

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MINUTES
OF JANUARY 4, 2010

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

PRESENT: Mike Feirer, Dave LaFontaine, Tom Buttke, Ed Wagner and Don Krueger

EXCUSED: None

ALSO PRESENT: Alderman Earll; City Administrator Brehm; Director of Public Works Knoeck; City Engineer Turchi; Assistant City Engineer Cassidy; Street Superintendent Panzer; Fire Chief Schmidt; Denise Sonnemann – Main Street Marshfield; Norm Stoiber; Bill Penker; and others.

Citizen Comments

- Bill Penker, 600 South Sycamore Avenue, commented on snow removal on downtown sidewalks. On 9/14/09 he asked the Board of Public Works to consider narrowing the time frame for clearing sidewalks to less than 48 hours. He quoted from his letter to Main Street Marshfield dated 2005. Also, letter from December, 2006 to Mayor Meyers noting the lack of compliance with sidewalk snow clearing. On January 3, 2007, Mayor Meyers responded that he has called upon Main Street Marshfield to assist in getting the word out. He feels there needs to be a higher level of responsibility in the downtown area and that something more needs to be done.

- Greg Hesch, 1610 Hume Court, stated his support of the train horn ban from Mann Street to CTH H.

Fire Chief Schmidt presented a Fire Station construction update. Setting of the pre-cast panels is slightly behind schedule due to initial crane availability and weather related delays.

The Board of Public Works discussed downtown sidewalk snow removal. Buttke stated that he is a big supporter of Main Street and the improvements that have been made but he is tired of addressing this issue. He feels that sidewalk snow removal needs to be better coordinated so street crews can pick it up when they clean up the parking lanes. LaFontaine expressed concern about using excess salt on new concrete sidewalks during this first winter. Knoeck reported that WisDOT applied a different curing compound to the sidewalk areas that has been designed to address this issue. Wagner suggested that we look at what it would cost to have city crews do downtown sidewalk snow removal as part of standard snow removal operations and possibly recover those costs through the BID assessment or through tax levy. Feirer questioned why benches are being left out. He suggested that either they be taken in during the winter or snow should be cleared around them. He also feels that the bump outs should be cleared. Krueger voiced concern about snow banks on the side streets left behind by the snow plows that are difficult to cross to get to the sidewalk. He also said he would not be in favor of a BID assessment for sidewalk snow clearing because it would penalize those businesses who are already doing a good job on their own. Feirer and Buttke both stated that there needs to be teeth in the enforcement provisions to get compliance. Wagner asked the Director of Public Works to prepare a draft ordinance that requires downtown sidewalks to be cleared within 24 hours or the city will have the work done and bill the property owner and include a penalty.

PW10-01 Motion by Krueger, second by Wagner to recommend approval of the purchase of a 2009 Kenworth two-ton dump truck from Wisconsin Kenworth of Windsor, WI at a cost of \$60,229.50 and authorize execution of a purchase agreement.

All 'Ayes' Motion Carried

PW10-02 Motion by LaFontaine, second by Buttke to recommend approval to move forward with the new train horn quiet zone application to include the following:

- Proceed with a Notice of Intent, a Diagnostic Review Meeting and application to the Federal Railroad Administration for a new quiet zone including both the Mann Street and the East 4th Street/CTH H railroad crossings.
- Proceed concurrently with a similar application for a second quiet zone for Palmetto Avenue and 8th Street on the old Nekoosa spur. (Note that Hume Avenue and 29th Street will no longer be in a quiet zone.)
- Amend the Engineering Services Agreement with TKDA to add the above scope of work items at an estimated cost of \$7,000.
- Approve a Budget Resolution to transfer unused fund balance from the Lincoln Avenue reconstruction project to the quiet zone project to fund these additional services.
- Refer quiet zone crossing improvements, estimated at \$65,000 to \$80,000 to the CIP Committee for prioritization.

All ‘Ayes’ Motion Carried

Recommended items for future agendas

- Alderman Buttke requested a discussion of traffic signal timing and a review residential sidewalk snow removal.

Motion by LaFontaine, second by Buttke that the meeting be adjourned at 6:30 PM.

All ‘Ayes’ Motion Carried

Daniel G. Knoeck, Secretary
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS