

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND STREET MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: July 9, 2020, at 5:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Members Present: Rasmussen, Larson, Neal, Ryan, Wadinski

Also Present: Mayor Rosenberg, Lindman, Wesolowski, Buckner, Niksich, Alfonso, Groat

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 5:15 p.m. Chairman Rasmussen called the meeting to order.

Approval of minutes of the June 4, 2020 meeting

Neal moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Larson seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Discussion and possible action Authorizing Extension of Temporary Parking Restrictions on the 300 block of 3rd Street to Facilitate Establishment of Temporary Pilot Valet Parking Program

Rasmussen explained that we wanted to test the concept of valet parking on 3rd Street, which was going well until COVID-19. With not having a lot of months to determine the effectiveness of the program, there is a request to extend the temporary program to January 2021. This will allow time to try this while the restaurants are recovering and give time in the fall when dining on the streets has ended. Rasmussen is unaware of any complaints that have been received and when it was in place it was going well.

Neal moved to approve extending the temporary parking restrictions on the 300 block of 3rd Street to facilitate establishment of temporary pilot valet parking program. Seconded by Wadinski.

Neal stated when this was in operation during normal times, indications were it was contributing to parking efficiencies downtown. He is concerned with expiring in January as we are not sure how things will pan out with the pandemic. He would like to extend this into next season to get a true representation. Rasmussen doesn't feel there is a limitation on how long we can extend a temporary program. If it is proven to assist the businesses and make parking easier, especially in the snow season, she feels we would make this a permanent arrangement.

Alfonso indicated under ordinance this committee has the authority to approve temporary regulations. This already has been in effect for six months and we are now looking at another six months. She believes it would be out of the realm of temporary if it is proposed for a whole year.

Ryan feels this is a good idea and would like to see valet parking made available in other areas. Rasmussen noted that if it is seen as a success, there has been talk of adding it in other areas of the downtown.

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

Discussion and possible action regarding disposition of the old Westside Fire Station at 510 South 32nd Avenue

Rasmussen stated in the past there has been inquiries from the community seeking to start a senior center at the old Westside Fire Station. Now that the fire department has moved out, we have the opportunity to put the building up for sale or donate it. We had a relator analysis done and it could be sold for approximately \$330,000. If the committee wishes, we can take it out for bid with a set minimum bid price. Chuck Robinson had previously brought forth a detailed proposal for a senior center concept. He has recently passed away and family members are present to speak.

Dr. Meg Robinson, 206 A West Main Street, Waterford, stated her dad passed away about a week and a half ago. He wanted to make sure the senior center moved forward. He was recently granted non-profit status. He formed a corporation and has a business model done. She provided her dad's documents which included people who may help, examples of other senior centers, the concept of a senior center, paperwork on the YMCA, business set up, examples of bylaws, bids for construction work, and fundraising. Her dad felt that Wausau should have an inexpensive senior center. He intended to ask for a \$4 a month fee to keep the lights on, heat the building, etc.

Rasmussen noted the Chuck Robinson appeared before the last Council and gave a presentation on the concept. At the time he was in the process of gaining the non-profit status. He was working on cost estimates and getting a group together to renovate the facility and run the center as a non-profit.

Robinson said her dad left off at getting volunteers to get fundraising started. She is willing to stick with the project long enough to make sure there is one strong leader. She will organize everything he had into an easy to use format. He got the hard part of non-profit status completed. They would like to purchase the building for \$1. He did a comparison budget of this project and it would come in at 6.2% of the cost of the YMCA. That means that more people can join at a much cheaper level than at the YMCA.

Ryan had spoken with Chuck Robinson this fall. Through her healthcare she has a free membership to the YMCA. A number of the staff said a year ago the YMCA would be handicap accessible but the bathrooms and showers are not. She had known people who have asked the YMCA for financial assistance and they have been denied. With the Landing at the Y, there is the regular membership and then an additional \$20 a month. She feels we need something that is affordable for most seniors. She thinks there are a lot of seniors having issues with not eating well and slowing declining at home alone. This is a way to encourage seniors to feel welcome and can come as they are. There are a lot of isolated seniors and part of having a senior center is to get them out, socialize, and get other connections so they are not isolated.

