

**PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

*January 13, 2014
6:30 p.m.*

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dave Soeldner
Jason Sladky
Scott McMeans
Jim Brey

STAFF PRESENT

Dan Koski
Greg Minikel
Sonja Birr
Jim Muenzenmeyer
Randy Junk
Karen Dorow
Kathleen McDaniel
Marlo Kohlmann

OTHERS

Jim Kettler
David Koenig
R. Kunz
Mary Jane Flegel

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jill Hennessey (Personnel Meeting)

Announcement that meeting is being taped and audio tape will be available to the public on City's website

D. Soeldner made an announcement that the meeting is being recorded and will be posted to the City website.

Discussion and possible approval of minutes of previous Public Infrastructure Committee meeting (December 9th, 2013)

J. Brey made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 9th, 2013 meeting. J. Sladky seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Discussion and possible action on grant application from Little Manitowoc River Partnership to create conservancy

D. Soeldner introduced Jim Kettler to the Committee. Mr. Kettler explained that there was a proposal previously submitted outlining restorations and coastal management to include dredging of the Little Manitowoc River by Montgomery and Associates. He formed Little Manitowoc River Partnership in 2012 and is currently seeking funding for coastal restoration. The total project is estimated at \$500,000, in which they will be applying for funding to the Fund of Lake Michigan for \$100,000, which is due in February. The Little Manitowoc River Partnership is looking for authorization to move forward in seeking funding and coordinating the project with a letter of inquiry or support from the City of Manitowoc to allow support from the City Council for a Resolution to allow for Little Manitowoc River partnership to move forward with the seeking of

funding and coordination of the project. J. Sladky made a motion to move forward and for the City to submit a letter a support of the project to be approved by Council. J. Brey seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously. No further discussion.

Discussion and possible action regarding sidewalk grinding

D. Soeldner explained that our annual sidewalk program only allows property owners the ability to mudjack or replace the sidewalk. The new policy would allow for grinding to level off the sidewalk per City discretion of the City.

J. Sladky asked what percentage of grade would be acceptable. D. Koski said generally 2 percent and any grinding should only be allowed on a case by case basis at the discretion of the Engineering Dept.

The Committee approved including necessary language to the Engineering policy to allow for specific criteria for repairs.

Discussion and possible action regarding replacement of part-time transit driver

J. Muenzenmeyer requested permission to fill the vacant part-time transit driver position.

J. Brey made a motion to approve filling the position of a part-time transit driver. S. McMeans seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Discussion and possible action on altering the Draft Maritime Metro Transit System passenger Behavior Policy

J. Sladky requested that if the firearms language was to be removed from the policy, we shouldn't allow for any illegal items on the bus. The Committee continued to discuss the draft Maritime Metro Transit System Passenger Behavior Policy.

K. McDaniel doesn't feel it is the duty of the transit drivers to question passengers whether firearms are loaded. Our transit drivers aren't trained to be detailing such specifics.

J. Muenzenmeyer informed the Committee that just because an item is legal, it doesn't mean it is allowed on the City buses.

J. Sladky mentioned Madison's current lawsuit for not allowing firearms on their buses. K. McDaniel said that she currently has a call into Madison and when she hears back she would inform the Committee.

David Koenig, Lincoln High School teacher was present and presented to the Committee his concerns and explained that the riders are made aware that they are safe on our transit system and parents of special needs kids want to know their kids riding the bus are safe. He asked the Committee to do what is best for the majority of the riders.

J. Muenzenmeyer explained the wording he would like removed if they don't agree with the policy as submitted. The Committee continued to discuss the language and what should stay in and what should be removed.

J. Sladky made a motion to approve the Behavior Policy striking the entire paragraph under section IV bullet point 3. No second to the motion.

J. Muenzenmeyer explained that he would like a policy in place and we can amend it at a later date.

D. Soeldner made a motion to remove the third bullet point to discuss and move forward with the policy. J. Sladky seconded the motion.

D. Soeldner amended the motion to move forward with the policy and remove the wording weapons (including, but not limited to: pistols, rifles, knives or swords); and also the last sentence Fencing foils must be sheathed and left at the front of the bus with the bus operator. J. Sladky seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Discussion and possible action regarding snow plowing policies

J. Brey requested this item be placed on the agenda. He previously sent a few pictures of his garbage can that was blown up to his front yard from the snow plows that came through.

