

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Public Works Committee conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 18, 2012, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Chairperson Randy Backous
 Councilmember David Elvig
 Councilmember Colin McGlone

Also Present: City Administrator Kurtis Ulrich
 Public Works Superintendent Grant Riemer
 Civil Engineer II Leonard Linton
 Administrative Analyst Patrick Brama
 Development Manager Darren Lazan
 Interim Engineer Shane Nelson
 Interim Engineer Ron Wagner
 Councilmember Jeff Wise

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Backous called the regular meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. CITIZEN INPUT

There was none.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Chairperson Backous, to approve the agenda, as revised to consider Item 5.08 prior to Item 5.06.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers Elvig, and McGlone.
Voting No: None.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

The consensus of the Public Works Committee was reached to table consideration of the July 17, 2012, meeting minutes to the next meeting.

5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

5.01: Review Resident's Concerns with the Sunfish Lake Boulevard / CR 116 Project

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report and resident concern relating to traffic cutting through the townhome neighborhood by non-residents; limited access to Casey's General Store due to the center medians on Sunfish Lake Boulevard and CR 116; increased traffic in surrounding neighborhoods due to the center medians on Sunfish Lake Boulevard and CR 116; and, gaps in the sound wall.

Chairperson Backous asked if anyone was in attendance from the Sunfish Pond Townhomes.

No one responded.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer described the project timetable, noting at its completion many of the resident's concerns will be a moot point.

Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Public Works Committee to recommend the City Council follow the guidelines of the Anoka County Highway Department and direct staff to call resident Jessie Diaz several months after project completion to learn whether cut through traffic is still a concern.

5.02: Consider Stop Sign Request for 145th Lane and Tungsten Way

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report and petitioned request from residents in the Chestnut Hill 4th Addition to place a four-way stop at the intersection of 145th Lane and Tungsten Way. He advised that most warrants were not met with the exception of restricted view caused by the grade differential at the intersection. Staff recommends installation of a four-way stop at the intersection of 145th Lane and Tungsten Way.

Councilmember Elvig asked if a two-way stop is an option.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated it is not, noting there is little traffic on Tungsten Way.

Chairperson Backous invited residents from this neighborhood to offer comments.

Michael Lewis, 6110 145th Lane NW, southwest corner of the intersection, advised that the neighborhood demographic has changed and is now a lot of families with young children. He noted the physical aspects of this intersection includes a rise that limits sight lines and generally cars are parked within 50-100 feet of the intersection, limiting peripheral view either way for drivers and pedestrians.

Tom Halverson, 6050 145th Lane NW, stated he submitted the petition because he was concerned about young children crossing the street and speed of traffic. He stated they want to slow the speed of traffic and while circulating the petition, all contacted signed it. Mr. Halverson stated he supports businesses in Ramsey and is now looking for the City to do something for its citizens.

Dan Adams, 6090 145th Lane NW, stated he would highly recommend a four-way stop to slow the incredible speed of traffic. He stated a handful of times he has seen cars cross the hill with all four tires off the pavement, many close accidents, and thinks it is amazing there has not been a serious accident.

Chairperson Backous thanked residents for their comments and relayed that he has experienced the same situation in his own neighborhood. He agreed that children go into the street, even though warned, and he has viewed this neighborhood and supported installation of the four-way stop sign.

Councilmember McGlone noted speeding traffic is a problem in many neighborhoods and previously, when the license plates were checked by the Police Department, it was found the speeding violators were the residents within that neighborhood. He encouraged neighbors to be aware of this situation and to make it safer. Councilmember McGlone stated he would support staff's recommendation to install a four-way stop sign.

Councilmember Elvig clarified that a stop sign, if not warranted, does not slow the speed of traffic because then drivers roll through the stop sign. In that kind of situation, the stop sign creates a false sense of safety. He noted stop signs do increase traffic and tire noise, but in this case he supports staff's recommendation to install a stop sign.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Councilmember McGlone, to recommend that the City Council accept staff's recommendation to install a four-way stop at 145th Lane and Tungsten Way because of the limited sight distance caused by the grade differential at that intersection.