Neal can see deferring any intention to sell the property for a significant period of time to allow the concept to be explored to see if it is viable. There are organizations and people in town that are amenable to help out and city government can help steer and advise. Neal proposed not giving the property at this time, but rather a promise of the property with a time limit to allow the concept to be pursued.

One discussion Rasmussen had with Chuck Robinson was it would be difficult to fundraise if you do not have a site locked in. There is a fear of doing fundraising and not being able to get the building. He wanted the building first and would work on fundraising after. She spoke about deferring action to see if the group comes together. She noted that sometimes when there is a loss of a key person, the rest of the effort fades and the energy is lost.

Groat indicated the proposal was brought forward out of respect for Chuck Robinson and the work he had done. The City could consider hiring a realtor. She questioned what would be the most efficient and effective way to get rid of the parcel. In talking with the Economic Development staff, it is not a strategic parcel so we do not need to manage its disposition. The zoning will take control over the property. If you look at the real estate market, realtors have a system developed for advertising and showing that gets them the fastest sale at the best price. There would be a question of who would let someone in and who would manage the vacant property if City staff took over the effort. Insurance costs go up dramatically when you have a vacant building. If the committee would like to give some time, she can recognize that. However, as a tax payer and the Finance Director, she asked the committee to think about the 40,000 people that live in Wausau and what's the best thing to do if we can maximize our costs. It would be great to get some money back from the old Fire Station and a use that would pay taxes. She understands the group wanting a senior center but as a taxpayer duplicate effort is not something we typically want to reward. A local foundation wrote a letter stating they committed a lot of money to the existing senior center at the YMCA and it is unlikely they would provide funding for a duplicate effort. If it was only about dollars and cents, she would recommend hiring a realtor to sell the property.

Ryan feels there is a need for another senior center, especially after the ADRC moved out of the Health Care Campus and a lot of activities were lost.

Larson supports this effort 100%. The YMCA wants \$44.10 a month for membership, a \$60 charge, plus another \$20. This is cost prohibitive for a lot of seniors. His mother looked forward to going to her senior center. Without that some seniors would just sit in their house.

Fred Schroeder, 2715 West Wausau Avenue, has been a resident of Wausau for close to 20 years. Over the last 20 years, there has been well over \$20 million out of TIFs for industrial development. We do need jobs, but seniors over 80 have paid taxes for probably 60 years. To maximum the value of property is one obligation to a certain extent, but doing something for seniors in the community is another. He is a member of the YMCA and participates in the Landing; however, this is a different concept. There used to be a game room when the Aging and Disability Center was at North Central Health. The game room was closed when they moved and the woodworking center was gone. There were probably 150 seniors that used that game center. Chuck Robinson was involved in wood working and felt it was possible to include a wood working room in the proposed center.

Terry Byrne understands there is insufficient space at the Landing to run a 10-12 bridge game. He feels there are a number of people that will step forward to get funding. He may be willing to spend time bringing this forward.

Rasmussen noted an email received from Jeffrey Stubbe, Executive Director of the Dwight and Linda Davis Foundation. One of the things the email states is if it is the committee's will to support the project, there may be an interest from the Landing in collaborating so they are not operating against each other. The Landing did create a social only membership. If there is shared purpose and a collaborative effort, it may make fundraising less of a challenge if donators see the two are not rivals.

Rasmussen mentioned deferring this for 60 days to give them time to survey whether they still have the momentum. Meg Robinson stated not having a building makes it hard to get fundraising. Rasmussen said it does sound like there is still energy in the group but it depends on how organized and devoted that energy is. Rasmussen feels that before a fundraising effort is kicked off, feelers should be put out to find out if there is consistent energy to develop, run and manage a facility like this on a day to day basis. The committee is willing to wait to see where this will go. Groat stated fundraising could be done if the City endorses a resolution giving 60 days with the want to see 50% of the \$500,000 raised. It could spur fundraising as setting a deadline creates some urgency.

