

**STREETS AND SANITATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

*July 12, 2010
6:30 p.m.*

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dave Soeldner
Jason Sladky
Allan Schema
Jim Brey
Nic Levendusky

STAFF PRESENT

Valerie Mellon
Greg Minikel
Sonja Birr

OTHERS

Raymond Ahl
Ruth Ahl
Michael Check

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

Approval of the Minutes from 6/14/10

J. Brey made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 14, 2010 meeting. J. Sladky seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

1143 S. Alverno Rd - Steep Ditch

G. Minikel informed the Committee that he went and looked at the culvert with the Ahls. The ditch is quite steep and G. Minikel explained that the culvert would need to be extended 5-6' from driveway.

V. Mellon showed photos of the surrounding properties and which ones are currently mowed. She feels we should not require the Ahl's to mow and to let the area fill up with wildflowers which is the same treatment as their closest neighbors to the North. The Ahl's will not agree to that as they have been mowing this ditch for 35 years. Val presented a photo showing that the Ahl's have allowed their South property line (which borders the railroad) to fill in with wild flowers.

D. Soeldner would like to resolve this issue without creating additional concerns.

J. Sladky believes that we offered the Ahl's a fair offer. The City just re-established grades that were in existence when Alverno Road was constructed as evidenced by the elevations of existing culverts and has a hard time making City taxpayers pay for any additional re-grading.

D. Soeldner thought we previously made a reasonable offer. G. Minikel repeated that we have only re-established the original grades and over the years it had filled in, but that is all we did.

N. Levendusky said that each property owner should determine if they wanted to cut the ditch or leave it. It shouldn't be the City's responsibility to maintain it. A. Schema questioned grading up to the house so they could cut, at least one side where it is steep. N. Levendusky does not want to set precedence for others.

Raymond Ahl explained that they are looking for re-sloping.

A. Schema made a motion to re-grade one side. No second, motion died.

D. Soeldner made a motion to allow mutual solution between the Engineering Department and the Ahl's with stipulation that the Ahls pay 50 percent of cost and the City of Manitowoc's contribution be capped at \$1250. The solution can be determined by the Engineering Department and the Ahl's and the Streets Committee no longer needs to be involved.

Ruth Ahl commented that they will be contacting Channel 5 (Channel 5 is on your side).

J. Sladky seconded the motion.

Motion carried (3-ayes; 2-nayes (N. Levendusky and A. Schema)).

Refilling DPW Laborer Position

R. Junk explained that a letter was previously submitted to the Committee. He is requesting the ability to hire a Laborer position and explained that he feels that this position is needed as longevity, vacations and trying to fill work crews has been a factor.

J. Sladky thought we should be able to cut back one laborer from each department. R. Junk explained that this position will start at the bottom, and the position from the retirement will be posted. We will need to move people and right now Randy explained they are working with skeleton crews. He said that we have cut back extensively over the years.

V. Mellon explained the need for a certain number of men on each crew to actually run these jobs and maintain crew safety. She gave several examples.

D. Soeldner thought that vacations could be shifted to fix scheduling issues. He said that every time we have a chance to not fill a position we are finding a reason that we need to fill it. D. Soeldner

said that we don't know if we don't try and if there is a shortcoming of crews we can definitely reconsider.

J. Brey recommended holding the position open for 3 months. N. Levendusky agreed. A. Schema feels a 3 month study to figure out if we are lacking would be best.

V. Mellon suggested that at the discussion we will bring job assignments to show how crews were staffed and any safety concerns and to compile lists of tasks not able to be accomplished this summer as compared to last year as well for comparison.

J. Brey made a Motion to not fill the current vacant position and re-evaluate at first meeting in October. A. Schema seconded the motion.

J. Sladky didn't feel 3 months would be enough time; he would like to see 6 month evaluation. D. Soeldner said that in October we can open it up for further discussion and evaluation.

Motion carried (4-Ayes; 1-Nay (J. Sladky)).

Parking Ban and Street Sweeping Update

D. Soeldner explained that people are complaining that they didn't know that we were going to start ticketing. He feels that there was enough information that was out for educating the public. He recommended two options to try resolving some of the issues.

One option would be to increase signage and would like to know cost. Another option could be to allow people to park on their own lawn only on their street sweeping night.

A. Schema said that he doesn't like allowing parking on lawn as people may not fix any damage.

J. Brey wanted to know if it is the same people receiving tickets. V. Mellon offered to check with the police department and perhaps they could provide a report on the ticket data they've been collecting. It's very possible that we could even map the hot spot areas and get numbers of repeat offenders.

