

**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MINUTES**  
**OF MAY 2, 2005**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Feirer at 5:30 PM in the Council Chambers of City Hall Plaza.

**PRESENT:** Mike Feirer, Don Krueger, Gerald Nelson, Chris Meyer and Tom Buttke

**ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor Meyers; City Administrator Brehm; Director of Public Works Knoeck; City Engineer Turchi; Assistant City Engineer Cassidy; Parks & Recreation Director Englehart; Director of Planning & Economic Development Miller; Street Superintendent Panzer; Wastewater Superintendent Dickrell; Electrical Inspector Pokorny; Fire Chief Cleveland; CDA Director Mook; Assistant Street Superintendent Bornbach; Street Department Employees Todd Bruhn, Hugh Nikolai and Joe Sinn; Bill Penker; Tim Kraus; the media and others

**Citizen's Comments**

Alderman Nelson commented that the closing of STH 13 North may increase traffic on Adler Road and could cause a bigger backup at Oak Avenue and Adler Road than we have now. Traffic should be encouraged to use Ives Street and Lincoln Avenue to STH 13 instead.

City Engineer Turchi presented an update to the Board of Public Works regarding 2005 construction projects.

Bids were opened and read for 2005 asphalt paving projects:

**American Asphalt**

**Mosinee, WI 54455**

Total Bid: \$550,499.30

Bond: 5% Bid Bond

**PW05-55** Motion by Buttke, second by Krueger to recommend approval of the bid submitted by American Asphalt of Wisconsin for 2005 asphalt paving projects at a cost not to exceed budgeted funding and authorize execution of a contract.

**Motion Carried**

**PW05-56** Motion by Buttke, second by Krueger to recommend approval of the low bid submitted by Total Electric Service Inc. of Marshfield for City Hall Plaza generator installation, to include Alternate No. 1, at a cost of \$117,300 and authorize execution of a contract.

**Motion Carried**

**PW05-57** Motion by Buttke, second by Meyer to recommend approval of changes to Section 17-41(4) of the Electrical Code regarding Electrical Permit Fees and request an ordinance be drafted for Common Council consideration.

**Motion Carried**

**PW05-58** Motion by Krueger, second by Nelson to recommend approval of the transfer of responsibility of a portion of the former wastewater treatment plant located on South Vine Avenue, as presented, to the Fire and Rescue Department for use as a training center.

**Motion Carried**

**PW05-59** Motion by Nelson, second by Krueger to recommend approval of the policy regarding banners in the public right-of-way as presented.

**Motion & Second were withdrawn**

This item will be scheduled for a future Board of Public Works meeting.

**PW05-60** Motion by Buttke, second by Krueger to recommend accepting the Wastewater Treatment Plant Compliance Maintenance Annual Report and refer Resolution No. 2005-21 to the Common Council for their consideration.

**Motion Carried**

Street Superintendent Panzer explained how the Street Division currently handles snow removal on sidewalks and crosswalks. Generally they complete sidewalks adjacent to City owned property first. Then they complete crosswalks and private sidewalks that have not been cleared in heavy pedestrian areas such as downtown, and around schools and churches. They also follow up on any complaints on private sidewalk throughout the City. The Street Division is not able to complete all crosswalks and private sidewalks after a snow event. Alderman Buttke requested that a policy change be considered that would require adjacent property owners to clear crosswalks. Many do it now. Street Superintendent Panzer suggested that the Board of Public Works also consider an increase in the penalty for not shoveling private walks.

Former Alderman Kraus suggested that the Board of Public Works consider changing the snow plowing policy by extending the duration of Phase I plowing from approximately 8 hours to 10 hours but doing it with five fewer employees. He estimates an annual savings in labor costs of \$328,000. The Board of Public Works discussed this proposal in some detail. Currently not many complaints are received about snow removal. This type of question could be asked on a citizen survey. Street Superintendent Panzer pointed out that plowing times are increasing without staff reduction due to additional lane miles from new streets in the City. This year the City will be adding several lane miles associated with the STH 13 improvement project from McMillan Street to Mann Street, including new frontage roads. Alderman Nelson asked for suggestions from the Street Department on any possible improvements.

**PW05-61** Motion by Nelson, second by Buttke to refer the review of City snow removal to a future Board of Public Works meeting for additional discussion.

**Motion Carried**

The Board of Public Works discussed the following items:

- Direction of travel for downtown alleys - Former Alderman Kraus received a request from a former downtown business owner to change the direction of travel for the alleys on either side of Central Avenue. Delivery trucks usually have access doors on the passenger side and the current direction of travel puts the door on the opposite side of the businesses. Alderman Feirer suggested that the Board of Public Works consider removing the one-way designation from the alley behind St. Vincent de Paul.

**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**May 2, 2005**

**Page 3**

- Fees for residential garbage collection - Former Alderman Kraus explained that the current method of paying for garbage collection through property taxes is not fair because it is based on the value of property, not on garbage generated. Also, businesses pay property taxes but must contract independently for garbage collection. City Administrator Brehm pointed out that we have discussed these concepts with Onyx, but we are currently under a long-term contract with them. The Board of Public Works felt that the system is working well now with good compliance. These types of changes could lead to illegal dumping. Alderman Feirer asked for an estimate of the fee if the service were privatized as a means of comparison on how cost effective the current method is.
- Internal Service Fund - Former Alderman Kraus presented his concerns with the current rental rate for pickup trucks at \$1.50/mile, which he feels is excessive.

**PW05-62** Motion by Krueger, second by Meyer to adjourn to closed session at 7:55 PM as per State Statute 19.85(1)(e) deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Specifically the closed session was held to discuss acquisition of land for the Adams Avenue extension project and acquisition of land for Galvin Avenue settling basin.

**Roll call vote, all 'Ayes' Motion Carried**

**Present in Closed Session:** Aldermen Feirer, Nelson, Krueger, Meyer and Buttke, City Administrator Brehm, Director of Public Works Knoeck, City Engineer Turchi and CDA Director Mook.

**PW05-63** Motion by Krueger, second by Buttke to return to open session at 8:22 PM.

**Roll call vote, all 'Ayes' Motion Carried**

There was no action taken in open session on the closed session items.

Motion by Buttke, second by Krueger that the meeting be adjourned at 8:25 PM.

**Motion Carried**

Daniel G. Knoeck, Secretary  
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS