

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

The Public Works Committee conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, November 19, 2019, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Chairperson Mark Kuzma
 Councilmember Jeff Menth
 Councilmember Chris Riley

Also Present: Public Works Superintendent Grant Riemer
 Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Mark Riverblood
 City Engineer Bruce Westby

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kuzma called the regular meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 5:36 p.m.

2. CITIZEN INPUT

There was none.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

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

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

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.01: Approve October 15, 2019, Meeting Minutes

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

Regular Meeting Minutes dated October 15, 2019

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

5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

5.01: Consider Replacing Monument and Shelter Roof at Rivers' Bend Park and HVAC Replacement at Central Park

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated that the purpose of this case is to consider a recommendation to City Council for authorization to perform maintenance/replacement activity for two structures at Rivers' Bend Park, and one of three HVAC systems at Central Park's buildings. Funding is request to be allocated from the City's Capital Maintenance Fund (not the Park Trust Fund) and therefore is being brought to the Public Works Committee, because the project funding source is limited, and also to be used for other (non-park) capital maintenance needs of the community. In 2017, the Council expanded the scope of this fund (previously entitled Park Maintenance Fund) to allow use for other non-park capital maintenance needs. The facilities this case discusses may be considered higher priority maintenance items.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated that if the Committee recommends replacement of the three items utilizing the Capital Maintenance Fund, staff would proceed to obtain competitive quotes consistent with the City's Purchasing Policy for re-roofing the hex shelter at Rivers' Bend and also the HVAC replacement at Central Park. The HVAC system is anticipated to cost less than \$15,000; the roof replacement to a standing seam steel roof with trim, with sandblasting and sealing the underside and support columns at less than \$18,000. Should the costs be consistent with the estimates, staff will proceed upon City Council ratification of the Public Works Committee recommendation. For the monument replacement at Rivers' Bend, the replacement cost is unknown, as neither the design nor specifications are fully understood at this time. The cost may be between \$8,000 to \$15,000, or more. Staff proposes utilizing the approved sign and streetscape guide and amending these examples to something suitable for the park. This project would subsequently be routed for Council consideration and approval via the Park and Recreation Commission. The Capital Maintenance Fund is proposed for funding in a total amount for the two projects in an amount not to exceed \$33,000. This does not include the park monument sign, which would advance for consideration separately. Staff recommends replacing the HVAC system and roof shelter as described.

Councilmember Riley commented that the monument sign clearly needs to be replaced. He noted that as future signs are replaced, there could then be similar entrance signs installed at those parks for consistency.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood agreed that staff would continue to review parks signs as they are in need of replacement to find something consistent but also appropriate for the scale of the park. He noted that there may be costs savings in bundling the Rivers' Bend Park monument sign with the City monument sign that will be installed at Bunker Lake Boulevard and 47.

Councilmember Menth commented on the possibility of vandalism with a wooden sign.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood referenced a steel sign that was installed at another location and has not experienced any vandalism. He noted that option could be reviewed as well and perhaps that become a standard for community park signs.

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Menth, to recommend to City Council the replacement of the HVAC system at Central Park, and roof shelter at Rivers' Bend Park as discussed, at a not to exceed cost of \$33,000 from the Capital Maintenance Fund.

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

Councilmember Riley noted that these are maintenance items for parks that already exist. He stated that there has been discussion that parks are not always as up to date as desired and asked if there are other park projects that should be considered to ensure they are usable and long lasting.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood explained that only so many projects can be managed at one time. He noted that the projects with the highest needs have been brought forward first. He noted that the proposed budget for 2020 includes a \$90,000 line item for trail maintenance in order to keep pace on the needed improvements. He noted that Ford Brook Park is proposed to receive updated playground equipment in 2020.

