

CITY OF STEVENS POINT

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING

Monday, May 13, 2019

Police Department – 933 Michigan Avenue

Stevens Point, WI 54481

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairperson Mayor Wiza, Director of Public Works Scott Beduhn, Comptroller/Treasurer (C/T) Corey Ladick and Tricia Church; **Alderpersons:** Tori Jennings(1st), Mykeerah Zarazua(4th), Mary Kneebone(7th), and Shaun Morrow(11th).

EXCUSED: Jeremy Slowinski(6th)

ALSO PRESENT:

ALDERPERSONS: David Shorr(2nd), Cindy Nebel(3rd), Meleesa Johnson(5th), and Mike Phillips(10th).

DIRECTORS: Joel Lemke – Public Utilities and Transportation and Michael Ostrowski – Inspection & Development.

OTHER CITY STAFF MEMBERS: City Attorney Andrew Beveridge, City Clerk Paul Piotrowski, Fire Chief Bob Finn, Police Chief Marty Skibba and Personnel Specialist Lisa Jakusz.

OTHERS PRESENT: Brandi Makuski – Stevens Point Metro Wire, Joe Bachman – Portage County Gazette, Sarah Grabko – Sign Here Interpreting, LLC and Anh Stieve

Chairperson Mayor Wiza called to order the Board of Public Works meeting at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held on Monday, May 13, 2019 at the Police Department located at 933 Michigan Avenue in Stevens Point.

Before the meeting Chairperson Mayor Wiza introduced Sarah Grabko with Sign Here Interpreting, LLC and Anh Stieve. Sarah is Anh's sign language interpreter. Sarah stated for Anh a brief summary of the hearing impaired classes' levels 1 through 4 that covers sign language, gestures, deaf cultures and a variety of topics including fun activities and games like Cahoots. Flyers of the programs were left on the back table.

Mayor Wiza added that Anh is going to be interpreting the meeting for the hearing impaired. He added that we offer closed captioning on all of our meetings but he thought it would be interesting for the viewers to see what sign language looks like.

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

Director Beduhn added that we were unable to do the training for the Stanley Street Improvements Project due to the inclement weather we had during April. Training will take place later this month with the vendor; after which we will get started on some test runs before doing Stanley Street.

Director Beduhn also added that as of this morning, SEH is almost ready to present to staff what the plans are on the TAP Grant. They stated that they are done with all the intersection modeling and ready to set up a second public informational meeting.

Aldersperson Johnson asked if the rumors are true that we have given permission to the contractor to place materials and equipment at Emerson Park for the Reserve Street Project to which

Director Beduhn stated that we have identified a small area in which they can utilize if they so choose; however, the contractor has not indicated where they plan on storing their materials, how much material they will need to store or when they plan on starting the project.

Aldersperson Johnson asked how they plan on securing their materials during the project so children at the park do not play on it and get hurt to which Director Beduhn stated that we will work with the contractor to see what will work best. Director Beduhn stated that they would be required to put a fence around the area that they use.

Aldersperson Johnson asked if the park was identified as a storage place in the bid specifications to which Director Beduhn stated that we did send out a clarification to it that they could utilize either the existing right-of-way or the southwest corner of the Emerson Park site.

Mayor Wiza stated that this was brought forward at the Parks Commission and Common Council.

Mayor Wiza asked Attorney Beveridge to tell us his thoughts regarding the open meetings implications regarding the Director's Report.

Attorney Beveridge stated that the conversation that just occurred is the perfect example of this. He explained that we should move away from using the Director's Report as being an "all purpose" conversation jumping off point for any subject matter that is contained within the report unless we specifically include it in the notice.

Mayor Wiza asked Attorney Beveridge to explain how things like this should then be addressed to which Attorney Beveridge stated there are many ways in which things can be addressed. One way is making it an agenda item on any agenda that is appropriate. Another way is to contact the department with questions or concerns or it could be placed as a distinct item on the Council Agenda. Attorney Beveridge stated that we could also have a list of bullet points on specific items or we could just not have a Director's Report at all as an agenda item. He pointed out that there is no requirement for there to be an action on the report as the report is a form of communication of information on what is going on within the department.