D. Koski apologized for not getting back to him and explained that they have had discussions with the snow plow operators and also in house to discuss other procedures.

J. Sladky mention that he appreciates the City getting information out to the public as previously requested by Public Infrastructure Committee. He asked why we are using sand again. D. Koski said at this specific time it was due to the rain and the salt would have been washed away. Other reasons for the use of sand over salt would be due to temperatures.

S. McMeans questioned the brine operation, D. Koski explained that we put the brine on the salt and it helps it stick to the road.

S. McMeans wants to get the word out, explaining to the public our snow operations and how we are handling the snowfalls. Social media is a good way to reach the public.

The Committee discussed allowing the Director of Public Infrastructure to be the one to call the snow emergency.

J. Sladky made a motion to direct the Assistant City Attorney to draft an Ordinance suggesting the snow emergency decision to be determined by Director of Public Infrastructure. S. McMeans seconded the motion.

K. McDaniel suggested adding language "or designee" in the absence of the Director of Public Infrastructure.

J. Sladky amended the motion to include the language "or designee" to the motion. S. McMeans seconded the amended motion.

Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Discussion and possible action regarding downtown business owners plowing private parking lots into the street

D. Koski said we would like to increase awareness to the downtown businesses on the plow route about plowing snow into the street. He also recommended increasing the fine amount for future violators that have been plowing parking lot snow into the street. D. Koski said it will be difficult to enforce if we don't catch them in the act, but would like to involve the Police Department through a BPI process.

Discussion and possible action regarding 2014 Bonding Timeline

D. Koski said this is informational only. All bonding should be in place before we award Capital projects. This will be discussed at the next Finance Committee meeting. Awarding of projects will be allowed only after bonding is approved.

Discussion and possible action regarding traffic signal at Waldo Blvd and N. 18th Street

J. Sladky brought to the attention of the Committee the traffic signal for the right turn off of northbound N. 18th St. onto Waldo Blvd. eastbound. He recommended installing a Stop Sign in lieu of the current right turn traffic signal, since this right turn lane rarely gets a green light anyway.

D. Koski said this will be short term as Waldo Blvd will be redesigned.

G. Minikel wasn't sure if there was a red arrow or a red ball. He would be more in favor of a Stop Sign versus a ball green light for the right turn. The stop sign would provide more safety for pedestrians.

The Committee recommended placement of a stop sign.

Discussion and possible action regarding 2014 permit patching policy

D. Koski said that we have been reviewing the permit patching policy internally. His suggestion would be to outsource revenue patches as we simply don't have the time. We currently have 240 permits that need to be followed up on. We are currently the only City of our size that still does our own patching.

There are two (2) alternatives, (1) to make the permit holder responsible for patching; and (2) provide a blanket bid for all patch work. This will require only one (1) City employee.

The majority of the patches that we do are for the water department. D. Koski recommends meeting with MPU and getting a plan in place pointing out the pros and cons.

J. Sladky mentioned only allowing prequalified contractors to work within the city right-of-way.

The Committee is in support of the DPI looking into these alternatives.

Report (13-653) of Board of Public Works of December 11, 2013, recommending 4th and final payment to Seiler Bros Construction in the amount of \$6,086.18 for Remove & Replace Existing Sidewalks WS-13-3

D. Soeldner explained that final payment of this contract to Seiler Bros Construction was previously brought to Council and held as there was question about a \$400 charge for removal of wood chips.

D. Koski explained that it was previously discussed at a Parks & Recreation Committee meeting and at that time the property owner didn't want to do the work and changed his mind at a later date. At this time, Seiler Bros was ready to remove and replace the sidewalk and we just asked that he remove the woodchips. The abutting property owner is to be assessed for this work.

D. Soeldner read the notice for closed session at 7:52 p.m.

Committee convened to closed session at 7:52 p.m. D. Soeldner read the notice to discuss the update on the Gravel Pit status.

The Committee reconvened in Open session at 8:23 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.



Dan Koski, P.E.
Director of Public Infrastructure