

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

The Public Works Committee conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 18, 2017, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Chairperson Chris Riley
 Councilmember Jill Johns
 Councilmember Mark Kuzma

Absent:

Also Present: Public Works Superintendent Grant Riemer
 City Engineer Bruce Westby
 Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood
 Utilities Supervisor John Nelson
 Craig LaFreniere, Total Control, Inc.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Riley called the regular meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. CITIZEN INPUT

Clint Seul, 7496 161st Avenue NW, presented a contribution of \$480 for the Sweetbay Ridge Median Fund. He added the funds were raised by residents who want to support the median beautification.

Chairperson Riley thanked Mr. Seul and the Sweetbay Ridge residents on behalf of the City for their contribution.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

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

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

4. APPROVE MINUTES

There were no minutes to approve.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Johns, to table approval of Meeting Minutes.

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

5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

5.01: Consider Preventative Maintenance for 29-year old Well Pump and Motor at Central Park

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood reviewed the staff report and explained that preventative maintenance is recommended for the 4-inch submersible water supply well that was installed in 1988 at the Park Center Building at Central Park. In 2006, a concessions stand was completed. There are 23 separate fixtures in the park, and the Park Center Building is used year-round. A group of trees to the north of the buildings is in a dry, non-irrigated area. City Staff hopes to provide irrigation to that area as part of this project. He explained that failure of the water supply well at Central Park would cause significant inconvenience to park users, especially during a weekend tournament or when the Park Center Building is being used as a polling place. The motor and pump were inspected on March 10, 2017, and found to be worn and in need of replacement. City Staff recommends City Council consideration of preventative maintenance to the well at Central Park at a not-to-exceed cost of \$9,000 from the Capital Maintenance Fund, which includes replacement of the existing system with a Variable Frequency Drive and pump.

Councilmember Kuzma asked what the additional cost would be.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated total project cost would be less than \$9,000, and would be funded from the Capital Maintenance Fund.

Motion by Councilmember Johns, seconded by Councilmember Kuzma, to recommend City Council consideration of preventative maintenance to the well at Central Park at a not-to-exceed cost of \$9,000 from the Capital Maintenance Fund, which includes replacement of the existing system with a Variable Frequency Drive and pump.

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

5.02: Consider A Review of SCADA System and the Need for Redundancy Upgrades

Utilities Supervisor John Nelson reviewed the staff report and explained that the Public Works Committee had requested that City Staff review the SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) redundancy program, and provide a cost estimate. He introduced Craig LaFreniere, Total Control, Inc., who does SCADA system upgrades and programming.

Mr. LaFreniere reviewed options for SCADA system upgrades for the Public Works Committee's review and consideration. These include: spare master equipment to be stored at Public Works; updated software for use with existing SCADA computer; the addition of a new SCADA computer and software update; a redundant SCADA computer, only valid with purchase of additional software under Option #3; or wireless broadband connection and Cradlepoint device.

Councilmember Kuzma stated he would support a redundant computer. He asked whether the existing system could be run on a redundant SCADA computer.

Mr. LaFreniere confirmed this, but a conversion would be necessary.

Councilmember Kuzma asked whether there is a budget for the proposed changes.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated funding options are being considered, including the Water Fund through the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Utilities Supervisor Nelson stated Programmable Logic Controllers (PLC) control the system.

Councilmember Johns expressed the importance of not having a failure like they had in Blaine, and asked whether the SCADA system monitors system failure.

Mr. LeFreniere stated the City of Ramsey has a back-up hardware dialer that automatically kicks in if the software dialer fails or times out.

Councilmember Kuzma reiterated that a redundant system is necessary to maintain functionality.

Councilmember Johns stated funding sources could include the CIP or City Budget over the next few years.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Johns, to recommend City Council consideration of Item # 1 for 2017 for purchase of Spare Master Equipment and to have the PW staff budget as necessary for Items #2-4 in future years, as reviewed in Mr. LeFreniere's April 6, 2017, report.

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

Chairperson Riley thanked Mr. LeFreniere for his review.

5.03: Consider Pedestrian and Traffic Concerns on Variolite Street and Receive Petition for Pedestrian Crosswalk

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report and explained that City Staff received a petition from the Sweetbay Ridge Neighborhood residents requesting consideration of a safer pedestrian crossing area at the intersection of Variolite Street and 161st Avenue NW. Traffic and pedestrian volumes, sight lines, accident history, posted speed, and other information about the intersection will be collected and reviewed by City Staff and a recommendation will be made based on that data as well as standard engineering practices.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated the Public Works Committee can direct City Staff to collect the necessary data and present findings and recommendations on the requested crosswalk at the May 16, 2017, Public Works Committee meeting.

A resident of the Variolite neighborhood at the meeting expressed concern that the roads in this area are unsafe for pedestrians trying to walk to the park. He requested that traffic counts be done during summer evenings when there is soccer practice and games.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated City Staff requested traffic accident and speed data from the Police Department and there has been 1 accident in 5 years.

