

STREET COMMISSION

CITY OF WABASHA

Minutes of the August 31, 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, August 31, 2010, at 3:00 pm at the City Hall and was called to order by Commissioner Bricher at 3:15 p.m.

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

Commissioners Wodele and Thimmesch moved to approve the July 27, 2010, minutes. Adopted unanimously.

Storm Sewer on Angelique Avenue:

Tony reported the City had a sinkhole on Angelique Avenue and the storm sewer actually separated at the top. He stated City Engineer Bill Anderson looked at it and it has been determined to get some flexible polyurethane and wrap around the pipe and then wrap wire around it and cement it shut. It has to cure and then it can be buried. It was stated it was common to use this method for repairing storm sewers.

Tony stated they found another area by AmericInn at the corner of the highway and Commerce Street. He stated there is a concrete apron with a metal grate over it and it has moved and it came apart a little bit. It was stated they will borrow the County's backhoe and dig it up and pull it back and set back in place.

Storm Clean-up Update:

Tony reported he is going to get the backhoe and fill in holes. Tony stated he wanted the Street Commission to review what the Street Department is responsible for in determining what trees to remove after storms. He further stated he doesn't have the funds to be removing trees in resident's yards. It was determined Tony would meet with City Attorney Peter Ekstrand to review the City's tree policy in reference to legal issues and bring back to the next Street Commission meeting with a recommendation.

Lawrence Boulevard Parking:

Commissioner Bricher stated a meeting was held at City Hall between himself, City Administrator David Schmidt, Police Chief Dave Kruger, National Eagle Center representative Jeff Worrel, Ken and Carol Buol and Judy Peterson in reference to parking on Lawrence Boulevard. He reported the meeting was called after Mr. Worrel witnessed a homeowner scolding some elderly people for parking on Lawrence Boulevard to go to the National Eagle Center. The residents who attended the meeting had the following list of concerns:

- One-Way signs on Bailey and Lawrence Blvd. are not clear (apparently people are coming down Bailey Avenue and turning left on Lawrence Boulevard)
- People are parking in the driveway areas
- Request for permit parking for residents only

In response to these concerns, the following was discussed:

- Possibility of another red Do Not Enter sign installed on Lawrence Blvd.
- Using yellow paint to mark the no parking areas
- Using police to enforce
- Permit parking would restrict resident vehicles and also visitors to the residents

Commissioner Thimmesch reported watching someone going down a side street to Lawrence Boulevard and after observing the one-way sign, they elected to turn left anyway. Commissioner Wodele felt that sometimes no amount of signage is going to deter some people from doing what they are not supposed to do. Commissioners also agreed that all City streets are open to public parking and Lawrence Boulevard should not be treated any differently than the rest of the City. There is already no parking on the river side of Lawrence Boulevard.

After discussion, Commissioners Wodele and Bricher moved to recommend City Council authorize the removal of Residential Parking Only signs on Lawrence Boulevard due to them being misleading and being unenforceable. Adopted unanimously.

Prospect Avenue Curb Repair:

Tony stated they have the weeds sprayed growing up between the pavement and along the sides and also have the trees trimmed so they can get the trucks in and the grader and hopefully in the next couple of weeks they can work with the County to get Prospect Avenue fixed.

Other Business:

Tony reported in the area where the Wodele/Scott property is on Lawrence Boulevard there was a street light removed while the work is being done and there will be another street light put back in and it will be located closer to the corner.

The meeting unanimously adjourned at 3:43 pm.

Susan Schamaun, City Clerk