Further discussion: Chairperson Backous agreed that stop signs do not help to slow the speed of traffic, referencing the two stop signs on McKinley Street in Anoka as a case in point.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers Elvig, and McGlone. Voting No: None.

5.03: Consider Stop Sign Request at 152nd Lane and Helium Street

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report and petitioned request from residents in the neighborhood near the intersection of 152nd Lane and Helium Street for a stop sign at that intersection.

Chairperson Backous invited residents from this neighborhood to offer comments.

No one responded.

Motion by Councilmember McGlone, seconded by Chairperson Backous, to recommend that the City Council accept staff recommendation to not install stop signs at the intersection of 152nd Lane and Helium Street because it does not meet the warrants outlined in the Manual on Uniform

Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), traffic volumes are low, and visibility is satisfactory on all three legs.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers McGlone and Elvig.
Voting No: None.

5.04: Consider Sight Triangle Concerns at Alpine Drive and Puma Street

Civil Engineer II Linton reviewed the staff report.

Councilmember McGlone stated he also received a resident complaint, noting it is an area of high-speed traffic with limited reaction time. In addition, with the school going in, he is concerned about those drivers. Councilmember McGlone stated the resident who contacted him would also like a reflective barricade at the end of the road because they are elderly and had driven into the farm field. He noted this area has no streetlights and is dark.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated the City can install reflective signs at the end of the road as routine maintenance

Councilmember Elvig noted that staff's recommendation for excavation requires reshaping a portion of the private property currently used for crops. He asked whether part of the work/cost will be covered by the land owner. Councilmember Elvig explained his concern is about placing dirt on a farmer's field and that it may be considered less than adequate soil. He asked whether this farmer is particular about the quality of soil or is willing to do some of the work.

Councilmember McGlone asked if the property owner would scrape the top soil.

Civil Engineer II Linton stated if approved by the City Council, staff will start negotiation with the landowner to address those issues prior to start of the work. He indicated the plan is to put back the same soil.

Motion by Chairperson Backous, seconded by Councilmember Elvig, to recommend that the City Council authorize entering into negotiations with the landowner for necessary easements to lower the boulevard south of Alpine Drive and west of Puma Street to provide better sight distance.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers Elvig, and McGlone.
Voting No: None.

In consideration of audience members, Chairperson Backous indicated the original agenda order would be followed.

5.05: Crosswalk Request for Zirconium Street and Alpine Drive

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report.

Chairperson Backous stated the visibility at this location is limited because you cannot see the intersection until you approach it. He asked about putting down woodchips on the north side of Alpine Drive, which may require significant grading, down to the other crosswalk. He agreed there is not an easy solution because of the grade and use of timber steps would not be ADA compliant.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer advised that the east and west park entrances both qualify for ADA compliance. He indicated that crossing the street would be the cheapest route; however, not the safest.

Chairperson Backous invited neighbors to address this issue.

Michael Helfenstein, 6440 153rd Way, indicated there are 36 children in this neighborhood. He stated he understands this area includes a hill and mid-block is not a good crosswalk location and may not be a safe place, but it would be safer than it is now and the crosswalk could be signed to alert drivers.

Ms. Helfenstein, 6440 153rd Way, pointed out that children are crossing midblock already and she likes the suggestion of installing steps.

Mr. Helfenstein stated he would like the City to consider whether there is a solution, even if not an ideal location.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer indicated a pedestrian crossing sign cost \$800 and painting a crosswalk cost \$200 but he does not know the cost for flashing lights.

Councilmember McGlone asked about the location of the proposed mid-block crossing.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer used a map to point out the proposed mid-block location of the crossing and described points of visibility and location of the crosswalk to the skate park.

Mr. Helfenstein stated his children have no crosswalk to get to the playground. He noted there are paved paths on both sides of Sunfish Boulevard and in his neighborhood they just need to get from their street to the stop light. Mr. Helfenstein pointed out that children going to the skate park are older and wiser about crossing the street but the children using the playground park are younger. He noted there are miles of paved walking paths in Ramsey and he is asking for only a short distance believing it is worth it if it saves one life in 30 years. Mr. Helfenstein stated a woodchip path up to the stop sign is cheaper but may wash out because of the hill.