5.02: Consider Recommending City Council Approval to Solicit Requests for Proposals to Prepare Plans and Specifications for Bunker Lake Boulevard/CSAH 116 Improvements, Improvement Project #20-03

City Engineer Westby stated that the purpose of this case is to consider recommending City Council approval to solicit Requests for Proposals to prepare plans and specifications for Bunker Lake Boulevard/CSAH 116 Improvements, Improvement Project #20-03. In April of 2005, a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) was executed between the City of Ramsey and Anoka County defining required public works improvements related to the Ramsey Town Center development, now referred to as The COR. Two amendments have been executed since, one in February of 2009, and the other in February of 2012. A copy of the JPA, including the two amendments were included in the case.

City Engineer Westby stated that the required public works improvements, which total slightly more than \$13,000,000 in 2005 dollars, are generally intended to be constructed in four separate phases per the JPA. Individual project cost summaries are included in Schedules A through C. The JPA outlines the requirements of each party as related to the design and construction of the improvements, allowable use and access to County-owned properties and highways, and other terms and conditions. Phase 1 identifies required improvements to Ramsey Boulevard from Highway 10 to 1,000 feet north of Bunker Lake Boulevard including expansion to a four-lane divided highway with turn lanes and signal system modifications at Highway 10, railway crossing upgrades, and signal systems installed at Sunwood Drive and Bunker Lake Boulevard. This was had been completed. Phase 2 identifies required improvements to Armstrong Boulevard from Highway 10 to 1,000 feet north of Bunker Lake Boulevard including expansion

to a four-lane divided highway with turn lanes and signal system modifications at Highway 10, railroad crossing upgrades, and signal systems installed at Sunwood Drive and Bunker Lake Boulevard. This work has been completed. Phase 3 is one of the larger and more costly improvements required by the JPA. This work includes the expansion of Bunker Lake Boulevard between Armstrong Boulevard and Ramsey Boulevard to a four-lane divided highway with turn lanes and construction of signal systems at Center Street and Sunwood Drive. This project was estimated to cost \$3,170,109 in 2005. This work has not been completed. It was originally intended to be completed in 2007 based on anticipated development, but was delayed when development slowed in the late 2000's. Phase 4 identifies required improvements to Sunfish Lake Boulevard from Highway 10 to 1,000 feet north of Bunker Lake Boulevard including expansion to a four-lane divided highway with turn lanes and signal system modifications at Highway 10, railway crossing upgrades, and a signal system installed at Bunker Lake Boulevard. This work has been completed.

City Engineer Westby stated that Anoka County Highway Department staff recently informed City staff that they want to expand Bunker Lake Boulevard to a four lane divided highway all the way to Armstrong Boulevard in anticipation of the need for a reliever route due to the work proposed to Highway 10 through the cities of Coon Rapids (adding a third lane to Highway 10 in each direction) and Anoka (the Anoka Solution improvements). Anoka County is starting to explore their right-of-way needs related to expanding Bunker Lake Boulevard between Sunfish Lake Boulevard and Ramsey Boulevard, and asked that the City of Ramey begin designing the required improvements for Bunker Lake Boulevard between Armstrong Boulevard and Ramsey Boulevard per the JPA. He stated that in speaking with Economic Development Manager Sullivan, because of the use of TIF it would be recommended to complete the project in 2021. City staff is in the process of developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit engineering services for the preparation of plans and specifications for improvements to Bunker Lake Boulevard between Armstrong Boulevard and Ramsey Boulevard. Staff is prepared to present a draft RFP to the City Council on December 10, 2019, and to request authorization to solicit proposals directly to engineering companies as selected by Anoka County. Staff therefore requests that the Public Works Committee recommend City Council approval of this request.

Chairperson Kuzma asked if the speed would change.

City Engineer Westby confirmed that would be part of the traffic study.

Councilmember Menth asked and received confirmation that the estimated cost of \$5,000,000 would only apply to the section from Armstrong to Ramsey Boulevard.

Councilmember Riley asked why the City would be responsible for paying and improving a County road. He asked if there is something historical that relates to the creation of that JPA.

City Engineer Westby stated that he could review information from the past to determine where that decision came from.

Councilmember Riley stated that he would want to better understand the reasoning for the JPA and why the financing and construction of the County road would fall to the City.

