

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING
Monday, December 12, 2011
Lincoln Center – 1519 Water Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Mayor Andrew Halverson, Comptroller/Treasurer (C/T) John Schlice, Director of Public Works Joel Lemke and Tricia Church; Alderpersons: JoAnne Suomi(2nd), Michael O'Meara(3rd), Randal Stroik(9th), and Brian Brooks(10th).

EXCUSED: Roger Trzebiatowski(7th)

ALSO

PRESENT: **DIRECTORS:** Tom Schrader, Kim Halverson and Sally McGinty.

CITY STAFF MEMBERS: City Clerk John Moe, City Assessor Jim Siebers, Human Resources Manager Lisa Jacusz, Mayoral Assistant Kelley Pazdernik, Fire Chief Tracey Kujawa, and Police Chief Kevin Ruder.

ALDERPERSONS: Logan Beveridge(1st), Mary Stroik(5th), Jeremy Slowinski(6th) Marge Molski(8th), and Jerry Moore(11th).

OTHERS PRESENT: Matthew Brown - Gazette, Brian Kawalski – Stevens Point Journal, Bruce Gerland – AECOM, Bernie Patterson, Carl Rasmussen, and Greg Diemex – UWSP, Cindy Nebel – 1100 Phillips Street, Bob Fisch – 2009A Division Street, Cindy Patterson – 1754 Ashford Street in Plover, Justin Sonnentag – 731 Smith Street, MaryAnn Laszewski – 9th District, Cathy Dugan – 615 Sommers Street, and Barb Jacob – 1616 Depot Street.

Mayor Halverson called the Board of Public Works meeting to order on December 12, 2011 at 6:58 P.M. The meeting was held at The Lincoln Center at 1519 Water Street in Stevens Point, WI 54481.

- 1. Persons wishing to address the Board of Public Works on any Board of Public Works Agenda items listed below for up to 3 minutes.**

Per Mayor Halverson passed on this item and moved onto Agenda Item #2.

- 2. Consideration and possible action on Revised Municipal Code Chapter 9 recodification related to the reconstruction of the Downtown Square.**

Director Lemke explained that most of the items needed clean-up from the Downtown Square Construction this past summer.

C/T John Schlice moved; seconded by Alderperson O'Meara to accept the RMC Chapter 9 recodification.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

3. Consideration and possible action on the request for Reserve Street traffic direction change between Main Street and Portage Street.

Mayor Halverson explained that this is coming from a request we received from Chancellor Bernie Patterson of the University 11/23/11 requesting two-way.

Director Lemke explained there was a wrong letter handed out at the meeting is a letter from Old Main Neighborhood Association (OMNA) stating they are in favor of the traffic pattern request from the UWSP but with a few conditions they would like to see added. They would like to see traffic counts, which were done and review traffic every six months for a two year period.

Bob Fisch, 209A Division Street questioned if there would be a bicycle lane. Director Lemke said the request is to have two-way traffic north of Main to Portage and the lanes are going to be just wide enough to say they have bike accommodations but not a painted bike lane.

Cathy Dugan, 615 Sommers Street was on board as a citizen activist when this was brought forward in the past. She feels that widening the street and making it two-way is a great idea but questioned if there will be taking any right-of-way from the residential side of the street.

Cindy Nebel, 1100 Phillips Street is the President of the Neighborhood Association said they worked together to make sure that the neighborhood stays a neighborhood and there will not be any property taken from any land owners at all, it will all be taken from the University side. She is hoping that when the trees are removed on the boulevards that the University will try to reuse them in another location. She also hopes that when we bring the traffic counts and accident numbers forward that we look at it for the full term because it may take a little while for people to get used to so it may look like there are more accidents or problems at the beginning but then trickle down.

Justin Sonnentag, 731 Smith Street is a GIS Analyst for the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin and has been looking at the bicycle accidents throughout the state and particularly here in Stevens Point due to living here. He wants to make sure the research gets done with this situation as far as allowing for bicycle and pedestrian traffic in those areas. He asked if the University is paying the bill for this work and not the City. Mayor Halverson said the answer is yes on that.

Carl Rasmussen with UWSP took the podium and showed some drawings to explain the layout of what they are anticipating to do in this area. They are hoping with the new traffic layout that you will be able to circle around the entire campus avoiding going through residential neighborhoods. The plan is to widening the road on the east side of Reserve Street up to the current sidewalk. They are only removing the current boulevard and bringing the curb up against the sidewalk. Currently there is flowering crab trees along the boulevard that have a short (approximately 25 years) life span so they would have to look at the appropriateness of spending that amount of money to relocate the trees versus buying more trees to plant.

Carl Rasmussen went on to explain a little bit what they may be looking at doing in 2013 to expand and connect to this project around the University area to make it more bicycle and pedestrian safe.