Councilmember Johns stated a pedestrian tunnel might be considered.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated there is no trail system to connect it to on either side.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated there is no trail on 161st Avenue NW. He added there might be other solutions for the crosswalk.

Chairperson Riley stated he supports having this discussion and reviewing potential solutions that will be acceptable to the neighborhood as well as the City.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Johns, to instruct City Staff to review potential safety-related improvements on Variolite Street, including a proposed crosswalk, and present their findings and recommendations to the Public Works Committee at their May 16, 2017, meeting.

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

5.04: Consider Recommending City Council Approval of Plans and Specifications for Improvement Project #17-00, Sunwood Drive Reconstruction

City Engineer Westby presented the staff report, and explained that City Staff recommends City Council approval of plans and specifications for Project #17-00, Sunwood Drive Reconstruction.

The current plans were submitted to the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) State Aid office for review and approval. The current plan is consistent with the design in the Feasibility Study reviewed by the City Council, except that the entire bituminous pavement

section will be reclaimed with the existing aggregate base. Existing elevations will be maintained by removing 4 inches of reclaim material to allow for 4 inches of new bituminous pavement.

The total estimated project cost is \$571,539.48. Special assessments are proposed to pay for 25% of total project costs. City Staff is communicating the project plans with abutting property owners.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Johns to recommend that the City Council approve plans specifications for Improvement Project #17-00, Sunwood Drive Reconstruction.

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

5:05: Consider Recommending City Council Approval of Plans and Specifications for Improvement Project #17-01, Alpine Drive Reconstruction

City Engineer Westby presented the staff report, and explained that plans for this proposed project are being reviewed by MnDOT State Aid. City Council approval of plans and specifications and authorization to bid the project will be requested at their May 9, 2017, regular meeting.

It was discussed that the design has been modified from the Feasibility Report as reviewed and approved by the City Council. The entire existing crushed concrete base material is now proposed to be removed and disposed of due to concerns that this material has a significant amount of concrete fines, which could lead to the same issues being encountered today.

City Engineer Westby stated City Staff is proposing additional grading and storm sewer work based on new findings made during final design, related to a culvert under Alpine Drive that was buried. Letters were mailed to property owners on the west side of the project as that section of Alpine Drive is proposed to be closed during construction. This will ensure that the project can be completed quickly and safely.

Councilmember Kuzma asked how the project will be funded.

City Engineer Westby stated the improvements are proposed to be funded using a combination of street reconstruction bonds and stormwater utility funds. No special assessments are proposed.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Johns, to recommend City Council approval of plans and specifications for Improvement Project #17-01, Alpine Drive Reconstruction.

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

Chairperson Riley asked whether stabilization is a viable option for this project, as proposed with Sunwood Drive. City Engineer Westby stated that Sunwood Drive has a lot of heavy truck traffic, and that significant growth is anticipated along Sunwood Drive as the corridor develops and expands, therefore using a stabilized full depth reclamation process on Sunwood Drive to further strengthen the pavement makes sense. Alpine Drive does not currently have a large volume of heavy truck traffic, nor is a significant amount of truck traffic expected in future years, so stabilizing the base on Alpine Drive is not necessary.

5:6 Consider Recommending City Council Authorization to Prepare Plans and Specifications for Improvement Project #17-09, Bunker Lake Boulevard Utilities Extension

City Engineer Westby presented the staff report, and explained that two developments are currently proposed that will require utilities extension. The first development, proposed by Capstone Homes, is the construction of roughly 300 single family homes that are proposed to be served by City water and sanitary sewer. Capstone Homes intends to begin construction this summer, with development of lots on the south end occurring first. The second development, proposed by PSD LLC, is a new business park to be located on 45 acres of land between Bunker Lake Boulevard and Highway 10. The concept plan of this development proposal was presented to the City Council at their March 28, 2017, Work Session.

City Engineer Westby noted a utilities extension will be required along Bunker Lake Boulevard to Puma Street to support these and other development proposals. City Staff proposes to prepare plans and specifications in-house, administer the project, and stake and inspect construction.

Councilmember Kuzma stated the future business park will require utilities in any case, and it makes sense to go ahead and complete this portion of the required utilities extension.

Chairperson Riley expressed concern about doing portions of the utilities extension separately, that it will be inefficient to do a portion of the utilities extension now, essentially breaking it into 3 separate projects. He added Puma Street would have to be opened eventually as utilities would be installed under the roadway. He noted it would make sense to complete the work now as part of the assessment agreement project so the developers can share the costs.

City Engineer Westby stated the proposed project on Bunker Lake Boulevard will have minimal impact on the roadway, and can be done cost effectively with little traffic disruption.

Chairperson Riley stated the PSD development already has utilities available. He asked whether Capstone will be ready to commence construction by the time the utilities project is completed. City Engineer Westby stated Capstone's Memorandum of Understanding will be reviewed by the City Council at their April 25, 2017, Regular Meeting.