Aldersperson Morrow liked the idea of itemizing things out of the Director's Report as an agenda item.

Mayor Wiza stated that he will still ask for a motion to accept the Director's Report and place it on file for this month.

Aldersperson Kneebone moved; seconded by C/T Ladick to accept the Director's Report and place it on file.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

2. To accept the Ordinance Amendments in Section 9.05 regarding parking and Section 9.12 regarding Bicycle Ways.

Director Beduhn stated that he tried to elaborate a little more than he has in the past on the included memo.

Aldersperson Jennings stated that she feels that the second sentence in the memo is misleading. She explained that Cindy Piotrowski of the ADRC's email does not address the location of the accessibility parking and in fact she states there should be more spaces.

Aldersperson Jennings asked who picked this spot and if the recommendation was for 2 spaces, why is it there only one? She also questioned what will happen at the curb cut during plowing.

Mayor Wiza replied to Aldersperson Jennings questions stating that both he and Director Beduhn picked out the space. He explained that this space made the most sense because for one, it is almost directly in the center of Main Street; two, the curb cut and no parking area already allows for an access aisle without losing additional parking spaces; and three, it is the easiest spot to put in the curb cuts since the bump out is already there. He added that a fair amount of thought was put into this spot and there were quite a few people that concurred with this decision. To answer Aldersperson Jennings second question he feels that this is a good place to start and other accessible spaces can be looked at based on the area of need.

Director Beduhn replied to Aldersperson Jennings third question stating that he does not believe the bump out will cause any more issues then what currently exists downtown. It will just need to be shoveled out the same as other places in that area.

Aldersperson Kneebone stated that she would like to see "accessible parking" used vs. "handicapped parking" to which Mayor Wiza stated that it will say "van accessible" and, at the request of Karalyn Peterson with Midstate Independent Living Choices, we will be replacing all the accessible space markings to the more accepted marking throughout the city.

Aldersperson Morrow asked for clarification that the plan is to see how this one space works before adding more spaces to which Mayor Wiza stated that is correct. Aldersperson Morrow stated that he feels this is a good first step.

Aldersperson Kneebone asked what the timeline is to determine the needs analysis to which Mayor Wiza stated probably a couple months. We have a list of folks that we will solicit to see what their thoughts are for additional accessible spaces and where those spaces are needed most.

Aldersperson Johnson stated that as a person with mobility issues she can see a need for spaces nearby. She feels we need to get this moved forward as well as looking at adding more accessible spaces to welcome folks of all levels of mobility.

Mayor Wiza motioned to accept the Ordinance Amendments as presented and instruct the Director to research an additional parking space on Main Street between the square and Rogers Street and bring it before the board next month; seconded by Aldersperson Morrow.

Aldersperson Kneebone asked if the word "handicapped" should be mentioned as part of the motion to which Mayor Wiza asked Attorney Beverage if we would have to do an ordinance amendment next month to which Attorney Beverage stated that we would not have to wait till next month if we could get the wording changed before council next week.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

Mayor Wiza reiterated that we will have a recommendation from Director Beduhn for an additional accessible space and have for the Common Council's consideration the language changes removing "handicapped" and replacing it with "accessible".

- 3. To accept the Amendment No. 1 for the design services contract with Short Elliot Hendrickson, Inc. for the Bicycle Transportation Network Improvements Project in an amount not to exceed \$3,079.18.**

Director Beduhn explained that during the initial negotiations through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, the idea of doing the historical review was uncertain and therefore excluded from the contract; however, since then it has been determined that a historical review will be required. He stated that this amendment to the contract is the extra amount needed for the historical review.

Alderman Jennings asked if this was covered under contingency to which Director Beduhn stated yes.

Alderman Kneebone moved to approve the Amendment No. 1 for the Design Services Contract with SEH not to exceed \$3,079.18; seconded by Alderman Morrow.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

- 4. ADJOURNMENT: Chairperson Mayor Wiza adjourned the May 13, 2019 Board of Public Works Meeting at 6:36 p.m.**