

PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, October 5, 2011
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, Jon Monson, Teresa Pendleton, John Menzel, Jeff Kask and City Administrator Dana Young

Oktoberfest at Cottagewood Store

Police Chief Johnson provided a summary of the October 1st Oktoberfest event at the Cottagewood Store. He stated that his Department didn't receive any complaints about the event. Teresa Pendleton noted that she heard that the crowds were way down from last year.

Pedestrians on Deephaven Avenue & Northome Avenue

Dana Young stated that he had received a complaint from a resident who was concerned with the number of residents who walk incorrectly against the traffic rather than with the traffic and requested either the posting of signs or a notice placed in the City Newsletter about proper walking patterns on City streets.

Other

Linwood Stop Sign - Discussion was held regarding a request to install a stop sign at the intersection of Carson Road and Linwood Road. Chief Johnson stated that he met with John Menzel to look at the intersection and it was determined that the main issue was that the lilac bushes along Mark Thompson's property needed to be trimmed. John Menzel noted that the public works crew trimmed the bushes this morning. Chief Johnson stated that installing a second stop sign at Carson & Linwood Road didn't make much sense since it was in such close proximity to the existing stop sign at Linwood Road & Cottonwood Lane.

Hwy 7 Intersection – Chief Johnson stated that he sent an email this morning to MNDOT requesting a change in the timing of the stop light for vehicles on Vine Hill Road turning eastbound onto Hwy 7. He stated that the turn signal is only on for 8-9 seconds, which do not allow nearly enough vehicles to turn onto Hwy 7 causing significant backups on Vine Hill both in the morning and afternoon.

Paul Skrede recommended that this issue, as well as a discussion on potentially widening the lanes at this intersection, be brought before the City Council on October 17th.

Street Striping – Chief Johnson noted that the striping on Minnetonka Blvd was becoming increasingly faint, particularly along that portion of Minnetonka Blvd that curves around Thorpe Park. Paul Skrede recommended contacting the individual that does the crosswalk striping for the City to obtain a quote on striping that portion of Minnetonka Blvd as a temporary fix until the streets are striped this spring.

The Public Safety Committee adjourned on a motion by Dana Young, seconded by Chief Johnson. Motion carried 6-0.

David Tucker, 20570 Park Place

David Tucker (3305 Shavers Lake Road) was present to request the following items at their future residence at 20570 Park Place:

1. The removal of the existing wire mesh fence along the East and South property lines that are located within the public right of way.
2. The removal of 26 trees and brush located in and around the fence, the proposed driveways, and that are blocking sunlight to the property and more desirable maple trees.
3. The removal of the existing power pole at 20460 Western Road to enable the installation of an underground line.

Paul Skrede stated that he had no problem with Mr. Tucker removing the fence and trees located within the city boulevard. He recommended that Mr. Tucker work with his neighbors on the removal of that portion of the fence abutting neighboring properties. He added that he also appreciates Mr. Tucker coming in and asking permission to remove both the fence and trees.

Paul Skrede stated that his only concern with the removal of the power pole is that it also serves as a street light. He stated that he doesn't know if the neighbors want or need the street light at this location.

Jon Monson added that it might also provide additional security for the neighborhood.

David Tucker stated that there should be plenty of light at this location when his house is constructed.

Paul Skrede noted that the street light could also be moved to another light pole and he would like to hear from the neighbors on this issue.

Dana Young asked what would happen with the other utilities on the pole, such as phone and cable.

David Tucker stated that he is willing to underwrite the entire costs of removing the power pole and reconnecting the effected neighbors with phone and cable. He stated that the pole wouldn't actually be moved, pending city approval, until next June.

Paul Skrede stated that he would be supportive of all three of Mr. Tucker's requests including eliminating the street light at the intersection of Place Place and Harper's Road.

The Commission requested that the Police Department review the light pole to provide the Committee with their recommendations on the need for the street light and whether it could be removed or relocated.

Loader Technical Review

Dana Young stated that at the time of compiling the preliminary Capital Improvement Fund and the decision to postpone the purchase of a new loader in 2011, former Public Works Supervisor Jerry Hudlow had recommended a technical analysis be conducted on the loader to assess its overall condition. He stated that John Menzel had obtained a quote from Ziegler to perform a Technical Analysis on the loader at a cost of \$349.00, which they conduct right from our shop.