Mayor Halverson moved approval of the request for Reserve Street traffic directional change between Main Street and Portage Street to become two-way; seconded by Alderperson O'Meara.

Alderperson O'Meara commented that Director Lemke and Carl Rasmussen are being particularly modest on selling this project and doing the research and studies that were done to sell this and explain to us what was happening with the traffic in that area.

Alderperson Suomi questioned if we were planning on doing something with Reserve Street on the south side of Main Street. Director Lemke said not at this time but it could be something we will look at in the future.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

4. Consideration and possible action to approve a contract with Gremmer and Associates in the amount of \$48,744.00 for engineering and construction services related to the reconstruction of the intersection at Frontage Road and Academy Avenue.

Director Lemke explained that a good portion of this is actually a result of previous contracts that were terminated because we did not get into construction on this road so this has been brought forward before.

Alderperson O'Meara moved approval with the exception that the City Attorney looks over the contract language regarding the liability arbitration and mediation; seconded by Alderperson Suomi.

Alderperson Brooks questioned if the plans would be coming back before us for approval. Mayor Halverson said that the plans would not come before us but we can talk about the process for review.

Director Lemke explained that the biggest geometric change between previous versions and this is that there was a "right turn only" in to the McDonalds property before and because of the new configuration, that is out. Also it allows us to do some different things with the drive at the University Plaza Drive. This is overall a simplified plan.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried

5. Consideration and possible action to approve the Mayoral Order to create a "No Left Turn" Ordinance for the YMCA parking lot driveway where it exits onto Division Street.

Alderperson Stroik moved approval; seconded by Alderperson O'Meara to approve the Mayoral Order to create a "No Left Turn" Ordinance for the YMCA parking lot exiting driveway onto Division Street.

Alderperson Brooks questioned if this is already in effect. Mayor Halverson explained that it is signed appropriately but we never codified it as actually being truly "No Left Turn" into our Chapter 9 for enforcement of the Police Department.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried

6. Consideration and possible action on a Resolution for future construction of pedestrian accommodations on CTH HH between Hoover Avenue/Road intersection to Interstate 39.

Director Lemke explained that this coming summer there is a reconstruction of the intersection of CTH HH and Hoover Avenue/Road planned and sometime after these plans were well underway, the checklist for Trans 75 Road and Complete Streets came out which has the bicycle and pedestrian accommodation that says "you are building a street that provides for these specific accommodations". In being requested and required to go through that at this late stage in the design, it turns out there is a couple small items that were not in compliance with for this construction. In order to gain that compliance, it would put the construction back in the letting schedule. In talking with the WisDOT and coordinated through AECOM, Portage County, The Village of Plover and Stevens Point are all agreeing that this Resolution is a good way to put that off until construction of a future overpass which would be a DOT project happens and that we will extend our accommodations up to those at that time.

Aldersperson O'Meara said that this Resolution only makes sense because would not want to have pedestrian accommodations if the street is not wide enough for people to continue across it. You would not want to walk up to I39 to look at it and have to turn around go back. Also, depending on how long it would take the State to do a job like that, the sidewalk that we would put in now may be bad before anyone got a chance to use it.

Aldersperson Brooks moved to approve; seconded by Aldersperson O'Meara to accept the Resolution.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

7. Consideration and possible action on renewing the "Portage County Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling Agreement" with the proposed changes.

There was no discussion, comments or questions regarding the agreement.

C/T Schlice moved approval; seconded by Aldersperson Stroik to renew the agreement with the proposed changes.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

8. Airport Manager's Report

There was no discussion, comments or questions regarding the Airport Manager's Report.

Aldersperson Stroik moved to accept the Airport Manager's Report and place it on file; seconded by Aldersperson Brooks.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

9. Director's Report

Aldersperson O'Meara asked for an update on the adjustment on the flood plain along the Wisconsin River. Director Lemke said that most recently we received a change order to get us up to where we can submit it for review. One change is that we are also going to be submitting this to the Army Corps of Engineers instead of directly to FEMA because FEMA adopted the Army Corps standards. At a Special Board of Public Works, an amended contract will be presented at Council for approval. If the amended contract is approved, we should be able to get up to and through construction with all the figures we need.

Director Lemke updated on the Transit Facility we went through the Economic Development Committee to get the waivers we need on some things in the business park so it is moving along very well.

Aldersperson Stroik moved to accept the Director's Report and place it on file; seconded by Aldersperson Brooks.

Cathy Dugan, 615 Sommers Street didn't understand why we are widening intersections and lanes on Michigan Avenue. She also questioned why we are still going along with the Transit Facility when it is a big expense as well.

Ayes all; nays none; motion carried.

10. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Halverson adjourned the December 12, 2011 Board of Public Works Meeting at 7:36 P.M.