

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND STREET MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: August 8, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Members Present: Rasmussen, Abitz, Gisselman, Kellbach, Mielke

Also Present: Marquardt, Lenz, Wesolowski, Gehin

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. Chairperson Rasmussen called the meeting to order.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve minutes of the July 11, 2013, meeting

B. Approve Stormwater Maintenance Agreement for Kwik Trip at 200 East Kent Street

Mielke moved to approve the consent agenda items. Kellbach seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Approve Bicycle Rack Design Contest for 3rd Street

This item was taken out of the agenda order.

Lenz stated the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee has been discussing bicycle racks for the downtown area since the completion of the 400 Block. They are looking to add parking in areas that do not conflict with the 400 Block or existing parking. One of the recommendations is to add in-street racks in the triangle areas on 3rd Street, which are too small for vehicle parking. These areas are off of the 400 Block and serve the downtown area. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee looked at ordering bicycle racks from a manufacturer; however, some committee members suggested doing something creative and involving the community while saving money for the City. The idea was to create a bicycle rack design contest.

Pat Peckham stated his involvement started by attending the meetings and then began working on the idea of having a community wide design contest. Peckham began talking about ideas with Mark Craig and he suggested involving the area schools. NTC is willing to participate in the fabrication for the cost of the materials. For the fabrication, NTC indicated it is customary for the recipient (in this case the City) to make a donation to the Welding Club. Entry and design guidelines have been established. There will be a maximum height of the rack and it will be bolted down to the street. Mark Craig contacted Brad Peck and he will be the contact person for the area schools. Each of the three high schools, Wausau East, Wausau West and Everest, (Newman does not have a metal working program) would get one of the triangle areas and could design one or two racks to accommodate three to five bicycles. NTC would participate by designing free standing racks that could be placed anywhere the City needed, possibly along 2nd Avenue when it is reconstructed. Peckham stated he does not know the cost, but it could be done reasonably. The racks would be powder coated carbon steel to withstand the weather. Mark Craig has informed him that Compass Properties will contribute \$1,000 for the best design, \$500 for 2nd and \$250 for 3rd. Peckham stated at this time we do not know what they will look like. Engineering staff will look at the designs to insure they are workable, safe, sturdy and sensible. Rasmussen questioned if any would be installed at UWMC. Peckham stated they have not touched based with the UW at this point.

Mark Craig stated he believes it is important to involve the students and competition between the schools is fun. A contest was recently held through NTC for re-creation of the American Flag, which Wausau

East won a welder for the industrial arts program. They would like to try to replicate that prize along with prize money.

Abitz questioned if the bicycle racks would conflict with handicap parking. Peckham stated they would be located at the north end of each block and would not conflict. Abitz asked if the racks would be removed during the winter. Peckham confirmed they would be removed for the ease of snow removal. Abitz questioned if the existing bicycle rack near the 400 Block is located on the street or on the sidewalk. Peckham stated that Parking and Traffic directed that this rack be located on the sidewalk. Abitz asked if one would be placed on Scott Street by UMR since someone currently locks a bicycle to the railing. Lenz replied that area has not been considered yet and believes the railing is on private property.

Peckham stated it has not been dictated how the \$1,000 prize from Compass Properties would get distributed between the student and the school. Craig stated he will meet with Brad Peck to determine this. Rasmussen suggested it could be in the form of a scholarship.

Gisselman moved to approve the drafted contest rules and authorize staff to move forward with the project. Mielke seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

2014 CIP Summary

Marquardt explained the projects that have been submitted for the 2014 CIP budget. Abitz asked when 13th Avenue, 15th Avenue, 16th Avenue, Lake Street and 14th Avenue would be completed and if they would be tied in with the Thomas Street project. Marquardt stated the streets would be completed as warranted and as they fit into the budget. The Thomas Street project would have no bearing. Rasmussen noted that Thomas Street was not shown on the list for future projects. Marquardt stated it used to be shown as a future DOT project and was inadvertently omitted. It will be added and the design portion will be removed from the DOT project list.

