

**STREETS AND SANITATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

*July 13, 2009  
6:40 p.m.*

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dave Soeldner  
Jason Sladky  
Nick Levendusky  
Jim Brey  
Ray Geigel

**STAFF PRESENT**

Valerie Mellon  
Greg Minikel

**OTHERS**

Sarah Millard, HTR  
Scott McMeans

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**Approval of the Minutes from 06/22/09**

R. Geigel made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 22, 2009 meeting. J. Sladky seconded the Motion.

Motion carried unanimously. No further discussion.

**Park Row Blvd & Fairmont Street Intersection**

Ald. Eric Sitkiewitz, Safety, Traffic and Parking Committee and Ald. Dave Soeldner have received complaints from this non-controlled intersection of Fairmont and Park Row Blvd. This intersection has complicated geometry which makes it unclear to drivers which legs are to yield to the other traffic movement. The north end of Park Row Blvd operates as a culdesac. This would not normally be a problem except that Fairmont Street and an unnamed alley also intersect the cul-de-sac and operate as a through street for a significant amount of east/west bound traffic. The Safety, Traffic and Parking Committee discussed installing 2 stop signs on Fairmont and the alley. This is mainly a problem a couple times out of the day when Fairmont becomes a through route during factory and school dismissals.

Visibility concerns were addressed. There is currently a row of pine trees that are trimmed and the alley is plowed in the winter time. Installing stop signs would clarify which directions have the right of way and make it easier in case traffic citations need to be issued.

J. Brey made a motion to draft an ordinance to install 2 stop signs according to the plan. R. Geigel seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The Committee suggested that engineering and DPW use their best judgment in placement of these signs.

No further discussion.

### **5-Year Capital Improvement Plan**

V. Mellon presented to the Committee the proposed 5 year plan, which concentrated specifically on 2010. The Finance Committee would like to limit borrowing to \$5 million. V. Mellon explained areas that can be cut. She explained that we could cut in areas such as photogramatic mapping and just reuse planimetrics and contours from 2005. We could cut the road work down; however, N. 21<sup>st</sup> Street viaduct and South 10<sup>th</sup> Street are priorities which everyone agreed are required to stay in the budget.

G. Minikel video taped the following streets throughout the City to show the need for repair. Discussion was held with each street to determine holding off on certain projects.

- \* Franklin Street
- \* South 12<sup>th</sup> Street (Franklin - Washington)
- \* Intersection of 10<sup>th</sup> & Viebahn Street (County willing to pay ½)
- \* 44<sup>th</sup> & Enterprise Court (Country Kitchen vicinity)
- \* Custer Lane
- \* Broadway & Harvest Circle
- \* E. Linden (Iris to Jasmine)

The main consensus of the Committee is to lower the borrowing amount for 2010 to a maximum limit of \$5 million. This roughly equates to \$4.5 million for streets/sanitary/storm projects and the rest for fleet and other department improvements. The engineering department presented evidence to show the projects that are greatly needed. D. Soeldner complemented Engineering Department on putting together to try to reduce budget this year. We need to keep our roads in good condition.

V. Mellon recommended inviting the Committee out to DPW to show the condition of the fleet vehicles.

The Engineering Department is looking for direction from the Committee to present to the Finance Director. The Committee would like to meeting out at DPW for their next Streets Meeting.

### **Proposed 5-Year New Sidewalk Program**

The proposed sidewalk program was discussed with the Committee. J. Brey recommended painting a stripe or placing a curb in the parking lane on one side of the street to create a bike/walk path. The Committee is not in favor of constructing a new sidewalk in 2010 on South 41<sup>st</sup> Street and would like to take it out of the program. V.

Mellon said that she does not recommend painting a ped lane that encourages pedestrians to walk in the street.

N. Levendusky made a motion to take the new proposed sidewalk out of the 2010 budget for a total of \$189,000. J. Brey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The Committee recommends keeping up with the remove and replace program and the complaints. G. Minikel will modify the 5 year sidewalk program.

J. Brey made a motion to propose to the City Finance Director the \$5 million budget and to look into putting whatever is possible on the levy. R. Geigel seconded the Motion.

N. Levendusky made a motion to lower the proposed budget to 4.5 million by removing the fleet. No second. Motion died.

The Committee would like to meet with Kevin Glaeser at DPW before determining if the .5 million is required on fleet.

No further discussion.

#### **Right-of-Way Encroachments**

G. Minikel reported to the Committee there are many encroachments throughout the city that we don't have permits or sidewalk privilege agreements. G. Minikel explained that these property owners are building right to the sidewalk, which is within City right-of-way. Typically the right-of-way extends beyond the sidewalk for 8" to 1 foot. The engineering department can provide this information for any property owner who requests it.

G. Minikel doesn't have a problem with the retaining walls remaining as long as Sidewalk Privilege Agreements are in place.

N. Levendusky made a motion to have the City Attorney to contact the property owner to either remove the obstruction or sign a release of City liability (Sidewalk Privilege Agreement). J. Sladky seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

V. Mellon wanted to verify who should be responsible for sending out letters. N. Levendusky said the City Attorney's office should be responsible due to the legality of the right-of-way encroachments.

No further discussion.

**Excessive Algae along the Beaches and Shorelines along Lake Michigan**  
Engineering showed a brief video showing the excessive algae and the reason for its existence along the beaches and shorelines of Lake Michigan. This issue has a direct link to storm water quality and is the basis for the DNR mandated detention ponds.

*N. Levendusky made a motion to adjourn and R. Geigel seconded the Motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.*



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Valerie Mellon, P.E.  
Director of Public Works  
and City Engineer