

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND STREET MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

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Date of Meeting: July 14, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

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

Also Present: Mayor Mielke, Lindman, Wesolowski, Sean Gehin, Graham

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. Chairman Gisselman called the meeting to order.

### **Public Comment for matters not appearing on the agenda**

No one came forward to offer public comment.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approve minutes of the June 9, 2016 meeting**
  - B. Action on a Stormwater Maintenance Agreement for Cloverbelt Credit Union at 110 McIndoe Street**
  - C. Action on a Stormwater Maintenance Agreement for S.C. Swiderski, LLC at 1550 Westwood Drive**
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Rasmussen moved to approve the consent agenda items. McElhaney seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

### **Discussion and possible action on petition for annexation from the Town of Stettin: City of Wausau (petitioner) – Highland Drive and County Road O**

Lindman stated the City purchased approximately 200 acres in the Town of Stettin for future expansion of the west side of the Business Campus which will make a connection to County Highway O.

Rasmussen moved to approve the petition for annexation from the Town of Stettin at Highland Drive and County Road O. Kellbach seconded.

Abitz questioned if there are any concerns with sewer, water, wires or ground contamination in this area. Lindman explained that prior to the purchase of the land, a Phase 1 environmental study was done and no concerns were found. Rasmussen said the Economic Development Committee has authorized a RFP for a master plan of this area. Part of the master plan is to install sewer and water that will support business growth. Abitz has heard through the grapevine that someone is interested in the property for development.

There being a motion and a second, motion to approve the petition for annexation from the Town of Stettin at Highland Drive and County Road O carried unanimously 5-0.

### **Discussion and possible action on the installation of curb bump outs at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School, GD Jones Elementary School and John Marshall Elementary School**

Wesolowski indicated the Wausau School District is improving several facilities. As part of these improvements, the school district has proposed street improvements to facilitate bus drop off areas. Rasmussen asked if the travel lane width of Randolph Street would be narrowed. Wesolowski replied no and explained the sidewalk would be moved back to create a lane for buses to pull into.

Larry Cihlar, Wausau School District, explained that at all three locations the sidewalk would be moved in to get buses out of the traffic lanes. Rasmussen asked if the sidewalk will be moved off of right-of-way and onto school district property. Cihlar indicated an easement may have to be obtained. Wesolowski stated the sidewalk in front of Thomas Jefferson would remain on the existing right-of-way and an easement would not be needed. The existing boulevard area will be lost and a 6' sidewalk will be installed at the back of the curb. Rasmussen feels that Thomas Jefferson has long needed bus accommodations and believes this is a good plan. Wesolowski noted that the school district will be paying for these improvements. Rasmussen is glad to see these improvements as the bus traffic will increase with the building expansion. Cihlar noted that parent drop off will be improved with the acquisition of the adjacent property. Rasmussen added that parents picking kids up tend to show up early to get a parking spot on Randolph Street. The south side of Randolph has been posted with no parking during school hours. This committee may need to consider signage for the other side of the street to keep people out of the bus area. Cihlar indicated there will be a strong communication component from the school to the parents before school starts. Abitz said the parking lot at Newman High School is set up for pick up and drop off. She questioned if Thomas Jefferson's lot is set up this way to divert traffic from Randolph Street. Cihlar indicated with the new parking lot, parents will come in off of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and exit onto Randolph. Rasmussen noted that currently there is an entry and exit driveway off of Randolph. She asked if the entry driveway on Randolph would be closed. Cihlar replied there will be a point of entry for the staff to enter the parking lot and a point of exit for the parent drop off. There will be an educational component to the parents to ensure they do not use the parking lot to drop children off. The school district would like to avoid signage, especially along Randolph, so sweepers can clear the sidewalk without leaving piles around signs. Rasmussen said this could be approved with the understanding that if issues arise and signage needs to be installed, the school district can work with DPW and the Police Department without further committee approval.

Discussion turned to improvements at GD Jones. Abitz wants to make sure the buses know a left hand turn will not be allowed from 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue onto Thomas Street once Thomas Street is reconstructed. Cihlar indicated the only difference between last year and what is proposed is the bump in. The buses will not be using a difference entrance. Abitz just wants to be sure the traffic flow relating to Thomas Street is kept in mind. Wesolowski indicated sidewalk will be moved off the existing right-of-way at GD Jones and John Marshall. Staff will work with the school district on easements.

Rasmussen moved to approve the installation of curb bump outs at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School, GD Jones Elementary School and John Marshall Elementary School as proposed. Abitz seconded.

Gisselman asked if trees would be affected at any of the three sites. Cihlar stated the trees at John Marshall are only a year or two old. They are looking at moving the trees to the inside of the sidewalk since the boulevard will be eliminated. In the cases of mature trees, the school district is looking at replacing them within the playground or near vicinity. The school district will follow any guidance from the Park Department. This would also be done at the school district's expense.

