

Public Works Committee
Tuesday, April 18, 2017 @ 7:00 PM
Council Chambers, 321 S Fourth St

Members Present: Alderpersons Pat O'Connor, Sid Boersma, Greg Jenson, Michael Engelberger and Mayor Olson

Absent/Excused:

Staff: Director of Public Works Brett Hebert, Planning Director Rodney Scheel and Vickie Erdahl

Guests:

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

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

- Per the EAB contract – Jim's Tree Service has removed 40 trees & stumps to date. Jim's had started with the largest trees first.
- Currently there are 136 ash trees that will not be cut as the city has been treating them for several years and is hopeful they will survive.
- City Attorney, Matt Dregne, is reviewing the issue with private trees and how the city should handle if they affect city property.
- 320 trees are being planted in April by Olson-Toon. These trees are to replace the ash trees being removed, developer plantings (which they paid for) and a few replacement trees thorough out the city that crews have cut down.
- If trees cannot be planted in the terrace, and if the homeowner agrees, a tree will be planted in their front yard and if not then the tree will be planted elsewhere in the city.

Boersma stated that the Tree Commission would be celebrating Arbor Day by visiting the fourth grade classes and distributing tree seedlings and planting nine trees in Bjoin Park.

Halverson stated that Dunkirk Park has been closed. A natural spring has come to the surface and is flooding the park.

2) **Reports:** *Erdahl* stated there has been an average amount of street openings for this time of the year and that 350 permits had been sold for the first two weeks since the yard waste site opened.

Old Business:

3) **Public Works Facility Update:** *Hebert* stated that he and *Scheel* will be meeting with Angus Young on Thursday, April 20 to discuss the contract and request changes after the City Attorney reviewed the document. The agreement will then be forwarded to the Council for approval.

New Business:

4) **Election of Chair & Co-Chair:** *O'Connor* nominated *Jenson* to chair the committee. **Motion passed 3-0.** *Jenson* nominated *O'Connor* to be vice-chair of the committee. **Motion passed 3-0.**

5) **Approve March 21, 2017 Meeting Minutes:** Motion by O'Connor, seconded by Boersma to approve the minutes. Motion carried 4-0.

6) **Roundabout at Hwy 51 and Hoel Ave:** *Scheel* displayed a diagram of the proposed roundabout at Hwy 51/Hoel Ave/Silverado Dr. The owner of the **Stoughton Wellness & Athletic Center** (SWAC) Facility, Tom Weigand, has voiced concerns with the lack of access to the facility at this intersection since the construction of the roundabout would eliminate a left turn onto Hoiby Rd from Silverado Dr. The facility does have access off Hwy 51 to Jackson St to Dvorak Ct and also if driving south on Silverado Dr a left hand turn can be made onto Hoiby Rd.

Scheel informed the committee that the Department of Transportation (DOT) had purchased the land along HWY 51 some time ago and did not want there to be and turning access at this point.

7) **Public Works Training Schedule:** *Hebert* as requested from the committee in March provided a training schedule for the Public Works Department. CVMIC provides quite a bit of the training that is needed. An Arborist came to Stoughton in April and did a training on pruning to the street staff, utility staff and a group from Monona.

8) **Integrated Pest Management – Turf Maintenance:** *Hebert* stated that the City of Stoughton uses an integrated pest management program.

- Fields are treated using the correct application on each field according to the issues
- Parks are posted by the city for 48 hours
- Safety Data Sheets (SDS) are posted so residents can check out the product themselves
- City works with Sustainable Stoughton to get the information out to the public.

9) **Arbor Day:** *Hebert* provided the cities Arbor Day Proclamation to the committee which they Mayor will present to the Council.

10) **Forestry Scholarship:** *Hebert* reported that the Tree Commission wanted to make a scholarship available to someone in a forestry related program with the funds from the Tree Commission Donation Fund. This item was going to be used to obtain points to use for the Tree City USA designation. The Finance Committee reviewed the requested stating that the funds were “technicality” city money as the trees were removed by city staff. However, the City Attorney stated the funds could be used if the council deemed it was appropriate.

Motion by Engelberger, seconded by Boersma to recommend to the Common Council to approve the \$750.00 Forestry Scholarship with the funds coming from the Tree Commission Donation Fund. Motion carried 3-1 (with O'Connor voting no).

11) **Future Agenda Items:** PW Facility, Stamped Crosswalks

Moved by Boersma, seconded by O'Connor to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm. Motion carried 4-0. Respectfully submitted by Vickie Erdahl Administrative Assistant – 4/19/17