

STREET COMMISSION

CITY OF WABASHA

Minutes of the January 25, 2011, Meeting:

BOARD MEMBERS:	Jim Abbott	Charles Bricher
	Gary Wodele	Jim Pfeilsticker
	Brad Thimmesch	
STAFF:	Tony Johnson – Street Superintendent	
	Sue Schamaun	

The Regular Meeting of the Street Commission was held on Tuesday, January 25, 2011, at 3:00 pm at the City Hall and was called to order by Commissioner Bricher at 3:00 p.m.

Roll call found all Commissioners present. City Planner, Molly Patterson-Lundgren, was also present.

Commissioners Bricher and Abbott moved to approve the November 30, 2010, minutes. Adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Bricher announced Mayor Hall appointed Mr. Jim Pfeilsticker to the Street Commission and welcomed Mr. Jim Pfeilsticker to the Street Commission.

Sidewalk Recommendation for Alleghany Street Project: Tony reported Alleghany Avenue is one of the busiest streets in town due to its proximity to the bridge and Kwik Trip and the Skateboard Park. Tony stated he would recommend putting in a sidewalk if the City includes Alleghany Avenue in their 2011 Street Project. Discussion was held on which side of Alleghany Avenue the sidewalk should be put in. It was felt with the amount of children using the proposed sidewalk due to Summer Rec baseball and softball as well as the skateboard park, the Athletic Field side of Alleghany Avenue would be the best option. Molly Patterson-Lundgren, City Planner, stated this area was also included in a small study a few years ago where people went out and walked around the City and commented back on where they felt there needed to be improvements in sidewalks and several commented on the difficulty on getting around the Athletic Field area.

Mr. Bill Anderson, City Engineer, arrived at the meeting.

After discussion, Commissioners Pfeilsticker and Thimmesch moved to recommend Council add a 5' concrete sidewalk on the Athletic Field side of Alleghany Avenue from Grant Boulevard to Hiawatha Drive.

Molly stated she has mapping showing where existing sidewalks are and it was determined to have that information at the next Street Commission meeting. Molly stated she could also show where trails are planned.

'07 Sterling Plow Truck Wing Cylinder (Safety Issue): Tony stated when the City purchased the new tandem in 2007, it came with a larger wing which sticks out further and when it is raised up, the driver can't see out the passenger window which has created a safety issue especially when they are at intersections. Tony distributed information from Crysteel Truck Equipment, Inc., on a hydraulic cylinder option for the wing for approximately \$2,500.00 and further stated he has the cylinder so just needs the hydraulics, module and cables/hoses.

Commissioners Bricher and Thimmesch moved to approve purchasing the following items quoted by Crysteel Truck Equipment due to safety issues for the 2007 Tandem Wing for approximately \$2,500.00: Adopted unanimously.

- 8 terminal valve drive module
- Can cable from 12 port VDM to 8 port VDM
- (1) small valve enclosure
- (2) valve drive cable GS06289-030
- Program so scraper left/right is hydraulic push arm

Future Radio Upgrade: Tony stated in the next couple of years, the Street Department will have to upgrade radios due to the switch to the 800 MHZ due to a requirement to narrowband from the FCC (Federal Communications Center). He will be attending a meeting on February 1st in reference to this upgrade and report back with more information.

Storm Clean-up Ordinance Update: The Forestation Control Ordinance was discussed in reference to an amendment under Section 1220.07: Duties of Private Owners which states storm damaged trees with City Right-of-Way will be removed by the City with the removal of stumps being the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. Also, Tony was directed by the Street Commission to check with Attorney Peter Ekstrand to see if Section 1220.02 would include coverage for the damage of trees caused by the Ash Borer. If the City Attorney felt this was covered, then it was ok to proceed with sending the ordinance to Council for amending. **After review of the amendment, Commissioners Abbott and Wodele moved to recommend Council approve the amendment of The Forestation Control Ordinance to include subd. 7 under Section 1220.07: Duties of Private Owners which states:**

Storm-Damaged Trees: Storm damaged trees within City Right-Of-Way will be removed by the City. Removal of Stumps will be the responsibility of the adjacent property owner.

Adopted unanimously.

Mutual Aid – MN Warn: Tony provided a copy of the MnWARN Mutual Aid Agreement and stated the Utilities Commission has asked the Street Department to sign on also as it deals with storm water issues and it cities have the option of assisting each other in the form of personnel, equipment and supplies and it in no way obligates a city to assist. After review, Commissioners Thimmesch and Abbott moved to approve signing on to the MnWARN Mutual Aid Agreement in accord with the Utilities Commission. Adopted unanimously.

At 4:00 pm, The Utilities Commission joined the Street Commission to have a joint meeting to discuss 10 items relating the upcoming 2011 Street Project that was submitted by Mr. Bill Anderson.

Mr. Bill Anderson presented Street Commission and Utility Commission members a list of 10 questions and issues and asked for input in reference to the 2011 Proposed Street Project. The following was discussed:

Mr. Anderson stated the plans have been drawn up with the base topography on it and the geometry has been laid out on the streets. The following questions need to be addressed in order to finish up the plans. These questions will be going to Council but he stated he wanted input from both the Utilities Commission as well as the Street Commission.

