

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

The Public Works Committee conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, July 20, 2021, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Chairperson Chris Riley
 Councilmember Debra Musgrove
 Councilmember Matt Woestehoff

Also Present: Public Works Superintendent Grant Riemer
 City Engineer Bruce Westby
 Civil Engineer IV Leonard Linton
 City Administrator Kurt Ulrich

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

Michael St. Clair, 5805 148th Lane NW, stated that they live on a gravel road, and they have experienced different issues at their property. He stated that it has been brought to their attention by Councilmember Musgrove that there is a policy to pave the gravel roads in Ramsey. He stated that they have a lot to lose if that happens. He commented that they live on a quiet, dead-end road. He asked that they could vacate their easement. He noted that it was presented as an option when they received a variance for their pole shed. He stated that it would not make sense to create a cul-de-sac at the end of the road in front of their property. He stated that they have had plenty of situations where they had reached out to the City about pursuing vacation of the easement along with the variance but had been told that if they wanted to build in that year, they should receive the variance and then pursue vacation of the easement as the easement vacation would delay the process. He commented on the mature tree line and wetland park that brings in wildlife. He stated that if the road needs to be paved, perhaps a hammerhead could be used instead of a cul-de-sac which would still allow the easement to be vacated. He again noted that he would prefer to have gravel for his road.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer commented that he does not care if the road is paved but would need some sort of area for a turnaround of public works vehicles.

Mr. St. Clair commented that they would be more than happy to have a hammerhead to provide additional turnaround room. He noted that during the review of the variance by the Planning Commission, one Commissioner made the comment that the easement should be vacated.

Chairperson Riley commented that it is understood that turnaround space is needed for public works and asked if this could come back to the Committee again in a future case to discuss whether there could be an alternative to a cul-de-sac.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer commented that he believed that it was agreed upon to do something that fits within the available easement.

Chairperson Riley confirmed that staff will bring this back to the Committee with additional options to review. He stated that while the paving of gravel roads has been discussed, there is not a set timeline.

Mrs. St. Clair commented that they wanted to ensure that they could be included as part of the discussion and that their opinion was known.

Chairperson Riley commented that the City does not have the funding to pave additional roads at this time but confirmed that this could come back to the Committee in September.

Mr. St. Clair commented that they would still like to pursue vacation of the easement to ensure their property is protected regardless of what happens in the future in terms of paving.

City Engineer Westby asked for clarification on the request for vacation of the easement. He identified the City right-of-way and asked where the easement is located.

Mr. St. Clair stated that they have been told that they have 33 feet of property which remains theirs until the City decides to improve/expand the road.

Mrs. St. Clair read aloud communication she received from City Attorney Langel related to the road easement.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Woestehoff, seconded by Councilmember Musgrove, to approve the agenda, as presented.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Riley, Councilmembers Woestehoff and Musgrove. Voting No: None.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.01: Approve June 15, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Woestehoff, seconded by Councilmember Musgrove, to approve the following minutes:

Regular Meeting Minutes dated June 15, 2021

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Riley, Councilmembers Woestehoff and Musgrove.
Voting No: None.

5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

5.01: Request for Street Light at 15500 Roanoke Street (Bear Park)

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report and stated that staff recommends installing the streetlight at Bear Park for increased security.

Chairperson Riley asked if others have been notified of a light installation request.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer commented that typically notification is provided but this light would be located in the park itself and would not impact other properties.

Councilmember Musgrove commented that she visited the park today and noticed two stakes in the ground. She asked for clarification on whether there would be one or two lights.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer clarified the location of the one light, noting that the second stake is most likely where the main line is located that they would tap into to run the light.

Councilmember Musgrove asked if the light would face towards the street or the park.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer commented that the light would face towards the street as the complaints are directed towards the parking area where nuisance is occurring. He confirmed that the light would be downward facing.

Chairperson Riley commented that he would be concerned that people would be unhappy about having the light.

Councilmember Woestehoff asked if notice could be sent.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer commented that typically for a light request, staff asks that the requester receive support from those within 500 feet. He stated that in this instance there are some properties within 300 feet of the proposed light, but their properties would not be impacted by the light. He stated that people could be notified.

Councilmember Musgrove commented that it would be reasonable to provide notice.

Motion by Councilmember Musgrove, seconded by Councilmember Woestehoff, to request City Council approval of a streetlight installation at 15500 Roanoke (Bear Park) after sending notification to residents within 500 feet.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Riley, Councilmembers Musgrove and Woestehoff.
Voting No: None.

5.02: Review of Spray Patching on Junkite Street/146th Circle

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report and stated that staff recommends continuing with the mill and overlay process of patching until such time the road segment can be overlaid or reconstructed.