City Engineer Westby stated that he will do his best to find that information in preparation for bringing this case forward to the City Council in the future.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated that perhaps part of the discussion should be what would happen if the City did not move forward with this project. He noted that there may be related impacts to the Highway 10 project as this would be a detour route for that project.

City Engineer Westby agreed that would be a concern to him, in that Bunker Lake Boulevard will be a detour route for Highway 10.

Councilmember Riley reviewed some of the answers he would want from the County. He noted that if the City is responsible for building and financing the improvements, he would think the City should have additional say in the allowed access points onto the roadway.

Chairperson Kuzma asked if there is a timeline for this process.

City Engineer Westby replied that the County is hoping to have the City segment and County segment completed by 2022. He noted that while there is no connection to the projects and they can be done independently, it may be helpful to have one segment completed before the other. He confirmed that the item does not have to move forward to the Council on December 10th.

Chairperson Kuzma confirmed the consensus of the Committee for the additional information requested to be brought back to the Committee before considering moving this item forward.

Councilmember Riley noted that once the questions are answered, it may make sense to bid the two segments together as one project, even if the City is funding one segment.

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Menth, to direct staff to gather additional information on the history on the conditions of the JPA and discuss options with Anoka County related to renegotiating the JPA, working together to find efficiencies, and opportunities for an additional access onto Bunker Lake Boulevard.

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

6. COMMITTEE / STAFF INPUT

6.01: Update on New PW Campus

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reported that staff visited two sites (Elk River and Chanhassen). He highlighted items that he liked from each of the locations as well as input he received from the staff at those locations. He noted that he will be visited Woodbury the following week. He stated that the draft RFP was sent to the City Attorney today for review and

once approved would be sent out for bids. He hoped that a design team would be brought on in January, noting that it would follow a similar process as the process to select RJM.

Councilmember Menth provided input on electrical services.

Councilmember Riley commented that the underbody wash bay seemed to make sense. He asked if the Ramsey police would use the public works facility for washing.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer commented that if the facilities were available, he would think the police would most likely want to use them.

Councilmember Riley stated that he is confident that staff will be the most knowledgeable on the elements that will be needed.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated that he found it useful to go on the tours not only to see the sites in action but also to obtain input from those staff members. He commented that the designated meeting spaces and conference rooms for morning meetings will be helpful. He noted that Chanhassen also uses some of those spaces for voting precincts.

6.02: Staff Updates on Improvement Projects and Items of Interest

City Engineer Westby provided updates on City improvement projects, Anoka County improvement projects, and MnDOT improvement projects.

Regarding the COR Infiltration Basin project, City Engineer Westby discussed the two soil stockpiles on site. One stockpile includes approximately 8,000 cubic yards of clean sand, and the other includes just under 12,000 cubic yards of sandy topsoil. He said the clean sand can be used as structural fill on City-owned properties in The COR, and that Staff is developing plans for such use and that this work can be completed in 2020. He added that the sandy topsoil has very little value to the City since it cannot be used as structural fill and would generally cost more to haul and stockpile elsewhere than it would cost to import new material. It was the consensus of the Committee that the City should retain the stockpile of clean sand for use in further developing The COR, and that staff could continue discussions with the River Walk Village contractor, and/or other contractors or developers, to remove the sandy topsoil stockpile as soon as possible. The consensus of the Committee was that if the topsoil cannot be used in a timely and cost-effective manner to prepare The COR for development, the topsoil may instead be offered to builders, contractors and/or developers at no cost to allow for its removal as soon as possible.

City Engineer Westby provided an update on other items of interest.

Councilmember Riley asked for an update on the sealcoat study.

City Engineer Westby reported that staff has collected data and is tabulating the results to present to the Committee in January.

Chairperson Kuzma noted that a December meeting is not needed.

Motion by Councilmember Menth, seconded by Councilmember Riley, to cancel the December meeting.

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

6.02: Review Future Topics Calendar

City Engineer Westby provided a brief review.

7. ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the Public Works Committee adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Riemer
Public Works Superintendent

Drafted by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.