

PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, March 4, 2009
Minutes

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Members Present

Mayor Paul Skrede, Police Chief Cory Johnson, Teresa Pendleton, Jon Monson, Public Works Supervisor Jerry Hudlow, John Menzel, City Administrator Dana Young

Members Absent

None

Traffic Visibility Issues at Lakeview Avenue & Baldwin Avenue

Paul Skrede stated that he had received a complaint from Colleen Ryan about problems she has experienced turning left onto Lakeview Avenue from Baldwin Avenue due to the growth of lilac bushes at the intersection. He stated that she recommended installing a stop sign at Baldwin and Lakeview, trimming back the lilac bushes, and/or installing one side of the street parking on Lakeview Avenue.

General discussion was held on the visibility problems caused by the growth of lilac bushes along Lakeview Avenue.

Police Chief Johnson stated that he didn't believe a stop sign on Baldwin Avenue was needed due to the obvious visibility problems, which caused vehicles to slow down considerably when turning onto Lakeview Avenue.

Motion by Paul Skrede to contact the property owner to inform him or her of the need to trim back the bushes near the intersection of Lakeview Avenue and Baldwin Avenue due to traffic visibility concerns. Seconded by Cory Johnson. Motion carried 6-0.

Traffic Visibility Issues at Rutledge and Deephaven Avenue

Discussion was held on traffic visibility issues at Rutledge and Deephaven Avenue that had been discussed at an earlier Committee meeting. Jerry Hudlow stated that the visibility at this intersection has improved substantially due to the removal of a tree near the intersection and no further action was needed.

Stone Monument at Hummingbird & Minnetonka Blvd

Discussion was held regarding the stone monuments located in the right-of-way at the intersection of Hummingbird & Minnetonka Blvd that blocked the view of oncoming traffic on Minnetonka Blvd.

Paul Skrede recommended sending a letter should be sent to all residents within 300' of the stone monuments asking them to contact the City if they had an issue with the City removing the stone monuments to improve traffic visibility.

Prevention of Back Injuries Meeting on March 19th at Minnetonka

Dana Young stated that area cities have been invited by Minnetonka Public Works Superintendent Pat Kehr to attend a meeting on the prevention of back injuries on Thursday, March 19th from 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Minnetonka Public Works offices.

Jerry Hudlow noted that SafeAssure provides the city crew with annual training on the prevention of back injuries and didn't think they would benefit from this additional training.

Paul Skrede stated that he might be interested in attending the meeting.

Xcel Energy

Teresa Pendleton reported that Xcel Energy is considering upgrade their transmission line on Vine Hill Road from Hwy 7 to their substation across from the Elementary School by installing a new underground line. She stated that they are considering beginning the project in early June, after school is out for the summer. She stated that Xcel estimates that the project will last several months and that the construction may periodically require one lane traffic on Vine Hill Road during the construction.

The Committee will meet with Xcel Energy representatives later this month or in April to continue discussions on this project when more information becomes available.

Motion to adjourn the Public Safety Committee meeting on a motion by Paul Skrede. Seconded by Dana Young. Motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m.

Bid Timelines

City Engineer David Martini was present to discuss bid timelines and engineering costs on the following slate of 2009 projects:

Main Beach Erosion Project (Project Budget = \$45,000)

To reduce erosion of the main beach, the recommended improvements include the removal of the westerly edge of the trail for the construction of a trench drain with direct discharge to the lake. The trench drain will intercept the runoff before it overflows onto the beach thereby significantly minimizing future erosion from the area in all but the most extreme events.

Engineering services provided by Bolton & Menk will include design surveys, preparation of plans and specifications, permit applications, construction staking, construction inspection, and construction administration. Based on this scope of services, I estimate a fee of \$7,900 for engineering services.

The proposed timeline for the project is as follows:

Plans and Specifications complete:	April 3, 2009
Ad for Bids:	Week of April 5, 2009
Bid Date:	April 29, 2009
Award Project:	May 4, 2009
Project Completion:	June 5, 2009

Sewer Main Repairs (Project Budget = \$45,000)

This project consists of sewer system repairs based on Bolton & Menk's review of the 2008 sewer televising video and reports. Engineering services provided by Bolton & Menk will include review of the televising video and reports to determine the extent of needed repair work. Based on the project budget, repair work will be prioritized and a bid package will be prepared for the solicitation of bids. We will provide construction inspection as well as construction administration for the project. Based on this scope of work, I estimate a fee of \$9,500 for engineering services.