Councilmember McGlone stated he is known as the “sidewalk guy” but is wondering if mid-block is the best location for a crosswalk. In addition, woodchips are difficult for bicycles to use.

Councilmember Elvig noted the Public Works Committee had discussed this issue previously and in this case he advocated strongly to do something. He stated the City is good to design

playgrounds that draw children and now needs to provide safe passage to those parks. Councilmember Elvig indicated this is a problem that was tabled several years ago and recommended it be discussed at another meeting when the Committee can view maps of the area and determine the best location for a crosswalk. He noted another option is to use the Street Light Fund to install lighting. He asked whether the use of concrete will result in use by skateboards.

Chairperson Backous agreed that the City constructs parks and also needs to provide safe passage. In addition, children are crossing the street anyway so the City needs to make it as safe as it can. Chairperson Backous noted it does not need to be expensive and he would support using the Street Light Fund to install street lighting. Chairperson Backous asked if the Committee was willing to table consideration to allow time for additional staff research.

Councilmember McGlone supported relooking at this situation because when this park was put in, there was only so much funding so the path was not completed. He pointed out that it is now at the end of the season and not likely anything will happen during this construction season.

Mr. Helfenstein stated that is understandable.

Councilmember Elvig asked if the Street Light Fund can be used for a light on the other side.

Ms. Helfenstein stated there is a streetlight at the corner.

The consensus of the Public Works Committee was to recommend the City Council direct staff to further research and make recommendation on the installation of a crosswalk near the Zirconium Street and Alpine Drive intersection.

5.06: Consider Retention Pond Improvements Near 5430 149th Lane

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report.

Youssif Elmajri, 5430 149th Lane, stated the outlet pipe is at an upward angle so the pond floods into the lowland area. He explained the concern was with children falling into the pond when the water rises up to a depth of 5-7 feet. Mr. Elmajri asked if there are alternate options like a fence instead of clearing trees because doing so would make the pond more obvious. He explained that with the current tree cover, most people do not know the pond is there but neighborhood children are aware it is there. Mr. Elmajri stated he supports not removing all of the trees but would support limiting tree removal or considering another option like a fence.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated the installation of fences around retention ponds was brought up before but felt that if children get into a fenced pond, it is harder for them to get out. Also, doing so would involve a large capital expense. Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated he had talked to other neighbors and thought they supported removing trees to increase the view if someone gets into the pond. He noted the trees around the pond are not that large.

Chairperson Backous stated Rocky Belmonte, who lives several doors down from Mr. Elmajri had suggested cutting the trees down.

Mr. Elmajri stated the concern is the same with children falling into the pond. He estimated this pond is within 20 feet of his home.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated there are hundreds of drainage ponds in Ramsey and this pond is small in comparison to others.

Councilmember Elvig cautioned it would be a “slippery slope” to try and fence every pond in Ramsey and would probably meet resistance if cyclone fencing. He stated he would like to find a compromise and if this pond has a smell and is not flowing, maybe the speed of drainage needs to be addressed. Councilmember Elvig stated the City is responsible to maintain ponds, which can be quickly overgrown with poplar trees. He asked about cutting down some of the trees, maybe one in three, to provide a partial cleaning and improve pond drainage.

Councilmember McGlone recommended either clearing the trees or not doing so because taking one in three would be too time intensive. He agreed that at some point the City will need to consider clearing trees, but the situation is not at that point today.

Chairperson Backous asked if it would be easier to clear trees during the winter time. He also asked if the trees, branches, and leaves clog the pond.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer indicated there is no way to keep organic matter out of the pond. He suggested staff work with the homeowner to address locations where some trees can be removed to provide access.

Civil Engineer II Linton stated he viewed the pond and suggested clearing trees from the street side so the pond can be seen from the street. He noted there are also shorter but dense lilacs that block views from the street.

Motion by Chairperson Backous, seconded by Councilmember McGlone, to recommend that the City Council authorize staff to work with the property owners to remove selected trees adjacent to the pond near 5430 149th Lane for ease of future maintenance and to leave the pond configuration as is.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers McGlone and Elvig. Voting No: None.