There being a motion and a second, motion to approve the installation of curb bump outs at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School, GD Jones Elementary School and John Marshall Elementary School carried unanimously 5-0.

**Discussion and possible action on a preliminary resolution for paving the alley bounded by Lincoln Avenue, Humboldt Avenue, 8<sup>th</sup> Street and 9<sup>th</sup> Street**

Wesolowski stated a petition was received to pave the alley bounded by Lincoln, Humboldt, 8<sup>th</sup> Street and

9<sup>th</sup> Street. Past practice has been for this committee to recommend moving forward with a public hearing to levy special assessments. The Board of Public Works would hold the public hearing with results considered by CISM. If approved, money would be budgeted for 2017 construction. Abitz asked if the property owners are aware they would be responsible for plowing the alley. Wesolowski stated any winter maintenance is the responsibility of the property owners; however, they would not be required to plow the alley. Abitz noted an alley near Krist where the owners thought the City would plow it after the alley was paved. Wesolowski indicated letters will be sent out for the public hearing and a statement regarding plowing the alley can be included in that notice.

Rasmussen moved to approve the preliminary resolution for paving the alley bounded by Lincoln Avenue, Humboldt Avenue, 8<sup>th</sup> Street and 9<sup>th</sup> Street. Kellbach seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

### **Update on 2016 Street Construction Projects**

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Wesolowski stated business meetings are held every Thursday regarding 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue between Stewart Avenue and Elm. There have not been a lot of issues on this project. The underground work will be completed by the middle of next week. One block has been graded with base course. Installation of curb and gutter should begin next week. Completion of the project is scheduled for the middle of September. Temporary signals have been placed at 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue for the Stewart Avenue project. This project is slightly behind as there were issues with getting railroad flaggers coordinated. The outside lanes will be closed beginning Monday. There will be one lane of traffic in each direction. The intersection of Scott Street and 1<sup>st</sup> Street will be congested. West bound traffic on Scott Street approaching 1<sup>st</sup> Street will be narrowed down to one lane. This will continue for a three month period. There are not a lot of alternate routes so congestion is expected. This may shift more traffic to Bridge Street or Thomas Street. The intersection of 1<sup>st</sup> Street and Scott Street will be upgraded to add a left hand turn lane on 1<sup>st</sup> Street. Abitz asked if new traffic signals would be installed. Wesolowski confirmed that new signal heads would be installed along with pavement markings. No overhead signs are planned at this time. Abitz asked if there would be any special notification regarding Stewart Avenue construction for visitors coming to Wausau for the fair or if no parking signs would be placed on Stewart. Wesolowski stated the outside lanes will be closed once construction starts. There are special provisions in the contract that the contractor has to keep the intersections open during the fair. There will be full access into the park during the fair.

Gehin indicated the west half of the Chicago Avenue project has been completed, with the exception of landscape touchup work. Starting Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> Street will be closed from Bridge Street to Humboldt Avenue to allow the contractor to continue east on the project. Once the residents are set up on temporary water, the contractor will continue with utility work. Curb and gutter will be poured on the west half of the Kent Street project. Base course was finished prior to the Balloon Rally. The underground work on the east half of the project will begin this week. Both projects are a week or two behind due to the amount of rain in June. Community Development Block Grant funds were approved to be used for a sidewalk repair project in low to moderate income areas. The bid opening for this project is July 26 with a completion date of mid-October. With the use of these funds, approximately 16,000 square feet of sidewalk will be repaired. Abitz asked if this project includes repair of sidewalk that was damaged in a recent storm. Gehin stated we will do our best to repair storm damaged walk in low to moderate income areas. The Sanitary Sewer Repair Project will begin advertising on Monday. A number of spot repairs will be made to sanitary sewer that has failed or is in poor condition. The cost of this work is estimated at \$135,000. Bids will be opened on August 9 with completion in mid-October.

### **Future agenda items for consideration**

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Abitz would like an update on the Thomas Street Project.

Mayor Mielke stated he has been contacted regarding handicap parking in front of City Hall. A handicap ramp is present; however, there is not designated handicap parking. The handicap parking spot is located at the back of City Hall. The back parking area is planned to be revamped this summer with one spot for handicap parking and hopefully two to three spots for employees coming in and out for an hour or so. However, two handicap spots have been requested in front of City Hall. Gisselman stated there are similar situations throughout the community that may be considered in the future as this does involve major work regarding the curb.

Wesolowski stated a State/Municipal Agreement regarding the intersections of Sturgeon Eddy, Townline Road and Thomas Street on Grand Avenue. This would include the design phase to revamp the intersections by possibly adding lanes and new signals. It is proposed as a 25% cost share for design costs. Abitz would like the intersection of Thomas and Grand looked at. There is no left turn signal to turn onto Grand. She has sat through two cycles before she could make a left hand turn. Wesolowski stated this would be looked at during the design process; however, construction would not take place until five years at the earliest. Improvements done prior to the DOT process would be entirely the City's responsibility.

### **Adjourn**

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