Neal moved to allow a 90 day period for the group to seek cooperation/partnerships/backing during which time action will be deferred to get a realtor; this includes a letter of intent from the City holding the building for 90 days and at the end of the process the building is to be conveyed for \$1. Larson seconded.

Mayor Rosenberg referred to a similar situation with the County regarding the warm water therapy pool. They were given 3 months to raise \$3 million and they succeeded.

Larson added that the old fire station is within a block of a bus route and it wouldn't be difficult to extend the route.

Ryan noted that some foundations only meet quarterly and three months may be cutting it close. She encouraged allowing until the end of November. Ryan also stated that Pat Peckham is a part of a group called Wood Turners. He could talk to that group to see if they are looking for a permanent spot.

Wadinski asked if the motion included having a board set up and if the building doesn't happen would they have the drive to continue it someplace else. Rasmussen said we would never restrict them if there was an alternative site. Rasmussen explained the motion offers a 90 day planning option which we would convey the building for \$1 if the project is organized to the point where it has a managing board, a management plan to open and operate the facility, and 50% of the fundraising completed based on their cost estimates. This will be brought back to CISM in October, which gives them the rest of the summer and September to undertake the process. Depending upon the report in October, we will know if they need to wait or if it is so far off that it has to go in a different direction. This also allows time to have dialogue with the Landing and find out if there is room for collaboration.

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

Discussion and possible action on a State/Municipal Agreement for Stewart Avenue from South 72nd Avenue to South 48th Avenue

Rasmussen said Stewart Avenue from 48th Avenue to 72nd Avenue is in rough shape and has been patched a lot. STP Urban funding has been secured from the MPO. Wesolowski explained there is a competitive process through the MPO to obtain STP Urban funding. Local communities submit projects which are scored by the group based on the amount of traffic, the importance to the community, and other factors. This funding cycle is a 70/30 cost split for participating items. Sewer and water are not included in participating items, which is estimated at \$1.5 million. Participating items are estimated at \$2.7 million in federal funds with the municipality responsible for the other \$1.1 million. The City would be responsible for state review as well. In 2024 there would be a commitment by the City of \$3.3 million, which \$1.5 million of that would be paid for by the Utility. Rasmussen stated a segment of the road is in a TID and we may be able to find some increment to help.

Wadinski moved to approve the State/Municipal Agreement for Stewart Avenue from South 72nd Avenue to South 48th Avenue. Seconded by Neal.

Larson asked if the \$3.3 million has been budgeted for. Rasmussen said if this is approved, it will go into the 2024 budget. Larson asked if there was any way to put money aside for this from now until 2024. Rasmussen explained we operate with a balanced budget. What we budgeted for we spend. Any surplus is moved to contingency, carried over, or returned to the general fund. Ryan feels future budgets could plan on a reserve to put money away for future years. Rasmussen indicated Groat would have to plan as some funds either need to be spent down or returned to the general fund.

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

Discussion and possible action on the sale of parcel at 1321 Curling Way

Rasmussen explained this is a parcel of land left from the realignment of Curling Way. Wesolowski indicated there is a party interested in purchasing the property. The parcel was deeded to the City by the railroad to put the old Curling Way in. Wesolowski would like to advertise and bring this back next month. The interested party would like to develop it this summer. Rasmussen noted that normally on remnant parcels if a minimum is set too high we do not receive an offer. We are not required to set a minimum.

Larson moved to approve the sale of 1321 Curling Way. Ryan seconded.

Wadinski mentioned that according to the map it appears the parcel goes over the railroad right-of-way. Wesolowski stated the railroad would retain the rail and the interested party would not be building on the part of the parcel.

