

PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, December 3, 2008
Minutes

Call Meeting to Order

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

Members Present

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

Members Absent

None

Request for Retaining Wall within Street Right-of-Way

Jeff Konen, 3355 Robinson's Bay Road, was present to request permission from the City to install stone boulders lining his driveway within the street right-of-way on Robinson's Bay Road in order to install a retaining wall. Mr. Konen stated that his driveway is fairly steep and he would like to install a stone boulder retaining wall along the length of his driveway to hold back the dirt and install landscaping along the wall.

Paul Skrede stated that he had the opportunity to review the site earlier today and recommended that the stone boulders could be constructed within the right-of-way but no closer than the trees located at the top of the hill.

Jerry Hudlow agree that the boulders could be located at the top of the hill without impacting snowplowing operations.

Jon Monson asked how many walls extend into the right-of-way throughout the city?

Paul Skrede stated that Walden has such a wall. Dana Young stated that there must be 6-12 instances of walls or monuments that are located within the street right-of-way throughout the city.

Jon Monson suggested that Mr. Konen could simply taper the grade without having to locate the stone boulders within the right-of-way.

Motion by Dana Young to require Mr. Konen to stake the location of the stone boulders within the right-of-way at the top of the hill and to provide a picture of the stakes to the city verifying the location. Seconded by Jon Monson. Motion carried 7-0.

MESB Portable Radio Grant

Dana Young stated that the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board has received funding in the amount of \$1,151,457 that is intended to be used for the purchase of portable radios, mobiles and RF control stations. The MESB is requesting grant applications from local units of government within the region to receive a grant that would fund the purchase of radio equipment on an 80%-20% basis. Each qualifying applicant must have committed funds, either encumbered or specifically budgeted, for the required match by December 31, 2009.

Discussion was held on the potential cost of purchasing six portable radios and one mobile radio at City Hall in order to outfit all public works employees or to purchase ten mobile radios to install in 9 of the public works vehicles and one at City Hall.

Jerry Hudlow stated that he would prefer to have the radios installed in each of the vehicles rather than requiring each public works employee to carry a radio. He stated that the radios are cumbersome to carry and could get lost or damaged.

The estimated cost of purchasing six portable radios and one mobile radio at City Hall would be \$10,641, with 20% of the cost or \$2,128 at City expense. The estimated cost to purchase ten mobile radios to install in 9 public works vehicles and one at City Hall would be \$19,950, with 20% of the cost or \$3,990 at City expense.

Dana Young expressed concern that ten mobile radios would eventually be more expensive for the city through annual maintenance fees and could possibly effect the city's chances of being awarded the grant due to the additional cost.

Motion by Paul Skrede to recommend the submission of a grant application to MESB for ten mobile radios at an estimated cost to the City of \$3,990. Seconded by Jerry Hudlow. Motion carried 7-0.

Other

Teresa Pendleton mentioned that she had received a complaint from a resident on Vine Hill Court objecting to the City plowing their private road after last evening's minor snowfall.

The Committee members suggested that Teresa could inform the private road associations that they have the opportunity to contract with anyone they would like for snow removal. However, when contracting with the City, it will have to be left to the discretion of Public Works when to sand and plow.

Motion to adjourn the Public Safety Committee by Dana Young. Seconded by Cory Johnson. Motion carried 7-0. The Public Safety Committee adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

Main Beach Drainage Project

The Committee reviewed cost estimates from the City Engineer on the Main Beach Drainage Project. The estimated cost is as follows:

- Cost to install 225' of drain tile - \$43,500
- Cost to replace 335' of existing trail with pervious pavement - \$48,948
- Total Estimated Cost - \$92,448

The Committee voiced concerns with the additional cost of the pervious pavement at \$48,948 and decided the project could proceed with just the installation of drain tile.

Motion by Jon Monson to recommend the installation of 225' of drain tile at the Main Beach to correct ongoing erosion problems. Seconded by Jerry Hudlow. Motion carried 5-0.

Virginia Avenue Street & Drainage Improvements

Dana Young stated that the Committee had met with the City Engineer several weeks ago to tour the City to establish a list of streets that needed to be seal coated and those streets that required an overlay in 2009. Following the tour, the Committee was able to finalize the list of streets that required seal coating next year. The Committee also requested that the City Engineer provide an estimate on the cost of reconstructing Virginia Avenue with a storm sewer main installed underneath in order to provide an outlet from the pond on Monaltrie Avenue to a wetland across Minnetonka Blvd.

Dana Young stated that the estimate for Virginia Avenue Street Reconstruction and Drainage Improvements is \$174,220, which was well above the \$95,000 that had been budgeted for street overlay in 2009.

Paul Skrede stated that he felt the overall project scope was too costly and suggested that the City move forward to only overlay Virginia Avenue next year and to consider installing a storm water main next to the road at some future date.

Dana Young stated that further discussion would be held next month on finalizing the list of streets to be overlaid in 2009.

Dock Construction / Garage Construction

Discussion was held concerning the construction of the St. Louis Bay Docks and the construction of the Municipal Storage Garage.

St. Louis Bay Docks - Dana Young noted that the old dock has been removed. No other construction is planned until the lake freezes over.

Municipal Storage Garage – Dana Young noted that the sitework has been completed, the concrete pad poured, and block is being laid. He stated that he and Jerry have consulted with a contractor about the electrical heat and they were informed that the electrical service at the garage was not sufficient to adequately heat the building. He stated that the contractor recommended installing a 75,000 BTU propane fired compact unit heater in the garage at a cost of \$1,975.00. Jerry Hudlow added that the propane tank would be leased and maintained on a monthly basis by Waconia Farm & Equipment.

Paul Skrede recommended that the propane tank should be located between the new garage and Sand/Salt Shed so that it could be hidden behind a fence.

Jon Monson stated that, in his experience, this type of heating system would require high maintenance.

Doug Lawver

Dana Young gave a brief update on the condition of Doug Lawver following his accident on November 22nd. He stated that Doug informed him that he would likely be off of work for several months, although he was unsure about when he might be able to return to work.

Discussion was held on finding someone to assist with snow plowing operations during Doug's absence and to find additional assistance during John Menzel's vacation from December 5 –15.

Motion by Dana Young to recommend contracting with Dave Svoboda to replace John Menzel during his vacation and to contract with Bruce Madden to replace Doug Lawver during the snowplowing season. Seconded by Paul Skrede. Motion carried 5-0.

Other

Discussion was held regarding the Park Committee's recommendation to purchase timers for the ice rink lights.

Paul Skrede stated that the timers should be the type that can be manually turned on when the rinks are in use but set to automatically shut off at 9:00 p.m. when the warming houses close.

Dana Young stated that staff would obtain a couple of bids on the timers.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Dana Young, seconded by John Menzel. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Works & Safety Committee will be held on Wednesday, January 7, 2009.