

**STREETS AND SANITATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

June 11, 2012
6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dave Soeldner
Jim Brey
Jason Sladky
T. Martell
A. Schema (arrived at 7:53)

STAFF PRESENT

Greg Minikel
Val Mellon
(arrived at 7:45 pm)

OTHERS

Todd Holschbach, 2222 Ladeside Blvd
Jim Toerpe, 1649 Mirro Dr
John Wachtl, 1315 Oriole
Jeff Vogel, 3221 Packer Ln.
Mike Check, 9140 Hilltop Rd

MEMBERS ABSENT

Approval of the Minutes from 04/23/12

J. Brey made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2012 meeting. J. Sladky seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Discussion and possible action on Southeast corner of Mirro and Oriole Dr

G. Minikel said that the City Surveyor was at the location and shot numerous elevations in the backyard areas (basically a grid system) to get a better understanding of where the low points are located and therefore where the property owners should place a new inlet. A map with the elevations was presented at the meeting. The area is generally very flat. G. Minikel also noted that there is not a lot of room between garages and other obstructions (i.e. poles, fences, hedges, etc.) and as a result would be hard getting into the area with normal digging equipment. The property owner(s) need to determine if and how the work will be completed.

Mr. John Wachtl was present and said that the City allowed the 4" pipe many years ago. He feels the City should be responsible for the drainage issue. He said that the City allowed the properties to fill in over the years and he feels that this is what has caused the problem.

D. Soeldner said that he would like proof that the City has done wrong. He believes that the 4" pipe is no longer effective, all the evidence is pointing in that direction. He also stated that the original pipe must have been installed due to drainage problems at that time.

D. Soeldner questioned what the property owner would like the City to do.

Mr. Wachtl said he would like an 8" pipe installed from the areas that he pointed out. He wanted to know if an 8" pipe would be functional. G. Minikel explained that it depends how fast they would like for the water to drain away. An 8 inch pipe will drain a significant amount of water.

J. Brey asked if Mr. Wachtl felt that this problem only occurred until the area was filled in. Mr. Wachtl firmly believes this is the case.

J. Sladky said we don't know the contour of the land from so far back. No drainage plats were provided for the area 30-40 years ago and this is when the 4 inch private drain tile pipe was installed. J. Sladky doesn't believe this was caused by the City. There were issues before and the City has agreed to stub out a new 8 inch storm sewer pipe up to the right-of-way line.

D. Soeldner suggested that Mr. Wachtl should communicate with the abutting property owners that would be affected to see if they are willing to help share in the cost to install a storm sewer pipe and drain into the backyard areas that are low.

Mr. Wachtl said that he would like to have his property re-assessed.

The Committee has seen nothing that points to the City being at fault for any drainage issues. G. Minikel said there are many other private drainage issues around the City and to his knowledge the City has not covered any expenses or paid to provide drainage pipes on private property .

D. Soeldner summarized that the property owners will need to figure out how to get pipe out to street. The City will then connect to the inlet.

Discussion and possible action on maintenance and erosion control issues along Lakeside Blvd

Ald. Braunel was present and said that he met with Todd Holschbach, 2222 Lakeside Blvd, and area neighbors regarding the erosion along Lakeside Blvd. He said that yard rakings, brush and other debris gets thrown over the side of the boulevard. The City has previously written to the neighboring property owners to inform them that this practice is unacceptable, since it causes erosion.

The Constituents would like to get the ball rolling and move forward with this issue. Mr. Holschbach was present and explained many people use this area. The area residents would be willing to assist to manage this area.

J. Brey said there were 17 signs installed. The neighbors thought some of the signs could be removed as there are too many. The constituents feel they have the resources to manage this area. There is a meeting scheduled with the City Engineer to discuss the game plan and challenges. The Citizens group will do their best to stop the dumping.

J. Sladky said that he is happy that the property owners are willing to help as long as the Engineering staff is ok with everything. G. Minikel explained that for many years (approx. 25 yrs.) we have tried to do something in this area and a recent grant application was denied. We could try to apply again for a Coastal Management Grant.

The public would like to assist with applying for the Grants. Ald. Braunel met with the Mayor and City Engineer to discuss what actions would be taken as a starting point. J. Brey said that back in 1992 the erosion was created from the high water levels in Lake Michigan. Now, it is actually from the top of the slope and downward. G. Minikel said the low water levels have probably played a huge role in not causing as much erosion from the bottom level.

D. Soeldner explained that the Mariners Trail could be connected from the North to the South side and would possibly allow Grant money. He asked if we could possibly take down some of the signs. R. Junk explained that it won't be a problem. C. Braunel said that we could initiate more education.

Discussion and possible action on a request for a driveway wider than 25 feet at 1205 S. 7th Street

G. Minikel explained that Jeff Vogel is requesting a driveway a little wider (28 ft. plus or minus) than our Ordinance allows. He would like to re-grade and allow for more parking to accommodate the parking ban. G. Minikel said he would like the gas meters to be protected. J. Vogel agreed to protect the gas meters.

J. Brey made a motion to approve the wider driveway for the 1205 S. 7th Street. J. Sladky seconded the Motion.

Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Discussion and possible action to re-fill laborer vacancy which has occurred due to a recent retirement and therefore maintain the consistent labor pool established in the reorganization

R. Junk explained there was a retirement from the labor pool as of May 31, 2012 and he would like to re-fill the position.

