

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

The Public Works Committee conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Chairperson Randy Backous
 Councilmember Mark Kuzma
 Councilmember Chris Riley

Also Present: City Administrator Kurtis Ulrich
 Public Works Superintendent Grant Riemer
 City Engineer Bruce Westby
 Mayor Sarah Strommen

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Backous called the regular meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. CITIZEN INPUT

There was none.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Riley, to approve the agenda, as presented.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers Kuzma and Riley. Voting No: None.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.01: Approve October 21, 2014, Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Kuzma, to approve the following minutes:

Regular Meeting Minutes dated October 21, 2014

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers Riley and Kuzma. Voting No: None.

5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

5.01: Consider Stop Sign Installations on 146th Avenue at Iodine Street

City Engineer Westby reviewed the staff report and noted staff recommends installing two stop signs on Iodine Street. He said this can be done with in-house staff. This will be a 3-way stop. He pointed out the existing policy does not have language on what would trigger the installation of a stop sign. Staff will develop a policy to bring it back to have it considered.

Chairperson Backous asked whether each request has to come back to the committee if there is a policy. As long as a policy was in place, and staff followed the policy, it may not have to be formally discussed by a committee.

City Engineer Westby noted it could be written into the policy that not every request would have to be brought to Council and it could be delineated which situations need discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Kuzma, to recommend that the City Council approve the installation of stop signs on 146th Avenue on both sides of Iodine Street.

Further discussion: Chairperson Backous questioned if the traffic count is 300 trips per day on the average. Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated they counted 10 trips per resident per day is normal. Chairperson Backous stated this count seems high.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Backous, Councilmembers Riley and Kuzma. Voting No: None.

6. COMMITTEE / STAFF INPUT

City Administrator Ulrich noted crossing flags have been installed at Ramsey Elementary.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer explained the flags were installed on the County signs. Anoka County took objection to that, so staff moved and reinstalled them. He said neither Mn/DOT nor MUDTC have a standard sign for crossing flags, so staff had to make them. He said 20 flags were dropped off at the Elementary School. Recently only one was seen on the stand. Public Works Superintendent Riemer explained that it works with one person picking up a flag on one side of the street and carrying it and depositing it in a tube on the other side of the street. It creates awareness.

Mayor Strommen said she will investigate why there aren't more crossing flags.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer noted the stopping rate went up 74%.

Chairperson Backous inquired if there are crossing flags anywhere else.

Mayor Strommen noted she saw them at a school on Grand Avenue in St. Paul, and has seen them in Salt Lake City.

City Engineer Westby pointed out this is not in the *Minnesota Manual of Traffic Control Devices*, and it is not recognized as a manner of traffic control.

Mayor Strommen stated she has talked to Anoka County Commissioner Look regarding this issue and she is keeping him updated.

City Administrator Ulrich noted there is an open house on Thursday, November 20, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. regarding the Armstrong Interchange for the business community in the vicinity. He said Armstrong Kennel will be present to voice their opinion on the construction staging. He said Mn/DOT indicated the project can be done in eight months if Armstrong Boulevard is closed. If Armstrong Boulevard is not closed, it will take two years.

Councilmember Kuzma thanked the Council for the earlier Work Session and said it was a good discussion on the tax assessment. He stated the decision to assess each project will be a fair and positive outcome.

Chairperson Backous agreed.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Riley to adjourn the Public Works Committee meeting.

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the Public Works Committee adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Riemer
Public Works Superintendent

Drafted by Chris Moksnes
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.