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

Discussion and possible action on consideration of options for delivery and customer vehicle stacking during peak times near 306 South 17th Avenue

Rasmussen stated this area is a strip mall with Starbucks. During peak times there are issues with vehicles stacking onto 17th Avenue that creates a bottleneck in the southbound lane. There are also issues with delivery trucks unloading on 17th Avenue. The neighbors have concerns and have asked if there are other options as another building is planned to the north. Niksich noted that staff watched traffic from 7:30 am to 8:30 am on July 6 and from 8:30 am to 9:30 am on July 7. On July 6, there was one car stacking on 17th Avenue heading south. The car was there for about 2 minutes before clearing the roadway. There were no cars seen stacking on July 7. Niksich does not know if there is much of a stacking issue given it is a two lane road in both directions and a left turn lane heading northbound. He can see how delivery vehicles on 17th Avenue would be a safety concern.

Rasmussen said supply and dairy deliveries are made off of 17th Avenue using the western lane. She questioned if there was a better way to relieve this. If a quick service place or a place with a drive thru is developed to the north, there will be more cars. She questioned if there are options to work with the building owners and the owner of the proposed building to create better access. For the volume of business in the strip mall, it has a poorly designed and undersized parking area. Ryan noted this is becoming a regular problem as more people are using the drive thru because of the pandemic.

Wesolowski said the preliminary site plan for the new development has the entrance off of 18th Avenue. Staff would discourage an entrance off of 17th. Lindman added that 18th Avenue will be relocated to the north and there will be more space. Rasmussen would like staff to work with the owner. Neal questioned if signage could be posted similar to no stopping or standing on 17th Avenue so they have to make arrangements for deliveries on the other side. It is not the City's purpose to provide delivery ease but it is our duty to take care of roadway safety. Staff will research signage and look into standards.

Discussion and possible action on a Temporary Limited Easement for grading at 3505 Stewart Avenue (O'Malley)

Rasmussen explained this easement is for site grading that will address issues they have on the back side of their property. Neal moved to approve the Temporary Limited Easement for grading at 3505 Stewart Avenue. Larson seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on a Temporary Limited Easement for the construction of a trail at 800 North 1st Street (Doctors Park LLP) and 810 North 1st Street (Doctors Park Partnership)

Rasmussen noted that these are parcels near the eye clinic to further the trail. Larson moved to approve the Temporary Limited Easement at 800 North 1st Street and 810 North 1st Street. Neal seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on revised Temporary Easement Agreement and Permanent Easement Agreement with Marathon County at 400 East Thomas Street

Neal moved to approve the revised Temporary Easement Agreement and the Permanent Easement Agreement at 400 East Thomas Street. Wadinski seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on allocating four to six on-street parking stalls for the Church of the Resurrection Parish on 2nd Street between McClellan and Grant Streets

Per Rasmussen, Economic Development recently talked about this site. They are articulating the Development Agreement to match the agreement with the church to swap out a parking lot for on-street parking. The church would like some spaces signed for church use only.

Lindman stated the church feels two hour on-street parking is not adequate and they wanted to designate a certain number of spots. Staff is proposing four spaces, which was the minimum number asked for. This can be evaluated in the future if there becomes a need for more. The remaining on-street stalls would be open to the public. Neal feels this is reasonable as the spaces are not convenient for other use in the area.

Neal moved to approve allocating four on-street parking stalls for the Church of the Resurrection Parish on 2nd Street between McClellan and Grant Streets.

Public comment was received from Jeff Plier asking to take into account the ground lease agreement and make sure any action is reflective of the discussions between the Parish and the City. Rasmussen feels if the tradeoff for on-street parking versus the parking lot is resolved and the church is amenable to four stalls, we should be able to comply.

While working for Catholic Charities Ryan worked with the downtown churches. The churches have regular volunteers, especially the Resurrection during lent soup and supper events. Ryan seconded Neal's motion.

Wesolowski indicated the ordinance will have to designate which spaces. The committee agreed by consensus to designate two spaces on each side of the handicap spot located mid-block.