J. Sladky questioned the hours of the ban. He believes ending the ban at 6:00 a.m. should be sufficient.

The sweeping hours were set in accordance with the union contract that spells out work hours for street sweepers. The sweepers start at 3:00 a.m. If we tried to start sweeping anytime before that it would conflict with the downtown bars that are open until 2:00 a.m.

R. Junk said manufacturing each additional new sign is approximately \$30. This does not include the post or labor to install the signs. Signs can be changed to reflect the new time with stickers placed over existing times. R. Junk explained that we will need to manufacture the stickers and then apply them. This could take about 1 week to accomplish.

V. Mellon explained the report of ticket numbers that was previously distributed from the Police Department.

The Committee recommends requesting more data/information from the police department and where the majority of the tickets are coming from.

V. Mellon questioned about the possibility of allowing the Police Department to ticket any time during the day of the ban. This would require a complete change in the Ordinance which now specifies that you get a ticket only if the sweeper has to go around the vehicle. This causes a real delay for the sweeper operators who have to record all the pertinent vehicle information on a list for the Police Department. The street sweepers are slowed up quite a bit. The Committee was not at all interested in this recommendation; they didn't want to make things more confusing for the public since all the education so far has stresses that you only get a ticket if we go around you.

A. Schema said that the Valders Police Department received a grant for a unit that mounts to the dash of the vehicle and scans the license plate number to bring up the information.

J. Sladky made a motion to amend the Ordinance to end the ban and ticketing at 6:00 a.m. and to instruct the City Attorney to draft Ordinance accordingly. J. Brey seconded the motion.

D. Soeldner directed Val Mellon to check with the Police Department for additional data.

Motion carried unanimously.

DPW Sweeper Wash Bay Update

V. Mellon explained the sweeper process for disposing of material the sweeper's pickup. There are concerns with washing the sweepers and material going into the storm sewers. Janet Sosnosky and Greg Minikel both informed Val that we need to solve this problem for the existing Pollution Prevention in place for the DPW.

V. Mellon discussed the extension of the building to include future storage for the sweepers and to provide a wash bay at approximately \$100,000.

V. Mellon also mentioned that an outside alternative to wash the sweepers is being investigated with more information to come as it is developed.

Discussion ensued regarding options for storing and washing these sweepers. The Committee was not in favor of adding on to the DPW facility. D. Soeldner explained that he is not convinced of an additional building and thought other options should be explored, including him checking into other alternatives.

J. Sladky thought there could be other ways that won't cost as much. The Committee recommended exploring other options, no action at this time.

Communication (10-064) from SMI requesting that Streets and Sanitation Committee take action on various issues relating to storm water pond maintenance costs

D. Soeldner wanted to take some sort of action on this issue and recommended that it was the right direction for the City to take over the ponds. The Engineering Department didn't have the amounts calculated and ready to present for the cost to maintain these ponds.

V. Mellon distributed key requirements in order for the City to acquire these ponds.

J. Sladky requested a fee amount from the Engineering Department for maintenance of these ponds. The fee will be determined per size and acreage. D. Soeldner said it should be based on the watershed size.

The Committee requested amounts to be determined by Engineers by the next meeting and Mike Check will meeting with other developers to discuss these figures.

Discussion of Pedestrian Safety Issues at the Intersection of Waldo Blvd & Rapids Rd

Tabled.

Approval of Amendments to General Conditions to Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction

D. Soeldner made a motion to approve, J. Sladky seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Possible Reconfiguration of Intersection at Maritime Drive & Buffalo Street

G. Minikel explained a request was received for a crosswalk due to a daycare being moved from Reed Avenue to Medical Arts Building. G. Minikel recommended installing an island because flashing lights and ped crossings will not resolve the problem.

J. Sladky questioned if this could be considered a school zone. V. Mellon explained that we could put up a 15 mph sign similar to the school zones; however, a study around Jackson School was performed and showed that even though it's signed 15 mph there are hundreds of tickets each year for speeds far exceeding that amount. People drive what they are comfortable driving.

G. Minikel is concerned that people are driving at a faster speed and is concerned for safety. The Committee was not in favor of an island for safety reasons. No action to be taken at this time.

Request to Complete Paving on Beaupre Court

N. Levendusky made a motion to not pave Beaupre Court at this time. D. Soeldner seconded the motion.

Lincoln Park Sidewalk

Committee recommends referring to Parks Department.

Request to Complete Paving on Beaupre Court

There was a request to pave Beaupre Court by one person that is currently renting. There is not a need to pave this cul-de-sac as no additional lots were improved.

N. Levendusky made a motion to do nothing, D. Soeldner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

*N. Levendusky made the Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m.
J. Brey seconded the motion.*



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