

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

The Public Works Committee conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 15, 2022, 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
 Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Mark Riverblood

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

There was none.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

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

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

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.01: Approve Meeting Minutes

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

- Regular Meeting Minutes dated November 16, 2021
- Regular Meeting Minutes dated January 18, 2022

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

5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

5.01: Appoint Chair and Vice-Chair of the Public Works Committee

Public Works Superintendent Riemer noted that this is an annual action of the Committee and opened the floor for nominations.

Motion by Councilmember Woestehoff, seconded by Councilmember Musgrove, to appoint Chris Riley as Chairperson and Debra Musgrove as Vice-Chair of the Public Works Committee.

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

5.02: Consider Replacement Options for the Rivers' Bend Park Monument

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood reviewed the case and recommendation of staff for the Committee to provide input and then solicit additional quotes to be forwarded to the City Council for the replacement of the Rivers' Bend monument.

Chairperson Riley commented that the entrance sign to the park is important as the parks have to be labeled and easy to find. He stated that they have discussed a coordinated effort to ensure the design could be used in other parks as well.

Councilmember Musgrove asked if input is desired on the location of the wording.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood stated that he did not request that as part of the case but agreed that would need to be decided at a later time and would welcome input on that as well.

Chairperson Riley asked if staff has a preference on the aluminum versus concrete.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood replied that his only concern with aluminum would be that it could be dented but noted that has not occurred on a similar sign at The Draw. He noted that the vendor commented that they have also not seen the material dented on a sign. He stated that there could be some decay on the cedar posts near the soil line over time. He commented that concrete is durable but some of the cost is the logistics of getting that material to the site and the appropriate footings.

Councilmember Musgrove commented that she believes the word placement is a consideration as it would have a factor on the size of the sign. She stated that she favors the aluminum sign with the wood as that would fit better into the neighborhood feeling. She stated that she would favor stacking of the words and logo in order to keep the sign size small.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood commented that he agrees with the stacked style.

Chairperson Riley agreed that would be an appropriate size and material for the sign as it is a neighborhood sign and does not need to be large in order to catch someone's eye.

Councilmember Woestehoff agreed with the aluminum and wood sign.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood asked if this item should go forward as a Consent Agenda item for the Council or whether it should be a regular agenda item. He provided a summary of the previous discussion from the Parks and Recreation Commission related to park signage.

Chairperson Riley asked if there was a decision on the monument sign for Bunker Lake Boulevard and 47 sign and whether that is moving forward with the park sign or as a separate project.

Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood noted that would be a separate project because of the easement and power that would be needed for the Bunker and 47 monument in order to allow the park sign to move forward on its own.

COMMITTEE / STAFF INPUT

6.01: Receive Updates on Sound Wall East of State Highway 47, North of Xkimo Street

City Engineer Westby provided updates on the sound wall since the last discussion including responses received from Riverside Development Company and its legal representation as well as the design engineer, Bogart-Pederson. He also provided cost estimates for the different options.

Councilmember Musgrove appreciated the update. She asked if there has been any discussion on potential funding sources.

City Engineer Westby stated that staff is still gathering data on the options and then developing the associated costs with those options. He did not believe there is any potential funding from MnDOT for the project and commented that the City would have to use internal funds.

Councilmember Musgrove asked if this would be eligible for the County HRA funds.

City Engineer Westby replied that he was unsure but could check on that.

Councilmember Woestehoff asked if there would be any possibility to construct another section of wall upon the existing wall.

City Engineer Westby replied that the wall would not be able to support that additional weight.

Chairperson Riley asked if the City has instituted any new policies or procedures to avoid repeating this mistake in the future.

City Engineer Westby replied that staff always tries to learn from these things and will continue discussions on how this could be avoided in the future. He commented that this was a development that went through quickly when staff was extremely busy.

Councilmember Woestehoff acknowledged that a sound wall does not come up that often. He noted that an issue identified on the preliminary plat is that it was identified as a six-foot fence rather than a sound wall. He noted that if it would have been identified as a sound wall, perhaps engineering would have picked up on the mistake.

Councilmember Musgrove thanked staff for continuing to work on this and improve the process. She asked if part of that area could be filled, then constructed a wall on the fill.

City Engineer Westby replied that they could look at the grades but noted that fill is also expensive. He stated that if there is an opportunity to cost-effectively add fill outside of the MnDOT right-of-way and avoiding utilities, that option could be reviewed.

6.02: 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.

Councilmember Musgrove thanked staff for the great work. She commented that the flashing lights at Sunwood and Bunker are working great.

6.03: Review Future Topics Calendar

Councilmember Musgrove suggested adding an item related to checks and balances, using the sound wall as an example.

Councilmember Woestehoff stated that perhaps a discussion could be added related to the rating of City streets.

City Engineer Westby commented that staff intended to bring that item to a Council work session.

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 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Riemer
Public Works Superintendent

Drafted by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.