- 1) Any new sidewalks? (this is not included in original feasibility report)
 - 4' wide sidewalks = \$5,000/block – adding landscaping could double cost
 - 5' wide sidewalks = \$6,000/block – adding landscaping could double cost
 - Areas to be considered are:
 - i. 12th & Broadway to make a loop with existing sidewalk on Hiawatha

Bill Anderson explained if the City is going to be doing streets, now is the time to consider putting in sidewalks because it changes how driveways and grades would be addressed.

Street Commissioner Bricher stated the Street Commission approved a motion to recommend Council consider installing a 5' sidewalk along the Athletic Field side of Alleghany Avenue from Grant Boulevard to Hiawatha. He further stated Alleghany Avenue is a highly traveled street because it is a short cut to Hiawatha and many children use the area to get to the Athletic Field as well as the skateboard park.

Bill Anderson stated the City has to determine as a concept if they want to add sidewalks to the 2011 Street Project anywhere, everywhere, or nowhere.

- 2) County planning on repairing Hiawatha in 2013 – could coordinate some of project with that job. Should at least get utilities into Hiawatha before 2013.
 - Bill stated the County is planning on rebuilding Hiawatha and they are planning a mill and overlay for the County portion of Main Street.
- 3) Need policy for parking in City right-of-way – should City put in new curb and parking at church, NAPA, etc:

Bill stated by the church on 12th Street, by Car Quest and by Subway, there is angle in parking. He questioned whether the plans should include running the curb and gutter through these areas and then drop the back of the curb and pave up to the right-of-way and let people continue to park there or should it be cleaned up and not allow parking off those curbs.

After discussion, it was unanimously agreed to run the curb and gutter through the areas and drop the back of the curb and pave up to the right-of-way so these areas can continue to have angle parking.

- 4) Franklin from 12th – 10th: bituminous only – no curb?
 - Add sewer and water?
 - Clean out ditch or rain garden?

Bill stated this area has gravel and it is one of only 2 blocks that isn't already a black top street. He stated his question is whether or not the City was going to pave and curb and gutter these streets or not before the design work starts.

Tony stated this was originally put on the list because the City was looking into adding a campground in this area and further stated Council has elected not to move forward on the campground project.

Dave Vosen stated the only thing his department would do would put in water from 10th Street to 11th Street by adding a water main because they are both dead-ends. He stated sewer is fine because everything is already graded and they all have service.

After discussion it was determined to take this off the list but to recommend moving forward to loop the water from 10th Street to 11th Street.

5) Replace all traffic and street signs?

Bill stated all street signs need to be re-done by 2013 per a mandate and it would be cost effective to buy the street signs that are identified for the 2011 Street Project in bulk. Tony stated it makes sense to add the signs to the Street Project and it saves buying signs from his budget.

It was agreed it would be cost effective to add street signs to the Street Project.

6) We are not upgrading the storm sewer.

Bill stated the City is replacing catch basins where they are and does not believe any need to be added but all the grades have not been completed yet. He just wanted to point out that they are not adding any storm sewers. He stated they are just using the surface drainage as it is. Discussion was held on 12th Street and the standing water after a heavy rain and it was determined to discuss this at the Council meeting.

7) Should we replace water mains and services?

Bill stated there are places where sewer needs to be replaced but there is nothing in the plan to replace water mains and the hard part is knowing which mains are in good shape and which ones are not. He also stated there are places like on Broadway Avenue where the pipes are older and there are lead joint pipes. Also, because the ground will be disturbed due to working on the streets, sometimes it will cause leaks due to services being made from different materials. Some of the streets have been there for 40 years and so if the street is replaced and the water main is not, then the City is putting new streets over old water mains and the City may regret that especially if leaks happen due to the disturbance of the street project.

Dave Vosen stated he would recommend fixing all water and sewer services if needed.

Steve Schmidt stated replacing water mains and services would be the right thing to do and where there are lead joints, replace those also.

It was determined to recommend Council direct Bill Anderson to include replacing water mains and services on the plans.

8) Disposal and stockpile areas? Staging area.

Bill stated they will need disposal areas for excess materials such as dirt and reclaim material. Also, a staging area needs to be located and wondered about the corner of the Athletic Field for the contractor to put equipment, pipes, gear, trailers, etc. He stated it helps to be able to put it on the plans and specs so it is set up ahead of time and delivery people know exactly where to go.

It was suggested having a couple staging areas which would be the corner of the Athletic Field as well as behind City Hall.

9) Rain garden on FEMA lot? Sippi-hole?

Bill stated the reason he brought this up, as part of the plans, they have to do a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan which part of it is Best Management Practices for taking care of water and storm run off during construction and luckily, the City does not have a lot that runs straight into the river. If the water runs straight into the river, there are a lot more regulations. In the long run, since no new impervious areas are being created, the City doesn't have to add permanent storm water treatment like rain gardens, etc.

It was determined that due to the maintenance of keeping up with the special plantings, etc., involved in rain gardens and the City already has areas that are considered rain gardens, it would not be an effective use of City time or money at this time to develop a formal rain garden.

10) Access issues during construction – methods to determine access issues – public notices, inquire with bus service, etc.

Bill stated access issue questions need to be asked via the City's website, at public hearings, asking the public that if they have any access special needs, to please let City staff know so they can be addresses during the planning stages of the 2011 Street Project.

At 5:25 pm, Commissioners Abbott and Pfeilsticker moved to adjourn. Adopted unanimously.

Susan Schamaun, City Clerk