

PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, May 1, 2013
Minutes

Call Meeting to Order

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

Members Present

Paul Skrede, Police Chief Cory Johnson, Teresa Pendleton and City Administrator Dana Young

Members Absent

John Menzel, Jeff Kask

Also Present

City Engineer David Martini

Request to Cost Share on Robinson's Bay Fence (Doug Cooley)

Doug Cooley (3342 Robinson's Bay Road) was present to request a cost share arrangement with the City to replace the current fence between Mr. Cooley's property and Robinson's Bay Beach. Doug Cooley stated that the current fence is approximately 6 ½' in height and in a state of disrepair. He stated that he would like to replace the fence and is requesting that both he and the City split the cost. He stated that he obtained a cost estimate two years ago in the amount of \$10,000.

Paul Skrede noted that the current fence winds through several trees and appears to be located right on the property line. He asked if Mr. Cooley intends to replace the 6 ½' fence with a 6' fence.

Doug Cooley stated that he would like to discuss the proposed height. He stated that due to the fact that his bedroom window is exposed to vehicle lights turning around the beach parking lot, he would prefer to increase the fence height to 7' for a distance of 20 or 30 feet as it passes by his bedroom window.

Paul Skrede asked if he proposed the same style fence.

Doug Cooley stated that he would prefer a cedar style privacy fence.

Paul Skrede noted that it might be politically difficult to approve a fence higher than the required 6' when one of the benefitted parties would be the City.

Dana Young stated that he recollected that the City Council approved an increase in height to a fence that was located next to Walden Beach.

Doug Cooley stated that Robinson's Bay Beach was not a heavily used beach, but it is located in a cul-de-sac which causes vehicle lights to come right through his window. He stated that there rarely have been any noise issues at the beach and he enjoys living next to the beach.

Dana Young stated that he discussed this proposal with Public Works Foreman John Menzel and John expressed his support for replacing the fence. He stated that John Menzel also suggested that the City could remove a number of the buckthorn trees located next to the fence on city property.

Doug Cooley stated that he would have no problem with the removal of the buckthorn but would like to keep as many of the other trees as possible. He stated that his contractor informed him that they would need a 2' clearance to install the new fence.

Paul Skrede stated that the City and the Cooley's should enter into a maintenance agreement to clarify future fence improvements. He stated that he would endorse a cost share arrangement to replace the existing fence and suggested that they could work together to work out the other details, such as the proposed location for the new fence, buckthorn and other tree removal issues, and the approved height of the fence, as the project moves forward. He offered to meet with Mr. Cooley to discuss the fence in more detail following the Public Works meeting.

Further discussion was held on the requirements for approval of a fence in excess of six feet.

LMCIT Loss Control Recommendations

Discussion was held on the League of MN Cities safety consultant's recommendation on the purchase of two pieces of equipment to help prevent back injuries. Dana Young stated that the first piece of equipment is called "The Stepper", which is a sturdy ladder that helps improve work positioning when working on large vehicles. He stated that the second is a tailgate lift, which reduces the risk of back strain when loading heavy equipment into a truck. Dana Young stated that staff could look into the purchase of a tailgate lift for the sewer truck, when it is scheduled for replacement next year.

Request for Chickens in Deephaven

Discussion was held regarding Jillian McGary's (18870 Lake Avenue) request that the City Council consider amending the current ordinance to allow chickens in the City. It was the general impression of the Public Safety Committee that it wasn't a particularly good idea to allow chickens in town due to a variety of health and nuisance issues.

Other

Paul Skrede suggested that the public works crew should put out more signs and barricades when filling potholes.

Motion by Dana Young to adjourn the Public Safety Committee meeting. Seconded by Teresa Pendleton. Motion carried 4-0.

Rutledge Avenue Storm Sewer Project

Discussion was held regarding the Rutledge Avenue Storm Sewer Project and whether to extend a stub line to the boulevard in order to be better positioned to improve the ponding in a vacant lot on Easton Road at some future date. City Engineer David Martini stated that there will be a number of catch basins on the north side of Rutledge Road as part of this project that would accommodate any future expansion of storm water main to this lot.

Dana Young noted that the bid letting for the 2013 Rutledge Avenue Storm Sewer Project will be at 10:00 a.m. on May 15th.

Vine Hill Bridge Project

Paul Skrede, Dana Young and City Engineer David Martini reviewed the following items relating to the Vine Hill Bridge Project:

- The proposed Design Memo for Council review on May 6th
- The proposed Engineering Fee Memo for Council review on May 6th
- Reviewed the Bridge Bond Application Form
- Discussed the status of the utility coordination meeting with Xcel Energy & CenterPoint Energy, the Trail Encroachment Permit and the Vine Hill Bridge Agreement.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Works & Safety Committee will be held on Wednesday, June 5, 2013.