5.07: Consider Storm Water Improvements at Rum River Hills Golf Course – A continuation of discussion related to 2011 flooding concerns

Civil Engineer II Linton reviewed the staff report.

Councilmember Elvig asked what is the City’s obligation.

Civil Engineer II Linton stated the City negotiated a series of drainage and utility easements to convey the water from the commercial node across the golf course. He explained that up-sizing this 18-inch pipe is the City's obligation because it handles storm water.

Councilmember Elvig asked about the size of the pipe.

Civil Engineer II Linton stated the City reimbursed the golf course for installation of the pipe that was completed to the City's specifications; however, he has not found the plan for the pipe installation.

Councilmember McGlone stated he had previously asked if this involved a private drainage system.

Motion by Chairperson Backous, seconded by Councilmember McGlone, to recommend that the City Council move forward with storm water improvements at the Rum River Hills Golf Course, direct staff to bring plans and specifications to the September 25, 2012, meeting for approval and authorization to advertise for bids, and notification to property owners within 350 feet.

Further discussion: Councilmember Elvig asked about clean up issues and if this involves areas of debris that need to be addressed. He asked if those costs would be shared. Civil Engineer II Linton used a map to describe the alignment of the pipe and area mentioned by Councilmember Elvig. Bob Gore, Rum River Hills Golf Course, stated it is very expensive to replace the green and takes several years to restore but going through a temporary T-box would be an option. Interim Engineer Wagner stated he had met with Jeff and Dick Tolette on this matter and they liked this design. He stated he has seen the area with the shrubs that was mentioned by Councilmember Elvig, noting it is irrigated and mowed. He stated the trees to be removed are large but Poplar and towards the end of their lives. The golf course could move the smaller Ash trees, if desired. Interim Engineer Wagner described the drainage flow and stated the proposed design keeps the course in play and is supported by the golf course. He reported that some neighbors may want the dike removed but the golf course may want the dike to remain as a property divider. The Committee discussed and supported providing written notification to property owners within 350 feet, even if not a Statutory requirement. Interim Engineer Wagner stated this project would take a 100-year event from four plus days down to two days. Chairperson Backous stated notification can be made to property owners but the City Council will be considering this item at its September 25, 2012, meeting. Civil Engineer II Linton used a map to point out areas that could be the responsibility of the golf course since they are not within the City's easement. Interim Engineer Wagner advised that he estimated a cost of \$3-\$4,000 for golf course work.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers McGlone, and Elvig. Voting No: None.

5.08: Sunwood Drive Project – Supplemental Agreement #1, Change Order #2 and Connexus Relocation Charges

Interim Engineer Nelson presented Supplemental Agreement #1.

Councilmember Elvig asked how an eight-foot trail was included in the specifications since the City has a policy of ten-foot trails.

Development Manager Lazan reviewed that this item was before the HRA for additional easement and WSB prepared the Armstrong Boulevard plans but did not understand that Ramsey had a policy of ten-foot trails. He noted it had also been discovered that too many utilities were located at the intersection so additional easement was secured from the HRA for a ten-foot trail.

Chairperson Backous asked if the project plan also directed public water drainage onto private property.

Development Manager Lazan explained that south of Sunwood Drive, the plan did not accommodate commercial development. He noted that adding the curb section will get drainage down to a swale and had this situation been caught originally, this would have been the fix so “no harm/no foul.”

Interim Engineer Nelson stated they surveyed the existing ground prior to designing the project but should have designed for the design grades with built up pads.

Councilmember Elvig asked about the internal process for staff to look at the engineering drawings and determine whether or not they will work.

Interim Engineer Nelson stated he was not with Ramsey at the time the plans were reviewed but, generally, the City Engineer assures the plans fit when different engineers and design teams are working on plan components.

Councilmember McGlone noted these project plans were done when we had City Engineer, not a consulting engineer.

Chairperson Backous stated he understands things happen but there seems to be a constant flow of change orders, which is of concern. He noted without change orders, it means the best project estimate came forward.

Councilmember McGlone stated rather than “pointing fingers” maybe the City Council needs to look at whether the best (lowest) price results in generating more change orders. He shared the concern of change orders, noting the City has professionals to review the plans.

