

**Public Works Committee**  
**Tuesday, December 20, 2016 @ 6:00 PM**  
**Mayor's Office – 381 E Main St**

**Members Present:** Alderpersons Tom Majewski, Sid Boersma, Pat O'Connor, Kathleen Johnson and Mayor Olson

**Absent/Excused:** Rodney Scheel

**Absent:**

**Staff:** Director of Public Works Brett Hebert and Vickie Erdahl

**Guests:**

**Call to Order:** *Majewski* called the meeting to order

1) **Communications:** *Hebert* reported:

- That he would like more involvement of the Public Works Committee for the budget - both the operations & CIP
- There will be tree pruning training on January 5, 2017 from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm at the EMS building hosted by CVMIC and an instructor provided by Ranger Services
- City insurance carrier CVMIC did play ground inspections and found a few issues which Park Supervisor, Patrick Groom, has already remedied.
- Industrial Roof Services were hired to inspect the current facility – including windows, wall and roof. The company provided the city with costs to repair over a five year time frame.
- The RFP for EAB tree removals is being modified and sent out later at a later date to accommodate the City of Stoughton keeping the wood and storing it in a location near Bjoin Park.

*Majewski* asked whether there were any complaints from the downtown merchants regarding the snow plowing and removal. *Hebert* stated there were no complaints and that he felt the crew did well considering the duration of the storm was 29 hours.

*Boersma*, speaking on behalf of the Tree Commission wanted the committee to know that they would like to see/or can something be done to find a wood storage location. *Boersma* stated that he looked at the land where the new Public Works facility was going to be built and stated that there was some property adjacent to the current land was for sell and would like to discuss the possibility of purchasing the land. *Boersma* stated his reasoning wasn't just about wood storage but also what would happen if the City lost the yard waste site or the farm sites to dump leaves.

*O'Connor* stated that he noticed less of an issue with park cars during the snow events and wondered if something different was tried. *Hebert* stated that he had Derek make a direct link on the City front page website which made it easy for residents to sign up for an email alert and read the snow ordinance.

2) **Yardwaste & Street Opening Permits:** *Erdahl* reported that both permits were up for the year 2016.

## **Old Business:**

- 3) **Tree Planting Ordinance Change:** *Hebert* presented more language changes to Ord. 10-2(d) which would allow the property owner to plant their own tree if they so choose which would take some of the work off the street department. The property owner would still need to fill out a permit and get approval for the tree type and meet all the other required specifications.

A motion was made by *Boersma*, to approve the language changes to Ordinance 10-2(2). There was no second and the committee went into discussion.

Questions and concerns voiced 1) are we following up to make sure property owners are receiving info on how to care for the trees after they are planted 2) what if someone purchases a tree for a significant amount of money and the tree is not sufficient to meet the standards – what happens? 3) Is the city charging a sufficient price when we have to purchase and bid out the planting of said trees and 4) how are large properties being handled – especially if working with a landscape business?

*Boersma* stated that citizens should have some control.

**The committee would like this to be placed on the January agenda for more discussion and staff should draft some language for commercial properties.**

## **New Business:**

- 4) **Approve October 18, 2016 Meeting Minutes:** Motion by *O'Connor* seconded by *Johnson* to approve minutes with the words *for the Eastwood Pond* inserted into bullet item # 9 in the communications section. Motion carried 4-0.

- 5) **2017 Road Construction Project Update and Terrace Width Review:** *Hebert* stated that Patterson Street will be moved to the year 2019 as Stoughton Utilities will be doing some sanitary sewer work. The following roads were moved from 2018 into 2017: Veterans Rd, Academy St, Vernon St and Forrest St. The major design work will be done in 2017 with total reconstruction in 2018.

*Boersma* asked if there was any possibility that Stoughton Utilities would put some utility wiring underground. At this point Stoughton Utilities has not budgeted for doing that and the costs are high and would affect home owners' rates. *Majewski* stated that he has asked for years for a future plan and there has been no movement in that direction to this point.

*Hebert* stated that two terrace widths will be over ten feet and nice trees will be able to be planted. There is a possibility that some wide streets will be narrowed and have a little wider terrace.

The Division & Forton Streets intersection redesign was briefly discussed. As *Hebert* stated that he would like to divert the traffic from Coopers Causeway which is somewhat of a safety hazard and does not really go anywhere. Questions arose regarding a resident who uses Forton St/Grant Hill path as part of their driveway. *Hebert* was not familiar with this area in town and will check into the situation.

- 6) **Public Works Facility Update:** *Hebert* will be updating the Public Works committee monthly in 2017 as to the progression that is being made. *Hebert* met with the consultants who will be submitting a proposal to do the design work.

Information will be posted to the website and *Hebert* will be developing a power point to present first to the Public Works committee then to Council.

7) **Future Agenda Items:** Public Works Facility, Tree Ord 10-2

**Moved by O'Connor seconded by Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 pm. Motion carried 4-0.** Respectfully submitted by Vickie Erdahl Administrative Assistant – 12/27/16.