

PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, November 1, 2016
Minutes

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.

Members Present

Paul Skrede, Police Chief Cory Johnson, Public Works Foreman John Menzel and City Administrator Dana Young

Also Present

City Engineers Jeff Weyandt and Jim Archer

2017 Street Improvement Estimates

The Committee reviewed the estimates on the mill & overlay of Deephaven Avenue, Excelsior Blvd & Park Avenue in 2017.

Paul Skrede stated that he would like the engineer to determine street widths, potential areas for bituminous curbing, and street striping to allow for greater walking space alongside the roads.

The Committee asked if the \$98,400 estimate on the mill & overlay of Excelsior Blvd included both the east and west sides of Excelsior Blvd. Jeff Weyandt stated that the estimate only included the west side. The Committee asked that the estimate include the east side of Excelsior Blvd as well.

Dana Young noted that the estimates on the bituminous curb work for all three streets look underestimated. He recommended that the engineer meet with Public Works Foreman John Menzel to review the streets to get a better estimate on curbs.

Paul Skrede stated that he would like to have Deephaven Avenue striped with fog lines to establish a more clear walking path for pedestrians.

The Committee decided that due to the planned installation of the traffic lights at Vine Hill and Hwy 7 next year, a mill & overlay on Excelsior Blvd might add to the congestion of this project and recommended that the City Council consider the mill & overlay of Park Avenue in 2017 and the improvement of Excelsior Blvd in 2018.

John Menzel recommended adding bituminous to the shoulders in certain areas of Park Avenue where people typically park to use the beach.

Jeff Weyandt asked if the Committee would have any objections to 11' wide lanes to help add more space for the walking area off of the street. The members stated that they would not object to 11' street lanes.

Paul Skrede requested that options for potentially widening the street should be estimated separately from the rest of the project cost so that the Council could evaluate these options separately.

Northome Bridge Project

Jim Archer was present to provide an update on the Northome Bridge Project. He stated that there are three funding options for the reconstruction of Northome Bridge – general property taxes, the Federal Off-System Bridge Fund, and the State Bridge Bond Fund.

He stated that the Federal Off-System Bridge Fund may be a viable funding source since there are only 12 bridges on the funding list and 5 of those have already been funded. He stated that this Fund typically pays \$1,000,000 per project. He stated that there are strings attached in that engineering and contract administration is not paid by the Fund and the bridge must be built to state standards.

He stated that we are familiar with the State Bridge Bond Fund and the City would only have to pay from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for the entire cost of the bridge. On the negative side, the State Bridge Bond Fund is still waiting for state funding and there are approximately \$120 million in projects ahead of the Northome Bridge. He stated that with the State typically kicking in \$30 million per year, it could be four years until the Northome Bridge is funded.

He stated that now that the State Bridge Bond Fund is paying the costs of engineering, MnDOT is now requesting that applicants obtain bridge engineering quotes from at least three engineering firms. Further discussion was held on basing the Requests for Proposals on the current design of the Northome Bridge and when would be the best timing for requesting engineering quotes.

Jim Archer estimated that the engineering costs on a bridge like the Northome Bridge should be in the \$60,000-\$70,000 range. Discussion was held on when the City should set aside \$60,000 to upfront the costs of bridge engineering with the intent to recover approximately \$40,000 of the expense once the bond funds are awarded.

Storm Water Improvements

Discussion was held on future storm water improvements, including improvements at Lake Louise.

Adjournment

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, January 3, 2017.