Councilmember Elvig agreed this is an age old problem and his question was one with process to assure it was thorough enough to catch these issues and eliminate or reduce change orders.

City Administrator Ulrich stated these errors were in the review process, not in preparation of the bid. He agreed City staff should know when plans are reviewed that the policy is for ten-foot trails.

Councilmember McGlone stated a septic was also missed with this project.

Interim Engineer Nelson indicated the property on the west side of Armstrong Boulevard has a septic system with plastic pipe so the operation was stopped immediately when part of that septic system was uncovered.

Councilmember Elvig noted many of the septic systems in Ramsey are not well mapped because there are no as builts for them.

Interim Engineer Nelson presented Change Order #2.

Civil Engineer II Linton described the development history of this area.

Councilmember Elvig asked about the \$300,000 cost to develop the triangular parcel. He noted the AUAR contemplates large-lot residential development to the north to densify that area and some of the drainage comes from that location. He asked whether the drainage water had to be held longer because it was a natural flowage for the west holding pond.

Civil Engineer II Linton confirmed the western area does have natural drainage areas.

Councilmember Elvig stated there was also to be a swimming lake in that area.

Councilmember McGlone noted there are 100 acres with no pervious surface of development, which is a “city,” and asked why that assumption would ever have been made.

Development Manager Lazan explained that a lot of pieces have come together and there was a thought at the beginning of COR THREE that the pipe was not in across the street but then more research found there was a 72-inch pipe. The pond that was dug is really a small narrow portion on the south side so if the pipe filled, it would overflow into the pond and then slowly drain. The pipe was in the road, but not the entire width of the road so now the County road will need to be torn up to extend a very large pipe and turn it to get to the lake. Development Manager Lazan noted there were two unfinished pipes, with the outlet pipe to the pond also incomplete and put in as part of COR THREE. He stated he would not recommend the project at this price today but would like time to study the assumptions and bring back a recommendation for further consideration.

Civil Engineer II Linton explained that to serve those three developments, watermain was extended up Zeolite Street that will have to be lowered to turn to the southeast and maintain gravity flow.

Interim Engineer Nelson stated the total drainage area identified is about 64 acres and of that, North Commons about 3.4 acres.

Development Manager Lazan stated the numbers assume no storm water so even if full build out is in the assumptions, some storm water work is needed to address flow.

Councilmember Elvig recalled that the triangle piece was important to get drainage going but he does not remember why it stopped progression. He stated he thought they were contemplating use of the triangle piece as the holding pond and not running it through because there was a building restriction on that piece. Councilmember Elvig noted if the triangle piece is not developed and used as a holding pond, it would lower the cost.

Civil Engineer II Linton stated the intention was to continue it and develop the west half of the project; however, the developer ran out of money and ceased to do business. He noted the pipe was underground and a relief valve was needed so the road is not flooded.

Councilmember McGlone stated he is puzzled why a pipe was put under a County road but not installed all the way. He asked how the City and/or County allowed that to happen, noting the City held a letter of credit.

Civil Engineer II Linton stated they got permission to open cut the County road for sewer and water installation and it was hinted strongly to do the storm sewer while the road was open.

Chairperson Backous noted it is a moot point and suggested moving on.

Councilmember McGlone asked if we need to continue the pipe or if the triangle piece can be a drainage ditch. He asked if there is reason to get water south of Bunker Lake Boulevard and continue it.

Development Manager Lazan suggested staff look at those issues, investigate, and come back with a recommendation.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Councilmember McGlone, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Agreement #1 for a trail width of ten feet and to extend the curb to the south 126 feet to prevent runoff from Armstrong Boulevard from sheet flowing onto the proposed parking area in the COR TWO, estimated at \$5,001.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers Elvig, and McGlone.
Voting No: None.

Motion by Councilmember McGlone, seconded by Councilmember Elvig, to recommend that the City Council direct staff to perform further analysis to evaluate the contemplated development patterns in the overall drainage area, associated runoff rates and volumes, and required storm sewer pipe sizes.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers McGlone, and Elvig.
Voting No: None.

Interim Engineer Nelson presented the issue relating to Connexus installing an electric cabinet that obstructs the proposed development signage for COR TWO and request for \$10,000 to cover the cost to relocate the cabinet.