Chairperson Riley stated that spray patching seemed like a miracle cure in the past and asked if it was a bad machine.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer commented that spray patching works well on small areas but is not suitable for large sections of pavement or roads in very poor condition. He stated that the City had tried to do too much with it in the past.

Councilmember Specht asked when the road is set to be reconstructed.

Councilmember Musgrove believed it was scheduled for 2026.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer commented that he believes that the road was moved up because of the poor condition.

Councilmember Musgrove asked if only that area is having trouble or whether additional work would be done on the extended portion of Junkite.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer commented that it would begin at Junkite Street and Sunwood and go to the cul-de-sac. He commented that Iodine Court is in similarly bad condition. He noted that those roads have met their lifespan.

Chairperson Riley commented that once the road is decided to be moved up, he would like the information made known to residents. He commented that he does not believe that spray patching should stop as a method of improvement for roads, but the issue was more that the machine was bad, and this was not a good road for that type of improvement.

5.03: Consider Approving Modification for COR Infiltration Basin Pumping Station Inlet

Civil Engineer IV Linton reviewed the case and stated that staff recommends that the Public Works Committee forward the quote from Dave Perkins Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$18,700 to the City Council for acceptance of the quote and authorization to proceed with the work in 2021.

Chairperson Riley asked and received confirmation that this improvement would help the water to flow into the infiltration basin. He asked and received confirmation that this should be the last improvement needed for the infiltration basin.

Councilmember Musgrove asked if this was the project that had problems with the pump that required repair.

Civil Engineer IV Linton confirmed that to be true. He stated that the project began in 2018 and provided a brief overview of the timeline of improvements that occurred for the project.

Chairperson Riley asked and received confirmation that the funding source would be the infiltration fund.

Civil Engineer IV Linton explained that every project within The COR contributes towards that fund for this purpose.

Councilmember Musgrove asked and received confirmation that this improvement is needed as the infiltration basin is needed to support the other projects within The COR. She noted that she is a bit troubled that this is the second problem with the project.

Civil Engineer IV Linton commented that the pumps were under warranty when replaced.

Chairperson Riley commented that this issue was known for about one year and therefore was an anticipated improvement that would be needed.

Motion by Councilmember Musgrove, seconded by Councilmember Woestehoff, to forward the quote for modification of the Infiltration Basin Pumping Station Inlet from Dave Perkins Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$18,700 to the City Council for acceptance of the quote and authorization to proceed with the work in 2021.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Riley, Councilmembers Musgrove and Woestehoff.
Voting No: None.

5.04: Consider Recommending City Council Ordering of Plans and Specifications for Improvement Project #21-10, Fire Station No. 1 Parking Lot Improvements

City Engineer Westby reviewed the case and recommendation for the City Council to order plans and specifications for Improvement Project #21-10, Fire Station No. 1 Parking Lot Improvements.

Councilmember Musgrove commented that she is glad the facility fund will be used, and that the City is looking ahead towards where sewer could be aligned in the future.

Motion by Councilmember Musgrove, seconded by Councilmember Woestehoff, to recommend City Council ordering of plans and specifications for Improvement Project #21-10, Fire Station No. 1 Parking Lot Improvements.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Riley, Councilmembers Musgrove and Woestehoff.
Voting No: None.

Chairperson Riley commented that there is an electric cabinet in the corner of the lot that has been tented and asked for the purpose.

Civil Engineer IV Linton commented that the tent creates cheap air conditioning to ensure the pump does not overheat.

6. COMMITTEE / STAFF INPUT

6.01: Staff Updates on Improvement Projects and Items of Interest

City Engineer Westby provided an update on current and proposed City, County, and MnDOT improvement projects and studies, and on other items of interest to the Committee.

Chairperson Riley referenced pavement depth and inspections and asked if the City is sure, it is receiving road pavement to the standards it dictates at this time.

City Engineer Westby provided additional explanation noting that the City ensures that the tonnages included in the bids matches the desired depths, along with additional inspections.

Councilmember Musgrove asked if the Ramsey Gateway project is fully funded or fully funded from the City perspective.

City Engineer Westby replied that around 95 percent of the funds have been awarded and there is one grant request still awaiting award.

6.02: Review Future Topics Calendar

Councilmember Musgrove referenced the Mississippi Crossing Feasibility Study and asked when those results are expected to be presented.

City Engineer Westby provided additional clarification.

Chairperson Riley noted the future topics calendar.

Councilmember Musgrove stated that she would like to discuss a sound wall for Ramsey Villas North.

City Engineer Westby replied that he has been in discussions with MnDOT and could provide an update at the September meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Musgrove, seconded by Councilmember Woestehoff, to adjourn the Public Works Committee meeting.

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the Public Works Committee adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Riemer
Public Works Superintendent

Drafted by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.