The proposed timeline for the project is as follows:

Plans and Specifications complete:	June 5, 2009
Ad for Bids:	Week of June 7, 2009
Bid Date:	July 1, 2009
Award Project:	July 6, 2009
Project Completion (on or before):	October 2, 2009

Sewer Main Cleaning (Project Budget = \$25,000)

Bolton & Menk will prepare plans and specifications for sewer cleaning along streets specified by the City. As with the 2008 project, I recommended that the solicitation for quotes for the project include an alternate for sewer televising. Based on this scope of services, I estimate a fee of \$2,500.

The proposed timeline for the project is as follows:

Plans and Specifications complete:	April 17, 2009
Ad for Bids:	Week of April 19, 2009
Bid Date:	May 13, 2009
Award Project:	May 18, 2009
Project Completion (on or before):	July 17, 2009

Street Overlays (Project Budget = \$95,000)

To improve the condition of the street surface on Virginia Avenue and Talton Place, it is proposed to mill and overlay the surface. It is our understanding that the remaining budget (if any) will be used for street patching on deteriorated sections of Lake Avenue, Monaltrie, Old Kent Road, and Ridgewood Road. Our scope of services will include defining the construction limits, estimating quantities, preparing cost estimates, preparing plans and specifications, construction inspection, and construction administration. Based on this scope of work, I estimate a fee of \$13,500 for engineering services.

The proposed timeline for the project is as follows:

Plans and Specifications complete:	May 1, 2009
Ad for Bids:	Week of May 3, 2009
Bid Date:	May 27, 2009
Award Project:	June 1, 2009
Project Completion (on or before):	July 31, 2009

Cottagewood Storm Sewer Improvements (Project Budget = \$15,000)

The recommended improvements for this project include the replacement and addition of catch basins at the low area in the street. These improvements will increase the removal of runoff from the street and backyard area during all rainfall events, as well as provide a system that is less likely to be clogged by loose debris in the project area. Bolton & Menk's scope of services will include preparation of plans and specifications for the solicitation of quotes. Construction inspection and construction administration will be provided. Based on this scope of services, I estimate a fee of \$4,200.

The proposed timeline for the project is as follows:

Plans and Specifications complete: May 1, 2009
Ad for Bids: Week of May 3, 2009
Bid Date: May 27, 2009
Award Project: June 1, 2009
Project Completion (on or before): July 17, 2009

Chowen's Corner Lighting System

Public Works Supervisor Jerry Hudlow reported that there have been some reoccurring problems with the Chowen's Corner lighting system. He stated that the problem has been keeping the street lights at Chowen's Corner lit. He stated that he has met with representatives from Xcel Energy, who assert that the lighting problem is due to a number of underground faults in the neutral wire that is causing low voltage to the top of the lamps.

He stated that he called in Chuck Wishy of Frontier Electric to resolve the lighting problem and the contractor installed lower wattage lighting to keep them lit. He stated that Chuck Wishy agreed that the whole system would likely have to be rebuilt and recommended that the City meet with Xcel to discuss the possibility of having them repair and take over the 19 city-owned lights at Chowen's Corner.

The Committee recommended holding further discussions with Xcel Energy over the possible cost ramifications of having them take over the lighting system in this area.

Federal Stimulus Package

Discussion was held regarding the Federal Stimulus Package and the possibility of obtaining funding for the City. Dana Young stated that it was his understanding through the League of Minnesota Cities that the Minnesota Department of Transportation will be receiving approximately \$500 million in federal stimulus funds for transportation projects.

David Martini stated that approximately 30% or \$155 million of Minnesota's American Recovery and Reinvestment highway funds would be distributed to local units of government. The timeline is somewhat challenging in that half of the funds for projects must be committed within 120 days and the remainder must be committed within one year. Project costs will be covered 100% by the federal funds, with no match required.

He stated that the distribution of funds to local units of government would closely resemble the state aid formula, which means that cities under 5,000 population will not be eligible to directly apply for funds and will have to work with MNDOT district offices and counties to secure stimulus funds.

Other

Brief discussion was held on a resident who reported that they had their well water tested recently and that the arsenic content tested at 18 PPB, well above the EPA's recommended standard of 10 PPB. David Martini stated that he would recommend that the resident contact the Hennepin County Environmental Health Department.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Jon Monson, seconded by Jerry Hudlow. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Works & Safety Committee will be held on Wednesday, April 1, 2009.