Development Manager Lazan reviewed that in 2011, Connexus wanted to install three signal cabinets. Because the placement of one cabinet had impacted the location of a “Welcome to The COR” sign, the City decided to determine locations. In this case, Connexus had been provided with a CAD file identifying locations for three gear cabinets. Development Manager Lazan stated he had a call with WSB, which was then doing the Bunker/Armstrong interchange, and told Connexus where the cabinets had to be located. All agreed and Landform did a CAD file that described the exact location for the gear cabinet. Development Manager Lazan stated he thought the cabinets were installed in 2011 but they were not. This spring, for the Sunwood Project, Connexus came to job trailer and WSB told them where to locate the cabinet. Development Manager Lazan stated they had spent a lot of time and energy in 2011 giving Connexus direction on the exact location and he believed the HRA was owed more than a casual conversation in the job trailer. He recommended the City not cover the full cost.

Chairperson Backous asked who was in the job trailer at that time.

Development Manager Lazan stated he was not at that meeting, but there were several individuals from Landform and several from WSB. He explained the folks who did the Sunwood project for Landform were not aware of the switch gear issue because it was thought to have been resolved one year earlier. Development Manager Lazan reviewed the dates and times of the conference conversation and providing the CAD exhibit.

Development Manager Lazan stated it is hard to argue when Connexus is not in attendance to present its side.

Interim Engineer Nelson stated from the City’s side, continuity is lost by not moving forward with the same City Engineer. He felt that had the former City Engineer been present in the job trailer, he would probably have remembered the significant effort that went into finding those cabinet locations.

Councilmember McGlone noted the HRA definitely decided where it wanted the signs located. He asked about the timing since the lights have to go in.

Development Manager Lazan explained that this switch gear is not for the traffic signals. Today, the transformer is on HRA property with no easement and Landform had given direction where the cabinet was to be installed but that was not followed.

Councilmember Elvig stated it appears that three entities were in the job trailer but it was not caught even after creating CAD drawings. He noted it is not an issue of who “dropped the ball” or whether it was followed up at the end of the year. Councilmember Elvig stated the HRA is the client and suggested this matter be referred to the HRA.

Chairperson Backous stated when he makes a mistake as an insurance agent, he does not make the client cover that cost but it goes to his errors and omissions insurance to cover the cost. He stated the City needs to hold the vendors responsible.

Jeffrey Wise, 7901 156th Avenue, stated there are some issues with sign easements and with his purchase of a COR lot, he does not want to pay for a sign that he cannot see.

Development Manager Lazan stated the City agreed to allow Connexus a location on HRA property, but not this location.

Councilmember McGlone stated the Council took this project back, on the City's part, and decided to be the inspectors and manage the construction so liability is with the City for construction management.

Councilmember Elvig stated it is a \$10,000 issue and definitely involves a protocol and process that should be resolved. He felt the bottom line is that the HRA is the client and the client does not pay unless there was an oversight. Councilmember Elvig stated the City would be the next in line if it is doing construction management, and four vendors are also involved. He supported addressing the protocol because there may be similar future issues.

City Administrator Ulrich suggested directing staff to negotiate with Connexus on a reasonable settlement and bring it back for Council approval.

Chairperson Backous stated he thinks that would be a reasonable next step.

Interim Engineer Nelson stated staff attempted to do that negotiation with Connexus prior to tonight's meeting. Connexus had acknowledged the CAD drawings but said there were newer discussions and went back to the job site discussion. He stated he is happy to attempt further negotiations.

Motion by Councilmember McGlone, seconded by Chairperson Backous, to recommend that the City Council direct staff to negotiate with Connexus to cover the cost to relocate its cabinet from HRA property.

Further discussion: Councilmember Elvig asked if something similar occurred with the Oasis property. City Administrator Ulrich recalled it was with the Ramsey Raceway project and Connexus ended up covering the cost. Interim Engineer Nelson stated WSB staked the location and the contractor prepared the pad. Chairperson Backous asked if Connexus has errors and omissions insurance. Development Manager Lazan stated this amount is below their deductible. Councilmember Elvig agreed that multiple vendors were involved and should be included in the negotiation.

