

STREET COMMISSION

CITY OF WABASHA

Minutes of the March 30, 2010, Meeting:

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

The Regular Meeting of the Street Commission was held on Tuesday, March 30, 2010, at 3:00 pm at the City Hall and was called to order by Commissioner Bricher at 3:22 p.m.

Roll call found all Commissioners present except Commissioners Abbott & Jones.

Mr. Eric Passe was present.

Tony brought forward a color-coded City map that showed the 2008-2009 Sealcoat Projects (yellow) along with the proposed sealcoat for 2010 (orange) and proposed mill/overlay areas (pink). Costs for doing the proposed mill/overlay work were based on potential pricing obtained from City Engineer, Bill Anderson. After discussion, Commissioners Wodele and Thimmesch moved to submit the color-coded City Map with proposed sealcoat project and proposed mill/overlay project to Council for their review and potential action. Adopted unanimously.

Tony reported he sent out for quotes for seal coating/crack filling and BCI-Flex Patch and expected the quotes to come in around mid-April. He stated he has \$50,000 in the Street Department budget and will ask Council for another \$10,000.

The alley at 917 Milligan Avenue, an undeveloped alley between 9th and 10th Streets was brought forward for discussion. Tony stated Ms. Karen Amsrud has requested gravel in this alley. Tony reported he went out and looked at the alley and felt the matter should come before the Street Commission because there are issues such as who is going to pay for the crushed rock, how much of the alley would get crushed rock etc. Tony stated he would like to table until the next meeting and he will check to see if this alley is platted.

A request for a 'Children At Play' sign for Market Street and Jefferson Avenue was brought forward for discussion. Tony stated he told the resident who called to submit their request in writing and he has not received it as of today. Further, he stated he could install a sign after the exact location is determined. This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Tony reported due to budget cuts, there is a change to the City's Snow Plowing Policy in that plowing will now be done after a 3 inch snow fall. However, the existing snow emergency rules for 1-1/2 inch snow falls and signage would not change. Also, more sand would be used due to the fact he contracted for a lot less salt this next season.

Tony reported the City had a budget meeting and \$10,000 was cut from the Street Department Equipment Replacement fund as well as signs and other items. Commissioner Thimmesch questioned if merging the Parks and Street Departments would be beneficial in reference to purchasing large items such as larger equipment. Tony stated he didn't think it would be beneficial and that all departments had their budgets cut.

Tony handed out an article on the new requirements for sign retro-reflectivity and stated the new requirements will have to be implemented over time and will affect the line item for signs in the current and future Street Department budgets. He stated these new requirements are mandated by the State. Further, these signs are more expensive. By January, 2012, the City must implement and continue to use an assessment or management method for the new requirements. By January, 2015, Cities must replace all signs that do not meet the established minimum level. By 2018, street signs and guidance signs must be replaced.

Charles Bricher updated the Commission on the property and traffic accidents at Highway 61 and Grant Boulevard. A copy of the plat for the property at the southeast corner and an overhead photo of the area was made available as well as the traffic accident report summary provided by Police Chief Kruger. Since only eight accidents had occurred in the last five years resulting in no deaths, it was felt that MN Dot would not take any actions to improve that intersection. No action or recommendation was made concerning this issue.

Mr. Eric Passe brought forward the suggestion for joint pavement repair projects such as the one proposed for Prospect Avenue last year. He suggested the City street crew would use Passe's milling head on the City's loader to prepare the sites and Passe would provide the paver and rollers to apply and finish the surface while both City and Passe would provide the trucks to haul the asphalt to the sites. Presently there are four street locations where the Utilities Department had done water main repairs and these streets areas are now filled with gravel and there are a few other sites that should be done also. It was determined to discuss with City Administrator to determine how the bid process should proceed.

The meeting unanimously adjourned at 4:25 pm.

Susan Schamaun, City Clerk for Charles Bricher