Nays - none; Motion carried.

5. REQUEST FROM HOSTEL SHOPPE TO CLOSE PART OF FRANKLIN STREET FOR RECUMBENT BIKE RALLY (ATTACHMENT-AGENDA PACKET)

Director Van Alstine said there had not been any problems last year and staff recommendation was for approval.

Aldersperson Nealis moved, seconded by Aldersperson Barr to approve the request from the Hostel Shoppe to close part of Franklin Street for the Recumbent Bike Rally as outlined in their correspondence.

Ayes - all; Nays - none; Motion carried.

6. RELOCATION ORDER: (ATTACHMENT-AGENDA PACKET)
A. WILSHIRE DRIVE EXTENDED

Director Van Alstine referred to the Relocation Order and map in the packet and said this was the next phase of the Worzalla project which would relocate truck traffic from Jefferson to Wilshire extended. He said it is starting the legal process.

Aldersperson Barr moved, seconded by Aldersperson Perlak to approve the Wilshire Boulevard Extended Relocation Order.

Ayes - all; Nays - none; Motion carried.

B. MICHIGAN AVENUE/JEFFERSON STREET INTERSECTION

Director Van Alstine said this is for traffic signals on the intersection, the triangles are needed to provide sidewalks at the intersection.

Aldersperson Nealis moved, seconded by Mayor Wescott to approve the Michigan Avenue/Jefferson Street Extended Relocation Order.

Aldersperson Rackow expressed concern that there wasn't enough right of way.

Director Van Alstine said since there will be no truck traffic we don't need as much width.

Mayor Wescott called for a voice vote on the motion.

Ayes - all; Nays - none; Motion carried.

7. PETITION - OCR TO MAKE THE MASON STREET CROSSING A PUBLIC CROSSING

Director Van Alstine said two weeks ago the City received a letter from the railroad requesting that the City provide a certificate of insurance on this private crossing. He said we questioned them and found out in 1953 the City petitioned the railroad to allow Mason Street to be a private crossing for access to the landfill. Somewhere in the time between then and 1976, it had been made into a street as though it were a public crossing. By petitioning the OCR we can make this an authentic public crossing.

Attorney Molepske said we have actually been occupying this for almost fifty years so it might be adverse possession, but he said the railroad doesn't seem to object to us filing this petition for a public crossing. He suggested we file the petition, have the hearing, and get on with it.

The Mayor asked what would happen if we do nothing and can the railroad close this crossing?

Attorney Molepske said at the present time this is a private crossing that is part of our street system, and as for closing it would be difficult for them to do that, they would be more favorable to establish it as a public crossing.

Aldersperson Kedrowski asked how long the petitioning process would take?

Attorney Molepske said we would file the petition, an administrative judge would review it and if there is no controversy it would go through, he estimated about three months.

Discussion followed on the possibility of isolating land if the crossing is closed, Director Van Alstine said he didn't think the railroad would close the crossing because Koch is one of their major users.

Aldersperson Kedrowski said he had no problem with the petition, but he realized the railroad might be adding a spur and he would like to wait for the big picture.

Aldersperson Nealis asked if we could condemn the property and take it back?

Attorney Molepske said he thought so but there may be exclusive rights for the railroad.

Reid Rocheleau felt the railroad had a hidden agenda, the City should not play into their hands until we find out what they really want.

Aldersperson Rackow expressed concern over another crossing and more whistles.

Director Van Alstine said that wouldn't be an additional problem, the crossing is already there.

Aldersperson Nealis thought it would be to our advantage to have this as a public crossing.

Mayor Wescott asked the City Attorney to explain the difference between a private crossing and a public crossing and why was this paperwork overlooked?

Attorney Molepske said a private crossing allows the property owner on the opposite side of the track an ingress and egress, it doesn't give anyone else the right to cross. Public crossings allow cities, villages, and towns to connect streets that are split by a crossing.

He said as to the paperwork being overlooked since 1953, he didn't know if there even was a document other than the correspondence. He said the railroad wanted us to provide insurance for a private crossing, we said it's a public crossing, it has nothing to do with an additional spur line. We use this crossing as a public crossing.

Aldersperson Kedrowski moved, seconded by C/T Schlice to proceed with petitioning the OCR to make the Mason Street crossing a public crossing.

Aldersperson Kedrowski suggested before anymore railroads are connected to the main line, he would like to see the City work with the railroad to minimize the impact.

The Mayor called for a voice vote on the motion.