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

Discussion and possible action on proposed 2021 Street Construction Projects and Five Year Plan

After the last meeting, staff expected committee members to email which streets they felt needed reconstruction if we were going to forego Eau Claire Boulevard. Wesolowski offered a lot of streets that are spread around town, including Bugbee Avenue. Rasmussen reviewed her district and found 3rd Avenue from Randolph Street to Bos Creek is in worse shape, has more traffic than Bugbee, and gets more complaints. She recommends replacing Bugbee with 3rd Avenue and splitting it into two projects; Randolph to Bos Creek and Randolph to Knox Street. The south half is not as bad as the north half. She drove her whole area and 3rd Avenue seemed to be really rough. She would favor 3rd Avenue over Bugbee.

Larson feels Rosecrans from 17th Avenue to 22nd is beyond repair and it is a bus route. Ryan said South 5th Avenue from West Street to Garfield Avenue is in poor condition. When construction took place on Thomas Street and 1st Avenue, people used 5th Avenue to get around. The sewer is from 1909-1915 and the watermain is from 1941-1966. Neal recommended Hamilton Street from 5th Street to 7th Street and 8th Street from Bridge Street to the south. Wadinski met with staff and had streets in mind until staff educated him. When choosing streets, he would like to use criteria such as how bad the road is, underground utilities, traffic volume and usage.

Rasmussen asked if any of the suggested roads are eligible for overlay versus reconstruction as we can stretch dollars further with overlay. Wadinski asked about bidding for overlay as oil prices are down and asphalt is cheaper. Wesolowski stated projects are bid out February through May. This year an overlay project was bid out in February with another one bid in April or May, and we received very good prices.

Wesolowski noted that he would not recommend 3rd Avenue for an overlay project due to the poor condition of the road and there have been 10 watermain breaks. Rosecrans Street has drainage issues that an overlay would not address; this would be a reconstruction project to add storm sewer. He would not recommend 8th Street for an overlay. DPW is in the process of purchasing a paver and we are trying to get funds to them for thin overlays. Staff would overlay streets where curb and gutter is in good shape, utilities are in good shape, and there is drainage.

Larson stated that 17th Avenue is not on the 5 year plan. With new construction and apartment buildings in the area, we need to have a decent road. Per Wesolowski, this will be submitted for STP Urban funding and he feels it will score highly.

Wesolowski estimates 3rd Avenue reconstruction to be \$600,000, Rosecrans to be \$600,000, and 5th Avenue approximately \$200,000. Wadinski asked if all three streets are rated a 2 or less. Wesolowski replied they are rated 2 and 3, and the difference between a 2 and 3 can be minimal. The utilities on Rosecrans are newer but there is a need for storm sewer. 3rd Avenue and 5th Avenue are in need of sewer and water replacement. We could budget for these roads, but there is still a chance they would not make it through the budget process. Rasmussen feels this would be a good spread and we will see an impact in more districts. The following year we can choose 3 more streets in 3 other areas.

Ryan mentioned sewer relining and asked if there was a cost benefit to only doing the road and water on areas where the sewer has been relined. Lindman stated that the Utility pays for water and sewer. Rasmussen questioned the life span when a sewer is relined. Wesolowski explained the Sewer Department does a cured in place project each year in areas where the lines cannot wait for a reconstruction project. It is not cheap in comparison as brand

new pipe can be installed for about the cost per foot of in-place lining. Regarding water, Wesolowski noted that Rosecrans has copper services and 5th Avenue and 3rd Avenue have lead services.

Larson moved to approve the 2021 Street Construction Projects of 3rd Avenue from Randolph Street to Bos Creek, 5th Avenue from West Street to Garfield Avenue, and Rosecrans Street from 17th Avenue to 22nd Place. Seconded by Ryan and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Discussion of future needs for traffic management at 14th Avenue and Elm Street with development of two new apartment projects and related resident traffic

There are a lot of things under development near 14th Avenue and Elm Street. As people move in, traffic will increase. Rasmussen questioned if this is an area to keep on the radar for a traffic study to see if there is a need for traffic controls at 14th and Elm Street.

