

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND STREET MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: May 12, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Members Present: Doug Diny, Gary Gisselman, Chad Henke, Lou Larson, Lisa Rasmussen

Also Present: Eric Lindman, TJ Niksich, Cord Buckner, Tara Alfonso, Lori Wunsch

In compliance with Chapter 19, Wisconsin Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and received by the *Wausau Daily Herald* in the proper manner.

Noting the presence of a quorum, at approximately 5:30 p.m. Lindman called the meeting to order.

Select a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for 2022-2024 term

Henke nominated Larson for Chair with Larson accepting the nomination. Seconded by Diny. Diny feels everyone is fully qualified and added an engineer would potentially be a good fit. Diny nominated Henke for Chair with Henke accepting the nomination. Seconded by Rasmussen. No other nominations were received. A secret ballot was taken with three votes for Larson and two votes for Henke. Lindman turned the meeting over to Chair Larson.

Rasmussen nominated Gisselman for Vice Chair noting as a past Chair he would be very helpful in the leadership role. Seconded by Diny. Gisselman accepted the nomination. No other nominations were received and a unanimous ballot was cast.

Establish regular meeting date and time for 2022-2024 term

Diny stated he prefers the meeting time of 5:15 pm. Henke has a prior commitment on Thursdays and would prefer 6:00 pm. Rasmussen had no preference and stated the committee could adjust certain meetings as needed. If the need is only the summer months, those three meetings could be adjusted leaving the remaining meeting times at 5:15 pm. Gisselman noted he has County Board meetings at 7:00 pm, but these meetings vary. Rasmussen stated when Henke has a conflict, he can let staff know. The committee agreed to keep the regular meeting time at 5:15 pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve minutes of the April 14, 2022 meeting**
 - B. Action on Stormwater Maintenance Agreement with PIP JV LLC at 2025 County Road U**
 - C. Action on Easement with Christiana Gandy and Zachary Gandy at 109 Freedom Way**
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Rasmussen moved to approve the consent agenda items. Diny seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on amending Wausau Municipal Code Section 10.48.090 Annual and monthly permits

Larson noted the next two items seems to be cut and dry. He believes they are lenient on parking permits with the mall not being there. Lindman agreed and stated the mall ramps are very lightly used.

Rasmussen moved to approve. Seconded by Gisselman and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on authorizing the modification of fees to the City of Wausau Fees and Licenses Schedule adopted pursuant to Wausau Municipal Code Section 3.40.010(a)

Diny moved to approve. Seconded by Henke.

Lindman stated this is regarding allowing overnight parking in Lot 5 from April to November.

There being a motion and a second, motion to approve carried unanimously 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on amending Wausau Municipal Code Section 10.48.120 Violations

This item is for clarification of the ordinance to help with enforcement.

Rasmussen moved to approve. Seconded by Diny and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

2021 MS4 Annual Report and Compliance Update

Niksich highlighted items from the MS4 annual report that was submitted to the DNR. In 2021 there were 11 commercial construction sites greater than 1 acre. All needed inspections, which amounted to over 40 inspections. There are 49 major outfalls that discharge into the river that were inspected. Those are identified as being 24" or greater or a discharge from an industrial source. 11 of these needed to be tested due to them being flowing during dry weather or being submerged. 3 were found to be outside of the testing limits. The source was identified and removed.

DPW removed 7,500 tons of material through street sweeping and catch basin cleaning. This was mostly sediment and other rubbish/debris. To meet educational requirements, a Salt Wise open house was held at DPW. Representatives from Salt Wise in Madison were here. We also invited representatives from surrounding municipalities. We reviewed the practices DPW uses to reduce salt while still maintaining safe roads during the winter. Representatives from the County, Merrill, Schofield, and Weston shared their best ways to manage ice during the winter.

Diny asked the definition of an illicit discharge. Niksich replied it is anything other than storm water. 2 of the 3 illicit discharges were chlorine related. 1 was due to hydrant flushing where the municipal water was creating too much chlorine. The other was an apartment building using city water for their chiller. The water was rerouted to go into the sanitary.

Diny asked where the street sweeping debris is taken. Niksich explained every year we apply for a beneficial reuse permit where we bring the material to a site. Once a year we have to test it to make sure it is not outside any contaminate boundaries. If within compliance, we can use it as some type of beneficial reuse. Currently we bring the material to the airport to use as fill.

Henke asked if this was submitted in March and if we have had any feedback from the DNR. Niksich said the deadline for submittal was March 31st. We typically do not hear back from the DNR. They review the document and keep on file.

Niksich spoke of a grant that has been submitted for a stormwater pond conversion. This is a 50-50 grant up to \$300,000 to convert a pond from a dry pond to a wet pond. During the next MS4 permit term, which is in 2024, the DNR is requiring all communities along the WI river basin to begin reducing their total phosphorus loading that discharges into the river. Currently the requirement is to have a 68.6% reduction; we are at 28.1%. We create 6,402 pounds of phosphorus and discharge 4,603 pounds. We need to reduce that by just over 2,500 pounds per year. Converting the dry pond to wet will help reduce by only a mere 13.9 pounds. The pond conversion is estimated to cost \$470,000 and only reduce discharge by 13.9 pounds. We need about 18 times that per permit term to remain in compliance with the DNR.