Chairperson Riley asked whether there is still a proposal for townhomes at the south end. City Engineer Westby stated they have changed their layout a few times, and are still proposing a development on the south side but the proposed housing units have changed.

Chairperson Riley stated he is unable to vote in support of the proposed project, as he has many questions that remain unanswered.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Johns, to recommend City Council authorization to prepare plans and specifications for extended trunk sanitary sewer and watermain along Bunker Lake Boulevard to Puma Street.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Councilmembers Kuzma and Johns. Voting No: Chairperson Riley.

5:7 Consider Recommending City Council Authorization to Prepare Plans and Specifications for Flashing Yellow Arrow Improvements to Signal System at Armstrong Boulevard and Sunwood Drive

City Engineer Westby presented the staff report, and explained that City Staff is requesting authorization from the City Council to hire SEH to prepare plans and specifications for converting the signal system at the Armstrong Boulevard/CSAH 83 and Sunwood Drive/147th Avenue to flashing yellow arrow (FYA) operations.

City Engineer Westby stated the Anoka County Highway Department is planning to complete FYA modifications at eight different intersections in late 2017 and/or early 2018, including three intersections in the City of Ramsey. Preparing plans and specifications now will ensure that the City will be well-positioned to coordinate modifications, limit disruption and ensure consistency.

Councilmember Kuzma asked how old the intersection is, and why an FYA signal system was not considered when it was built.

City Engineer Westby stated this signal system was constructed in 2006, when FYA's were first being constructed in the metro area, and that the estimated cost for converting the signal system is \$40,000. He added modification involves incremental costs, including pavement cuttings, conduit insertion, rewiring, new signal heads, and mast arm extensions.

Councilmember Johns asked whether the signal system modification would happen in 2018.

City Engineer Westby the bidding process and construction could occur late this fall or winter, or it could occur in 2018.

Councilmember Kuzma stated an option would be to wait and see how the new FYA signal systems work along Bunker Lake Boulevard.

City Engineer Westby stated it could be more problematic to implement FYA operations at different times on Armstrong Boulevard at Sunwood Drive and at Bunker Lake Boulevard.

Chairperson Riley stated it makes sense to move forward with this project, as Anoka County will be making signal system modifications at the same time.

Motion by Councilmember Johns, seconded by Councilmember Kuzma, to recommend City Council authorization to hire SEH, Inc., to prepare plans and specifications for converting the City-owned signal system at the intersection of Armstrong Boulevard/CSAH 83 and Sunwood Drive/147th Avenue to flashing yellow arrow operations.

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

6. COMMITTEE / STAFF INPUT

6:1 Large Diameter Culvert Inspection Report

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed a list of 10 large diameter culverts in the City that were inspected by City Staff and found to be in need of replacement. He added a culvert at 160th Lane is requested to be replaced in 2017, but the others can be delayed for potential inclusion in street improvement projects or Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) additions. He noted plans for replacement of each culvert will be brought to the Public Works Committee for review and consideration.

City Engineer Westby stated roadway reconstruction typically accounts for 1/3 of culvert replacement costs, and road closures will be necessary, but none will cause a dead-end road.

Chairperson Riley thanked City Staff for bringing this issue to the Committee's attention.

6:2 Staff Updates on Improvement Projects and Items of Interest

City Engineer Westby reviewed a list of projects that are either proposed or currently under way. He stated stormwater improvements at Business Park 95 are complete and operational. He added work is complete on Andrie Street & 164th Lane, and an additional "no parking" sign is being considered by the park because of comments received from residents. He noted the Mississippi Trail Phase 3 is currently being graded and will be open for use by summer.

City Engineer Westby stated storm sewer extension at Zeolite Street was completed last year. He added the Riverdale Drive extension project and Joint Powers Agreement will be reviewed by the City Council at their April 25, 2017, Regular Meeting. He noted MnDOT is planning to install a cable median barrier along Highway 10 through Ramsey in 2018.

City Engineer Westby stated City Staff is requesting quotes for ground penetrating radar systems to identify constructs for the CIP roadway projects.

Councilmember Kuzma stated a ribbon-cutting dedication for the MRT trail across King's Island should be held soon.

6:3 Review Future Topics Calendar

City Engineer Westby reviewed a list of topics for discussion by the Public Works Committee. He added some of the items were requested for inclusion by the Committee, or have previously been discussed but are not resolved.

City Engineer Westby stated the Committee should consider drafting policies related to trail maintenance and stormwater pond maintenance. He added the Green Valley Road speed study results were received by City Staff last week, and will be added to an upcoming agenda.

Chairperson Riley inquired about the future well-siting study, and asked if one or more existing smaller wells could be taken out of production and replaced by a larger well.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated Well 2 is the lowest producing well, and it is used for irrigation at Rivers Bend Park. He added this may be a good idea, and agreed to look into it.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated one of the City's spray patching vendors is renting out their equipment on a monthly basis. He added City Staff have decided to rent the equipment rather than use funds to buy it. This will allow staff to test the equipment.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Johns, 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 Mary Mullen
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.