While Larson appreciates having this on the agenda, it is hard to envision the future. He would like to table this until we see there is a problem. It is hard to fix a problem that is not there.

Ryan has had neighbors ask about this. She was under the impression all of the apartments on the southern acre will put traffic onto 17th Avenue. The developer is saying he wants the exit onto Elm Street. She feels an entrance/exit there will cause problems. People want to talk about a 4-way stop at 14th Avenue. Rasmussen stated that historically residents on the east side of 14th Avenue have been adverse to traffic entering and exiting onto 14th Avenue.

Wadinski noted that the former bowling alley and events at the hotel had a lot of traffic and there wasn't a problem unless it was icy. The biggest concern would be for the entrance to be placed in the right spot and kept off 14th Avenue. Rasmussen added that we could look at the timing of the lights as well if there is an issue. Wesolowski stated with an apartment building, not everyone is coming and leaving at the same time. If there is an issue we could look at placing a 4-way stop at 14th and Elm if warranted.

Rasmussen would like to keep this on the radar until the building is leased up. If there is an issue we will bring it back. Ryan stated with apartments there will be more people walking to the grocery store. At some point we may want to look at pedestrian traffic. Wesolowski stated staff can look at this. If needed, improvements such as pavement markings can be made.

Discussion of possible installation of sidewalk on 14th Avenue between Elm Street and Callon Street in areas that do not have it currently

Rasmussen feels with upcoming development and kids biking and walking to school, connectivity of sidewalk in this area makes sense.

Ryan moved to approve the installation of sidewalk on 14th Avenue between Elm Street and Callon Street. Seconded by Neal.

Wesolowski reminded the committee that sidewalk installation is assessed out. If there is sidewalk on both sides, typically the property owner pays 50%. If there is sidewalk on one side, the cost is split between the two sides at 25%. A petition was received for sidewalk on 12th Avenue from Randolph to Merrill, which was included in the budget request. Rasmussen said when Urban West was first proposed the residents of the Village advocated for sidewalk. Urban West is 2/3rds full and a second building is proposed. Wesolowski further explained that \$150,000 is requested in the budget for sidewalk replacement with another \$60,000 for new sidewalk on 12th Avenue. Staff will add \$25,000 for this request.

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

Discussion on overnight parking during the winter months

Rasmussen explained that this was talked about last winter when there were difficulties removing snow as people failed to observe even/odd parking. We tried enhanced enforcement to try to modify behavior without taking overnight parking away. The report in the packet shows snow emergency citations issued, which are \$100 each. The staff report provided a few options. People parking on the lawn creates property maintenance issues and we cannot lead residents to believe they can park there in the winter but could be cited for it the rest of the year. We could educate residents to use the parking lots and ramps but people are not interested in walking four to five blocks from a lot to their apartment. We could amend the zoning code but we just completed a rewrite of the code. Designating on-street parking only in certain areas would start a fight in areas that do not have it. The idea of charging residents a permit fee received negative feedback as citizens are already paying taxes and do not want to pay more to park in front of their house. Increased enforcement during the winter months did help tremendously. Parking on both sides year round and one side during a snow emergency is an invitation for confusion.

Neal feels the last option of parking on both sides is a bad idea. This would present a real problem on numerous streets for public safety vehicles. He feels enhanced enforcement is the way to go, even before the snow season. He mentioned towing for flagrant situations. Rasmussen indicated towing was talked about but we do not have an impound and we would need a tow contract and ordinance change.

When Wadinski was still working, some nights it was impossible to enforce overnight parking because of the work load. Rasmussen said last winter the parking control staff was brought in and paid for out of the citation revenue. Buckner added that CSO staff was used but having CSO staff is not necessarily a constant. Last year PD had plenty of people who were available and willing to come in and do this. Wadinski likes the towing idea for education; however, during snow storms tow companies are busy.

