

Public Works Committee
Tuesday, May 16, 2017 @ 6:00 PM
Hall of Fame Room, 381 E Main St

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

Absent/Excused: Mayor Olson

Staff: Director of Public Works Brett Hebert, Planning Director Rodney Scheel, Street Supervisor John Halverson and Vickie Erdahl

Guests: Charles Vervoot, Pete Slagsvold and Michael McLaughlin

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

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

- That the Urban Forester Randy Nelson was no longer working with the City of Stoughton
- Update work on Giles St from Henry to Morris – more extensive work for water & sewer by Stoughton Utilities.
- Riverside Park – work by the dam is being held off until after the Stoughton Fair. At that time the walking path will be more defined and a parking area developed.
- 350 trees were planted 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.

A question was asked about recruiting for a new Arborist. *Hebert* is currently updating the job description which then needs to go to Human Resources/Personnel.

Boersma asked if the City was doing anything to support Nordic Ridge and the Parade of Homes which will take place in June. *Hebert* stated that we are working with Bob Dvorak to plant 20 trees on Markens Gate Rd and Peterson Dr.

2) **Reports:** *Erdahl* stated there has been an average amount of street openings for this time of the year and that 575 permits have been sold since the opening of the site.

Old Business:

3) **Sidewalks on Main St (Stamped or Brushed):** *Hebert* stated that two crosswalks downtown (@ Forrest St and Division St) were in need of replacement and wanted to know if they should be redone with the same stamped pattern that is currently in place or replace with a brushed concrete with the red color. Cost are approximately:

- Brushed \$5 to \$8 per square foot
- Stamped Concrete \$8 to \$12 per square foot.

The stamped concrete collects salt which deteriorates the concrete faster. A question arose if there was a difference in safety which there wasn't really any difference. The downtown was upgraded to this type of product in 1999/2000 for ecstastic's reasons. Multiple members of the committee want to continue with the stamped product for continuity. It was also noted that the stamped sidewalks are very slippery.

Motion by Boersma, seconded by Engelberger to do the crosswalk project with the stamped concrete and determine where the funds will come from. Motion carried 3-1 (Jenson voting no for safety reasons).

- 4) **Public Works Facility Update:** *Hebert and Scheel* met with the city attorney, then met with Angus Young to discuss the edits to the contract for architectural design. Angus Young accepted the changes and when the contract is returned, it will go to Finance then to Council for approval.

New Business:

- 5) **Approve April 18, 2017 Meeting Minutes:** Motion by O'Connor, seconded by Boersma to approve the minutes. Motion carried 4-0.
- 6) **Designation of Public Works Committee Member to Tree Commission and the Cemetery Board:** *Boersma* offered to remain on the Tree Commission and *Jenson* offered to be on the Cemetery Board.
- 7) **Sidewalk Installation Policy/Ordinance Discussion and Possible Action:**

Discussion started from some residents attending the meeting: who wanted to discuss issues with Wilson St, problems from the 2016 reconstruction and needed repairs. *Scheel* stated that the contractors needed to do restoration in the area and had just returned on Tuesday (5/16/17) to begin the process and will be held accountable for the work until it is completed to the satisfaction of the city. Monies have been withheld until this happens. *Hebert* stated that the work also has to meet the DOT specifications and that he would be meeting with contractor on site on Wednesday (5/17/17). *Scheel* also noted that the type of dirt used in the terrace had settled more than usual causing more restoration.

Boersma left meeting at 700 pm

Sidewalk discussion began: *Boersma* stated that he has talked with multiple residents that sidewalks are installed on both sides of the street when it isn't necessary and the extra costs involved.

Scheel stated that the city adopted a policy in 1997 regarding the curb/gutter and sidewalks. *Scheel* also stated that certain circumstances can be discussed and the Council has the authority to change what happens on a project after engineering is done and reviewed – example the city deviated from the sidewalk installation on Clyde St.

Currently the policy states that the homeowner and city are responsible equally at 50/50% for curb/gutter and sidewalks. Aprons which are replaced are charges 100% to the homeowner as they are considered private infrastructure. If retaining walls are necessary when sidewalks are installed, the homeowner pays for the first four feet and the city is responsible after that.

Scheel stated that there had been questions in regard to funding curb/gutter from the stormwater account, but there is not enough funds to support this idea.

Resident Vervoot stated for the record that *Mr. Scheel* has bent over backwards to accommodate the residents and feels he does an outstanding job in the community.

Motion by Engelberger, seconded by O'Connor to leave the current policy and ordinances as they are written and report this decision to Council. Motion carried 3-0.

8) Future Agenda Items: PW Facility Update

**Moved by Engelberger, seconded by O'Connor to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 pm.
Motion carried 3-0. Respectfully submitted by Vickie Erdahl Administrative Assistant –
5/17/17**