Ayes - all; Nays - none; Motion carried.

8. TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF OVERNIGHT PARKING REGULATIONS

Mayor Wescott said last year the City tried a pilot program to allow overnight parking on City streets for the months of June, July, and August. He asked staff to share the pros and cons.

Aldersperson Kedrowski said he was very much in favor of approving this again for the summer, the reasons were that families with more than one car have to jockey cars around and it's a convenience for them over the summer, and also when they have company, parking is available. He said the problems were that people were parking boats and boat trailers on the street.

Chief Carpenter referred to a memo (attached) dated September 9, 1998 listing the problems associated with this suspension of overnight parking. He said it created a problematic situation not only for education of the public when it changes, but for safety as it becomes difficult to spot abandoned vehicles or vehicles that are not what would be considered normal activities in a neighborhood, not to mention the problems the Street Department encountered.

Captain Daubert said people can obtain permission to park by calling the Police Department, where under normal circumstances it is limited to two-three nights.

Chief Carpenter said the officers will sometimes overlook out-of-state vehicles parked overnight or other vehicles parked when there is driveway sealcoating occurring. He said there is no problem getting permission when there is a legitimate request.

Director Van Alstine outlined the difficulty to sweep the streets or seal coat. He said when they posted an area with temporary no-parking signs for sealcoating, the residents would remove the signs and park there. He asked that if this is approved, we get permission to tow cars that park in an area where the temporary no-parking signs have been removed.

Superintendent Krieski said it is also a safety issue, this sealcoating equipment is large and poses a hazard to pedestrians, workers, and vehicles. He said having to go back to areas after the vehicles are moved is not efficient and throws the work schedule out of line.

A discussion took place on the present policy the Police Department uses to allow overnight parking. Captain Daubert said it really depends on circumstances. Chief Carpenter said they have caught people lying about overnight parking.

Aldersperson Nealis suggested slacking up on the rules and allow more time, extend the time to five or six days.

Aldersperson Kedrowski said he studied cities similar to Stevens Point and found many allow overnight parking during the months where snow is not a threat. Also St. Louis Park Minnesota allows overnight parking year around except in a snow emergency. He said those who remove the temporary no-parking signs should be ticketed.

Aldersperson Niedbalski thought this was a nuisance ordinance, it's too confusing and we found after last year it was problematic, why do it again? We should go back to not allowing parking overnight.

Aldersperson Sevenich said she was against it, her ward is mixed with businesses, schools, and residential and has some very narrow streets.

Aldersperson Walther said he also was against it.

Chief Carpenter said we have to remember if we tow a vehicle that is parked in an area where temporary signs have been removed and the driver of that vehicle did not remove the signs, the City is responsible for the towing fees. It's difficult to prove who removed the signs. He said they could consider slacking up on overnight parking permission.

The Mayor said he would like the phone number taken along with the other information the Police Department requires for overnight parking permission.

Aldersperson Barr moved, seconded by Aldersperson Kedrowski to try this pilot program one more year for the months of June, July, and August.

Ayes - 2 (Alderspersons Barr and Kedrowski); Nays -5; Motion denied.

Aldersperson Nealis moved, seconded by Aldersperson Aldinger to deny the request for temporary suspension of overnight parking regulations for the summer months but to have the Police Chief develop a policy that would allow them to use their discretion to allow overnight parking on streets for four to five days, include the telephone number where the vehicle owner can be reached and have the new policy reviewed by the Mayor.

Ayes -6; Nays - 1 (Aldersperson Kedrowski); Motion carried.

9. SUPERINTENDENT OF SERVICES' REPORT (ATTACHMENT-AGENDA PACKET)

Superintendent Krieski presented his April report and added they have been picking up brush, next week they will pick up leaves. He added the construction season has begun, they are working on DuBay Avenue and will start Whiting Avenue by the end of the month. He also said they are

getting ready for sealcoating.

C/T Schlice moved, seconded by Alderperson Aldinger to accept the April 1999 Superintendent of Services Report and place it on file.

Ayes - all; Nays - none; Motion carried.

10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT (ATTACHMENT-AGENDA PACKET)

Director Van Alstine presented his April report. He said we are opening bids on Phase 2 of the Worzalla Sewer project on Monday and there will be a special meeting prior to council to accept bids.

Mayor Wescott moved, seconded by C/T Schlice to accept the April 1999 Director's Report and place it on file.

Ayes - all; Nays - none; Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

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