Ryan feels an extra effort should be made with landlords and businesses that do not have off-street parking. Rasmussen said overnight parking is the problem when DPW is trying to get the streets clean. She spoke of Strowbridge Street between 1st Avenue and Cherry Street. The road is the width of an alley. If one car is parked on the street the plow cannot get through. Then residents call saying the plow missed their road.

Larson feels there is not a comfortable decision to make but agrees with using enhanced enforcement. Neal stated this is not simply during snow emergencies but also enforcing odd/even parking to get people in the habit of parking where they should be. Rasmussen believes if we are consistent in enforcement, people will do a better job.

The committee agreed by consensus to use increased enforcement.

Discussion on possible capital improvements and history of past improvements on 3rd Avenue from Stewart Avenue to Thomas Street

This item was brought up by former Alderperson Thao who wanted to see what could be done to enhance the appeal of 3rd Avenue. 3rd Avenue does not have a sense of place and the overhead lighting is dark in areas due to the tree canopy. Decorative lighting is expensive but may be the only option at this point. Costs would have to be worked into future budgets or possibly look for Block Grant funding.

Ryan asked if there was an option for mid-block, LED lighting. Rasmussen indicated that historically mid-block lighting was only approved if the street turned. However, that was when we did not have LED fixtures that are inexpensive to run. It is not expensive to install a light on an existing WPS pole. We have recently installed a few based on petitions.

Per Wesolowski, the existing lighting is 30' cobra poles at the intersections and mid-block. The lighting is not LED as it was put in 15 to 20 years ago. Rasmussen asked how expensive it would be to retrofit the poles for LED. Wesolowski indicated staff could look into retrofitting some of the heads, which would enhance the

lighting. Thao was looking for higher visual aesthetics that would cause property owners to invest in their properties. She was also looking to enhance the walkability of the neighborhood; enhanced lighting would help. If it is inexpensive to change heads, it would be a great first step.

Ryan spoke of a light out at Elm and 4th Avenue. When it was replaced with a LED there was twice as much light. She added that with the change from the election, there will be more of an effort in the neighborhood south of Stewart Avenue with new alderpersons trying to engage more to turn things around.

Rasmussen questioned Focus on Energy grants. Lindman stated Focus on Energy is getting away from reimbursements for LED but payback with LED is accomplished in a couple of years.

The committee agreed by consensus to have staff look into the costs of changing the light fixtures to LED.

Wesolowski said this could be added as a request to the 2021 budget. We could purchase the fixtures and staff could install. Wadinski feels we should be doing more of this if there is a good payback. Lindman noted that LED replacements have taken place in the ramps. Some street lighting is done every year.

Future Agenda Items

Neal would like to the intersection of 10th Street and Stark Street on a future agenda. Currently the stop signs are on 10th Street and the neighbors regularly express concerns of speeding on Stark. He feels mitigating speed on 10th Street does not make sense. He would like to see the stop signs swapped from 10th Street to Stark Street. Rasmussen has heard about this several times from a resident at 8th and Stark. This was looked at before and the guidelines are to place the stop sign on the less traveled road, which is why they were placed on 10th Street. We try not to use stop signs to control speed. Targeted enforcement works, but only when there is a presence. This will be brought forward in August.

Wadinski would like to talk about the no turn on read for north bound at 17th Avenue and West Bridge Street. Rasmussen noted that this sign went up as a result of a petition. Wesolowski added it was so the resident could back out of her driveway. Wadinski feels doing something like this for one is not the right thing to do. Ryan indicated the residents on Bridge Street did not have a break in traffic. She added Madison uses smaller but wider speed bumps to slow traffic. Wesolowski stated speed bumps have negative impacts to plows, the noise of people hitting them, people hitting their breaks and then accelerating. He has read in studies where communities that installed them have ended up removing them because of negative impacts. Discussion followed on traffic calming measures.

Adjourn

Neal moved to adjourn the meeting. Larson seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0. Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m.