J. Brey questioned if the wage would be lower and R. Junk explained it would be the bottom pay level.

J. Brey made a motion to approve the request, but the motion failed as there was no second.

J. Sladky asked what is left in the budget for the wage. He said that he would like to learn more about the 2012 budget situation as he doesn't want to hire now and then have to let them go if there are still budget problems later this year for 2013. R. Junk explained that a seasonal employee might be an option. D. Soeldner explained that we are behind with the 2012 budget. They are waiting on the audit.

J. Sladky made a motion to budget/hire an additional seasonal employee to be in the laborer pool, until the Committee revisits before the 600 hours

is up. T. Martell seconded the motion.

R. Junk said that he needs all the skilled laborers as we are running short.

J. Brey amended the motion to revisit at the July 23rd Streets Committee meeting. The temporary (seasonal) employee can still be hired in the mean time. T. Martell seconded the amended motion.

Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Discussion and possible action to re-fill the Mechanic vacancy

K. Glaeser recommends filling a vacant mechanic position. One of the 4 mechanics needs to be replaced with a skilled mechanic.

J. Sladky made a Motion to approve the request. J. Brey seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously. No further discussion.

Discussion and possible action regarding crosswalk at S. 10th And Quay Street

G. Minikel explained that there is not a handicap (ADA) ramp on the west side of S. 10th and Quay St. A person who rides a scooter came into the office to complain about it and stated that it is not an ADA compliant crosswalk.

J. Sladky questioned if this is a requirement. G. Minikel believes that the MUTCD requires the ramp since we have the crosswalk painted and signed. G. Minikel also stated that the crosswalk used to be on the southside of the intersection and we moved it to the northside to be safer , since 10th St. is one-way southbound and the motorists are only looking to the north for oncoming traffic and not to the south for pedestrians.

G. Minikel said that we can either install the ramp or remove the crosswalk and let the pedestrians go up to the signalized intersection at Franklin Street to cross S. 10th Street. The cost for installation of the ramp would come out of the 2012 R&R sidewalk budget.

J. Sladky made a Motion to approve the installation of the required ramp for the crosswalk. T. Martell seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously. No further discussion.

Discussion and possible action regarding revising the Noxious Weed Ordinance 13.050

G. Minikel brought the Weed Ordinance to the Committee with the changes

from the previous meeting. Putting a sticker on the door might pose an issue if it damages the door. The notification will only be sent out once and will include any fees that have been changed.

J. Sladky said that he wants the charges to be painful. He discussed a fee of \$200 minimum plus \$50 per hour.

Discussion ensued regarding the fee. J. Brey suggested that \$300 should be the base fee. D. Soeldner agreed that he is in favor of the \$300 minimum charge.

J. Brey made a motion to assess \$300 for a fixed fee. Any work by DPW crews after 1 hour will be at \$50 per hour per laborer.

J. Sladky questioned the fee for the equipment. G. Minikel said that he thought the equipment charge would be included and not additional.

R. Junk suggested that we charge on a time and material basis for any work beyond the first hour.

D. Soeldner made a motion for the base fee to change to \$300 per hour for the first hour. Any work beyond 1 hour would be based on Time and Material at a full-time employee pay rate. J. Sladky seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Discussion and possible action regarding flooding at various locations in the City

G. Minikel explained that the Stormwater Management and Quality Plan are available on our City Website. He gave some of the problem areas. Some of the issues will be resolved with reconstruction, such as Waldo Blvd. and others will continue to be worked on.

Discussion was held with locations of drainage issues.

G. Minikel stated that the City of Manitowoc is blessed with pretty good topography so our drainage/flooding problems are not as severe as other Cities and most of the flooding is in the street and not so much in people's basements. The City of Manitowoc does not have any lift stations to pump stormwater, unlike the City of Fond-du-Lac which needs several lift stations for their storm sewer system.

D. Soeldner said that we will continue to monitor the street flooding concerns at E. Ash Ave. and Elder Drive.

G. Minikel stated that we have had flooding across from Municipal Field on S. 23rd Street. Additional inlets were put in around 2006. It helps with some of the smaller rainfall events. The 84 inch culvert that runs along the railroad tracks west of S.14th St. that came out of the ground was fixed a few years ago, but it is unclear if this repair has solved the

drainage problems on S. 23rd Street.

G. Minikel explained that flooding at S. 16th & Marshall Street should be improved since we installed new storm sewers on S. 16th and Hamilton Streets .

The Dewey Street underpass flooding will hopefully be fixed or improved with the proposed Dewey Street Stormwater Pond Retrofit in 2013.

Discussion and possible action regarding the proposed 5-year plan for the new concrete sidewalks (2013-2017)

G. Minikel explained to the Committee areas of possible new sidewalk. He would like some direction from the Committee. There aren't a lot of new areas as Subdivisions aren't being built. Potentially for next year would be the Safe Routes To School (SRTS) sidewalk on N. 8th St. and also on Michigan Ave. We would be reimbursed at 100 percent under the SRTS funding. However, all design and/or land acquisition costs would be 100% the responsibility of the City.

Discussion occurred regarding bridge near Indian Creek Park. Future discussions will be held at the next meeting.

D. Soeldner said that he is fine with only putting sidewalk in the Safe Routes to Schools project.

J. Brey made a motion to approve the 5-year plan for the new concrete sidewalks. J. Sladky seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Adjourned at 7:55 p.m.


Valerie Mellon, P.E.
Director of Public Works/
City Engineer/
Director of Parks & Recreation