Substitute motion by Councilmember McGlone, seconded by Chairperson Backous, to recommend that the City Council direct City Administrator Ulrich to have all parties in the room at one time and negotiate a settlement for City Council consideration.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers McGlone, and Elvig.
Voting No: None.

5.09: Review of Miscellaneous Storm Water Appurtenances in the Vicinity of Lake Ramsey

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report.

Councilmember McGlone stated before the City owned the property, it had asked the contractor to remove these items but that did not occur. Once the City became the property owner, he recommended Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood be asked about use as playground equipment.

Councilmember Elvig stated there may be use for these items at a skateboard park and asked if the inventory could be used in City projects.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated these items are larger than what the City's equipment can handle.

Interim Engineer Nelson advised there are some manhole pieces that could be used in the City's project but the manhole pipe itself is the wrong size.

Chairperson Backous asked who is the manufacturer.

Interim Engineer Nelson stated the manufacturer was asked but does not want the pipe.

Councilmember Elvig asked staff to be creative in what pieces can be stockpiled and reused, or used in parks or for things like elevated gardens, or auctioned.

Councilmember McGlone stated he looked at the items and some are not usable in projects but may be creatively used in parks.

Interim Engineer Nelson stated the Sunwood/Armstrong contractor was asked if any of the items had value but they declined. He stated the items do not have a lot of value at auction but could be maintained and when a COR project becomes available, it could be used.

Councilmember McGlone stated Bury & Carlson has equipment to move the bigger pieces and is located near by.

Councilmember Elvig suggested Sauter & Sons also be contacted.

Chairperson Backous advocated to get rid of the items, noting the City did not purchase any of it.

Councilmember McGlone suggested Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood be asked first.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Councilmember McGlone, to recommend that the City Council declare storm water appurtenances in the vicinity of Lake Ramsey to be surplus property, to ask Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood to provide a

recommendation on potential park use, and to dispose of all items that have no future use so as not to be a concern for future development.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers Elvig, and McGlone.
Voting No: None.

6. COMMITTEE / STAFF INPUT

6.01: Follow-up Information on Radar Speed Signs

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report.

Councilmember McGlone noted Anoka's electronic speed sign off Highway 10 on Main Street is effective because it shows the driver the speed they are traveling.

Chairperson Backous agreed and asked which option is being recommended.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer noted that type of sign is expensive but portable and can be moved where needed instead of using the speed trailer.

Councilmember Elvig asked about the funding source and grant opportunities.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer recommended the Traffic Engineering line item and noted the Safe Routes to School may be an option.

Councilmember Elvig advocated for the higher priced sign that provides more options.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer recommended purchasing two signs at a cost of \$5,200, noting if the signs are portable, battery backup will be needed.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Chairperson Backous, to recommend that the City Council approve the purchase of two SP 100 signs with solar panel and 3-cell battery backup.

Further discussion: City Administrator Ulrich advised that the Police Chief is looking into purchasing Anoka County's surplus message signs, which would provide another form to notify the neighborhood.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers Elvig, and McGlone.
Voting No: None.

6.02: Sunwood Drive Traffic Control Plan

Interim Engineer Nelson presented the traffic control plan after the new alignment of Sunwood Drive is open when a section of Zeolite will be closed by installing barricades. He explained that staff discussed whether this section should be closed now or wait until Anoka County directs it to

be closed. Interim Engineer Nelson asked if the City wants it to remain open, acting as a shortcut.

Chairperson Backous stated he has heard from residents that they like the temporary road because it is a straight shot and helps those businesses as well. He stated he would support leaving Zeolite open as long as possible.

Councilmember Elvig agreed and stated when barricaded, he would support doing it permanently with concrete pipes.

Councilmember McGlone stated he has also heard from residents and strongly advocates driving on pavement and leaving it open as long as possible.

The consensus of the Public Works Committee was reached to recommend the City Council keep Zeolite open as long as possible.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember McGlone, seconded by Councilmember Elvig, to adjourn the Public Works meeting.

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the Public Works Committee adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Riemer
Public Works Superintendent

Drafted by Carla Wirth
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.