Mielke moved to approve the 2014 CIP projects as discussed and direct staff to continue through the budget process. Kellbach seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Approve revisions to State/Municipal Agreement for Stewart Avenue from 17th Avenue to 1st Avenue

Marquardt stated CISM has previously talked about the DOT requesting the City to complete a safety application for 1st Avenue and Stewart Avenue. The application is not necessary as the DOT is able to do the preemption with the railroad and tie into the signals at 1st Avenue and Stewart Avenue. It will be a 90% -10% split, with the State paying 90% and the City paying 10%. This will be included with the project agreement for Stewart Avenue and would bring the City's share to \$146,509 in 2015.

Mielke moved to approve the revisions to the State/Municipal Agreement for Stewart Avenue from 17th Avenue to 1st Avenue. Kellbach seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Discuss and make recommendation regarding improvements on North 11th Avenue, north of Campus Drive

Rasmussen explained there are drainage and flooding issues on North 11th Avenue, north of Campus Drive, which has been a concern of the building management for the apartment complex for a number of years. Mielke indicated it is also a concern in the winter with ice buildup.

Wesolowski provided pictures of the site which showed the condition of the road and flooding after a rainfall. Staff considered ditch drainage; however, getting drainage to Bos Creek would require ditching across private property. Staff recommends reconstruction of the road and tie into storm sewer on Campus Drive. This could be submitted for the 2014 budget.

Mielke moved to add the reconstruction of North 11th Avenue, north of Campus Drive, to the 2014 budget submittal. Kellbach seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Discuss and make recommendation regarding Stewart Avenue grass cutting and snow removal

Marquardt explained that City crews cut the grass between the curb and gutter and sidewalk on the north side of Stewart Avenue from 4th Avenue to 8th Avenue, and also has been maintaining the area from the sidewalk to the top of the bank. The area behind the sidewalk is right-of-way. On Bridge Street, similar areas were left as remnant parcels; however, on Stewart Avenue the area is right-of-way. He is unsure if there was an agreement made because of the right-of-way and/or slope. The sidewalk is not at the property line, like in most cases throughout the City. However, the adjacent property owners should be maintaining the sidewalk and boulevard area. Additionally, from 8th Avenue to 12th Avenue the sidewalk is on the property line, but the City has continued to cut the grass between the curb and the sidewalk.

Mielke stated he can guarantee the residents will continue to expect these services be completed by the City and questioned the cost savings. Marquardt replied the savings would be minimal. Rasmussen stated the boulevard is not wide so there is an overflow of snow from the street onto the sidewalk. Marquardt indicated the south side of Stewart is the same way and the property owners maintain it. Mielke understands that property owners are required to maintain these areas in other parts of the City; however, these people expect it and there is a lot of pedestrian traffic. He does have two upcoming neighborhood group meetings that he can bring the issue to.

Gisselman stated Stewart Avenue is similar to Grand Avenue and feels the sidewalk should be cleared as soon as possible since it is a heavy traveled street. He believes it is the City's obligation and wishes that the committee will continue to offer that.

This item will be deferred until the September meeting.

Make recommendation regarding north access to the soccer complex from Junction Street

Marquardt stated under the development agreement for the soccer complex, the City is responsible for providing access from Junction Street to the north parking lot. The steering committee was working with the cemetery to relocate two storage buildings. However, negotiations came to within approximately \$20,000 to \$30,000 and then fell apart to the point where the steering committee is going forward with a separate maintenance building for the Park Department on the east side of Curling Way. To fulfill the obligation for access, the City will need to begin the acquisition process on the cemetery portion. Staff recommends going forward to start with the right-of-way plat, appraisals and then a relocation order.

Mielke moved to direct staff to continue as outlined. Gisselman seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Future agenda items for consideration

Abitz questioned the timings of traffic signals on Scott Street. Marquardt stated a Request for Proposals was sent out today regarding certain intersections and the Scott Street corridor is included in that.

Adjourn

Kellbach moved to adjourn the meeting. Mielke seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:15 p.m.