Xcel Lighting Proposal

Dana Young stated that he had received two proposals from Xcel Energy to replace the existing street lights and wiring at Chowen’s Corner. One proposal would allow the City to lease the lighting system for an initial construction cost of \$17,454.00 to upgrade the wiring, light poles and fixtures, at an annual monthly fee of \$17.02 per light. The second proposal would allow the City to own the lighting system for an initial construction cost of \$48,399.00, at an annual monthly fee of \$6.08 per light. He stated that Xcel Energy provided a separate cost estimate on the north side of Chowen’s Corner with a total of seven street lights and on the west side of Chowen’s Corner with a total of twelve street lights.

North Chowen’s Lighting System (7 - Lights)

Leased Cost - \$6,430.00 @ \$17.02 monthly fee per light .
Prepaid Cost - \$17,831.00 @ \$6.08 monthly fee per light

West Chowen’s Lighting System (12 – Lights)

Leased Cost - \$11,024.00 @17.02 monthly fee per light
Prepaid Cost - \$30,568.00 @6.08 monthly fee per light

Cost Difference

	<u>Annual Service Cost</u>	<u>Construction Cost</u>
Leased Proposal -	\$3,880.56	\$17,454.00
Prepaid Proposal -	<u>\$1,386.24</u>	<u>\$48,399.00</u>
Difference -	\$2,494.32	\$30,945.00

Dana Young stated that the breakeven point on the leased vs. prepaid proposal would be 12.4 years and the other potential benefit of the leased option would be that Xcel Energy would be responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the lighting system.

Paul Skrede recommended meeting with the business owners at Chowen’s Corner to discuss their preferences for street lighting.

Jon Monson added that it is not uncommon for cities to require property owners to pay for street lights.

Petition to convert Rosedale Court to a Public Street

The Committee reviewed a petition to convert Rosedale Court to a public street.

Paul Skrede suggested reviewing the subdivision files to determine the reasons why Rosedale Court was initially established as a private street and to find out whether the property owners have a homeowner’s association.

Dana Young stated that all of that information would be included as part of the Council packet when the petition is presented to the City Council on October 17th.

Other

Review bid to fix the retaining wall at the Carson's Bay Bridge - Dana Young stated that he received notice from Hennepin County Transportation Department that the retaining wall at the SE corner of Carson's Bay Bridge is tipping out from the bridge probably due to the fact that the footings are cracked and broken, which is causing a sinkhole to form near the top of the wall. He stated that the following bids have been received on the removal of approximately 20 L.F. of the existing retaining wall to repair the existing concrete pad and footings:

- Mikie's Landscaping - \$ 9,180.00
- Blackstone Contractors - \$11,812.58
- Concept Landscaping - \$ 5,275.00

Both Paul Skrede and Jon Monson asked about the warranty on the construction of the retaining wall and stated that they both would like to review the wall following the meeting.

Mt. Curve Change Order – Dana Young stated that Tom Bowers is requesting that the pipe outlet, which is currently 5 feet from the side of his driveway, be extended further north by five feet. He stated that Mr. Bowers is concerned that the pipe outlet is too close to his driveway. Dana Young stated that the contractor would be willing to extend the pipe 5 feet, re-install the apron, and re-grade for an additional \$1,000.00.

Motion by Paul Skrede to recommend approval of the additional cost to extend the pipe outlet an additional five feet further north at a cost of \$1,000.00. Seconded by John Menzel. Motion carried 5-0.

Landscaping Proposal at 18865 Northome Blvd – Dana Young stated that Steve & Suzanne Larson are requesting the City's permission to remove a number of boulevard trees along their property at 18865 Northome Blvd as part of a larger landscaping project. He stated that he and John Menzel will be meeting with the Larson's at a later date to review their request in more detail.

Lakeview Avenue Storm Sewer – Jon Monson noted that the embankment along the recently installed culvert on Lakeview Avenue is too steep and felt that the contractor should have tapered it off more at the shoulder.

Jon Monson also relayed that he met with City Engineer David Martini to discuss a broken window that had occurred when Widmer Construction, the contractor for the Lakeview Avenue storm sewer project, broke one of his windows in his house when parking their backhoe at Sandy Beach. He stated that he expects the contractor to reimburse him for the cost of repairing his window.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Paul Skrede, seconded by Dana Young. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Works & Safety Committee will be held on Wednesday, November 2, 2011.