Larson asked what the long-term vision is if we are only reducing discharge by 13 pounds. Niksich said there are multiple ways to reduce discharge, such as creating wet out of dry ponds, creating new wet ponds where stormwater discharges directly into the WI River, or through redevelopment. As older industrial buildings and parking lots are redeveloped, there are requirements through the DNR to remove suspended solids that do not already have controls. Currently there is a leaf pickup study being conducted. If we meet those requirements, we could use that as phosphorus reduction. There is also phosphorus training we could do with either the sanitary utility or with neighboring communities that discharge into the same basin.

Larson asked how many ponds are needed. Niksich indicated the master plan from 2019 identified 10 projects that would get us close to that 10%. However, even those 10 projects will not achieve 10%. The DNR does have a clause that says to the maximum extent practical, meaning as long as we are making an effort. However, Niksich does not feel one project would show a significant amount of effort. We have to show that we are either creating new ponds or show something making an actual impact to phosphorus reduction. The leaf study should be completed shortly which he believes would apply as we are already doing leaf pickup. However, there will be different requirements as before it was very strict and stringent. In order to meet redevelopment requirements, we would have to do a study. This would create a monetary burden as we would have to hire a consultant to study new development and how much phosphorus we are removing.

Diny asked if phosphorus is measured off of the 47 outfalls. Niksich explained phosphorus is calculated by all of the runoff created within the city of Wausau. It is determined through modeling, not through sampling or something extremely scientific. Beginning in 2024 there will be a large commitment to reducing phosphorus. A stormwater utility would go a long way to help raise needed funds to work towards DNR compliance. For educational purposes, Rasmussen feels it would be helpful to revive the stormwater utility presentation. Right now, projects would be levy dependent because we do not have any other revenue collection to use for it. If under a mandate to get to a certain level, she feels it would be a benefit to have a discussion about a stormwater utility. Council now has the means to create a stormwater utility if it chooses to, but we need to learn about it first. She requested a presentation at the next meeting regarding how a stormwater utility would function and what it would cost people. Lindman indicated a presentation could be brought forward in June or July. He noted that as staff looks at streets and redevelopment, they do look at stormwater storage, retention, bioswales etc. As we redo areas, these will be added in the design if we can fit them in.

Gisselman asked if ponds were the direction we are moving or if there are other ways. Niksich said wet ponds are the most cost effective and efficient. There is a mechanical separator and different coagulates that will stick to the phosphorus and speed up the process, but at this point Niksich does not believe they are advanced enough to be cost efficient.

Diny asked if this is incorporated in RFPs for projects. Niksich explained there is redevelopment and new development. New development is any piece of property that was previously undeveloped. That requires 80% total suspended solid removal prior to leaving the site, redevelopment projects require 40% total suspended solid removal.

Construction update for 2022 Projects

Niksich stated 6th Street from Horseshoe Springs to Evergreen is a mill and overlay project that is near completion. It should be fully completed early next week. The Asphalt Paving Project includes the intersection of Kent and Grand Avenue, and 6th Street from Jackson Street to Scott Street. This is anticipated to begin mid to end of June with completion in early July.

Project A is the extension of watermain from Bugbee up Campus and Burek. This project is tied to the new water plant. They will be replacing the 6" watermain with 18" watermain. This project also includes the reconstruction of Bugbee. The project is expected to start early June with completion by the end of September. A1 Excavating is the contractor. Project B consists of 4th Avenue from Bridge Street to Knox Street and 4th Street from McClellan to Scott. Haas Sons is the contractor. It is anticipated to start early June with completion mid-September. Project C consists of Torney Ave from Townline Road to McDonald Street. This is a complete reconstruction funded by CDBG funds. We are still waiting on funding, so the project has not been bid yet. All of these projects have potential for delays. We are still waiting on watermain. This is the first year the City has ordered it ourselves. We ordered in January and are hoping to receive it in early June.

We just received all easements for the 72nd Avenue Trail project. This was the last piece needed to submit final plans, specifications, and estimates to the DOT for approval. The approval process takes about a month and a half. The plan is to bid this project the end of July with construction in August and completion by the end of the year. Larson asked if this trail is just along 72nd Avenue or if it includes the loop behind. Niksich replied the trail is along 72nd Avenue from Packer Drive to International. Larson questioned if there was a plan to do more in the

future. Niksich indicated a TAP grant has been submitted, but he does not believe we will hear back on the grant until the fall. Larson has seen many people walking on the street in this area and he fears someone may get hit. Niksich said the second trail is estimated at around \$1 million with an 80-20 cost share if TAP funding is received.

Diny asked if there were any street maintenance pieces to the 3rd Street clinic project, such as Fulton Street. Niksich believes Fulton from 1st to 6th Street is on the 5-year plan. Lindman added that Fulton is one street we are looking at applying for STP Urban funding or possibly TID funding depending on redevelopment. He believes it is year 4 or 5 of the 5-year plan.

At a future meeting, Larson would like an update on the new facility for DPW. Lindman said the consultant is preparing a presentation and anticipating presenting it in June.

Adjourn

Diny moved to adjourn the meeting. Henke seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:05 p.m.