

**PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Tuesday, April 14, 2020**  
**Minutes**

**Call Meeting to Order**

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

**Members Present**

Paul Skrede, Police Chief Cory Johnson, John Menzel, Jeff Kask, and City Administrator Dana Young

**Discuss Stone Arch Letter Response**

Paul Skrede stated that he read all of the responses that were received from residents regarding proposed options on the Stone Arch and noted that the vast majority of Northome and Cedarhurst residents strongly supported keeping the Stone Arch regardless of the occasional hazard of construction vehicles driving on the opposite side of the road to avoid driving under the Stone Arch.

Chief Johnson stated that he doesn't really know what the answer is to this problem. He suggested that a sign could be posted noting the height and width of the Stone Arch.

Jeff Kask stated that there already is a sign posted showing the clearance of the arch as 9'6".

Paul Skrede recommended sending a response to the Northome & Cedarhurst residents that notes the overwhelming support for the Stone Arch, instructs them to inform delivery trucks and contractors accessing their residence to avoid driving on the opposite side of the road past the Stone Arch, and that the City would continue to monitor the situation.

**Discuss New Stone Arch Plaque**

Dana Young stated that Barbara Sykora would like the Committee to select a new plaque for the Northome Stone Arch. She stated that the current plaque is inaccurate.

The Committee noted that their interest was solely in the safety concerns caused by the narrow width and limited height of the stone arch and not in designing a new plaque for the Stone Arch.

**Vine Hill Bridge Recommendations – Load Limit Sign & Three-Way Stop**

Discussion was held regarding requests to install a three-way stop sign at the Vine Hill Bridge and to add a load limit sign on the bridge. It was noted that adding a stop sign on the Vine Hill Bridge for northbound traffic was problematic due to the slippery conditions of the bridge decking during the winter months and a load limit sign was unnecessary unless the load limits of the bridge differed from the load limits of Minnetonka Blvd & Vine Hill Road.

### **Other**

Discussion was held regarding installing security locks at the Thorpe Park Warming House & restrooms for those hours when the park is closed. John Menzel stated that the warming house doors are always locked during the summer months except when a resident has specifically reserved the warming house.

The Committee recommended obtaining a quote to install a timer on the restroom doors with the time matching the hours that Thorpe Park is closed. The Committee further recommended establishing consistent closing times for beaches, parks and rinks hours.

Further discussion was held regarding the Park Committee's recommendation to consider whether to sell beach parking permits to non-resident due to COVID-19 and the potential overcrowding of city beaches. The Committee recommended capping the number of beach parking permits sold to non-residents to the average number of non-resident beach parking permits sold over the past five years (235 permits)

Further discussion was held regarding the excessive number of residents walking with their dogs without a leash.

Motion by Dana Young to adjourn the Public Safety Committee. Seconded by John Menzel. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Discuss Fencing Proposal at Chowen's Parking Lot**

Dana Young stated that a couple of years ago the Council considered installing a border fence along the west side of the Chowen's Corner parking lot. He stated that the project did not advance due to concerns with some electric equipment at the NW corner of the lot.

He stated that Aaron Blechert, 3435 Montgomerie Avenue would like to move forward with installing a new fence along the shared property line and was asking if the City would be interested in sharing the cost of the new fence. The total cost of the new fence was \$3,395.

The Committee recommended that it was not in the interest of the City to cost share with Aaron Blechert with the installation of his new fence at 3435 Montgomerie Avenue.

### **Review Bridge Inspection Recommendations**

Dana Young stated that James Archer, Bridge Engineer with Bolton & Menk, has reviewed the 2019 Bridge Inspection Reports and made the following recommendations:

- The county has recommended that the City flush their bridges annually. This is good practice, but it is actually done by very few bridge owners. Since the County engages in this activity annually, perhaps they would perform this activity on the City's behalf. Typically, diligent preservation of deck joints and beam bearings are what prolong the life of bridges (thus the recommendation to flush these of chlorides each spring).

Bridge 27A63 – Minnetonka Blvd over Carson’s Bay:

- Catch Basins in all corners should be cleared of debris.
- Monitor movement at modular block retaining wall. The notes indicate the NE wall, but the illustration in the photo is of the NW wall. Verify. This may require repair in the near term.
- (The remaining items identified in the recommended repairs are good practice but not critical.

Bridge L9265 – Northome Ave. Over Trail:

- No Maintenance – Replace.
- (As discussed in the past, this bridge is past its useful life and a more likely candidate for replacement rather than repair.

Bridge 27B90 – Vine Hill Rd. Over HCRRA:

- The note regarding sub-standard guardrail along Minnetonka Blvd. should be explored, evaluated, and decided upon by the city.
- The remaining items identified in the recommended repairs are good practice but not critical.

**20664 Linwood Road Storm Water Issues**

The Committee discussed the ongoing drainage issues at 20664 Linwood Road and recommended providing engineering services to determine the extent and cost of outletting the excess water from the drainage easement area to the lake. The Committee stated that further discussion will need to be held with Justin & Michelle Barbeau on cost allocation once the project costs are known.

**Other**

Discussion was held regarding potential infrastructure stimulus funding. Paul Skrede stated that he doesn’t have an interest on proceeding with potential infrastructure projects based on the hope of obtaining future stimulus funding.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Dana Young, seconded by Jeff Kask. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Safety & Public Works Committee will be held on Tuesday, May 12, 2020.