

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF JANUARY 13, 2015

#1 CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mike Puhr called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call was answered by Chairman Mike Puhr, Vice Chairman Jon Cooper, Aldermen Rick Strebing, and Rickey Williams, Jr. Aldermen R.J. Davis and Mike O'Kane were absent with 1 vacancy from Ward 7. A quorum was present. Chairman Puhr announced he was notified that Aldermen Davis and O'Kane would be absent and they were excused.

Others in attendance included Mayor Scott Eisenhauer, Alderman Tom Stone, City Clerk Lisa Monson, Engineering & Urban Services Director David Schnelle, Engineering & Urban Services Manager Christopher Milliken, Engineer Mitch Lankford, Engineering Technician Marlys Sutton, Public Transportation Director Lisa Beith, Public Works Director Doug Ahrens, Rehabilitation Specialist Angie Jestis, 2 audience members, and 1 news media.

#2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Puhr presented Minutes of the regular meeting of December 9, 2014. Alderman Williams moved for approval as presented, seconded by Vice Chairman Cooper. On the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered.

#3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Puhr presented the agenda. There being no changes, Alderman Strebing moved for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Williams. On the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered.

#4-A. PUBLIC HEARING on Amendment to 2013 CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Annual Action Plan was opened by Chairman Puhr at 6:05 p.m. Urban Services Manager Christopher Milliken explained the amendment to its 2013 Annual Action Plan for Community Development Activities proposes to eliminate the Redevelopment Assistance Midtown/West Downtown project and reallocate these funds to two existing projects currently active in the 2013 Annual Action Plan. Those two projects are the Koehn Creek Study and the Neighborhood Impact Program. There being no comments by the Aldermen or the audience, Chairman Puhr closed the Public Hearing at 6:07 p.m.

#4 AUDIENCE COMMENTS - none

#5 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Chairman Puhr praised the Public Works Operations Division for a job well done during the recent snow events.

#6 PAYROLL

Chairman Puhr presented Payroll for January 9, 2015 of \$560,445.16. Vice Chairman Cooper moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval, seconded by Alderman Williams. There being no questions, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Williams, Cooper, Strebing, Puhr

Nays: None

Absent: Aldermen Davis and O'Kane

Motion carried 4 to 0 with 2 absent and 1 vacancy in Ward 7.

#7 VOUCHERS PAYABLE

Chairman Puhr presented the Schedule of Vouchers Payable for regular run of January 13, 2015, of \$142,681.60. Alderman Strebing moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval, seconded by Vice Chairman Cooper. There being no questions, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Cooper, Strebing, Williams, Puhr  
Nays: None  
Absent: Aldermen Davis and O'Kane  
Motion carried 4 to 0 with 2 absent and 1 vacancy in Ward 7.

#8 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION – Lisa Beith, Director

#8-A-1) The Monthly Recap for December 2014, included Ridership Reports, Monthly Revenue Record, and Ridership History. The December fixed route ridership increased 14.6% from last year with December ridership of 55,516. The November total ADA ridership was 858 rides. The December ADA ridership report will be given next month. The total revenue for the month of December was \$33,192.48 which includes Farebox revenue at \$20,251.73; Ticket Sales at \$11,238.25, and Advertising at \$1,702.50.

#8-A) Items of Information

- A decision will be made January 21 on a vendor for the three heavy duty transit buses from the Bloomington procurement.
- Director Beith is working with IDOT to assure the addition of the components to the four new super-medium duty vehicles before delivery.
- One document remains to be submitted by the January 14 deadline to wrap up the submission of corrective actions from the Triennial Review held in September.
- Request for Proposals have been sent to several bus vendors who potentially have medium-duty vehicles that could be purchased with insurance proceeds from Bus 925.
- There were no service disruptions during the first snow event of 2015, but the second snow event included a few disruptions to the Danville/Champaign route.
- IDOT asked for some revisions to the transfer zone facility bid specifications. TransSystems is providing the appropriate documents to IDOT.

#9 PUBLIC WORKS – Doug Ahrens, Director

#9-A) Items of Information

- The grant for the Southgate Trail Project has been submitted for reimbursement as the project has been completed. There is also a shelter and dedicated parking lot and is a nice addition to folks who work in the Southgate area.
- Work on the Danville Stadium fence replacement is being done in-house. The old fencing has been removed and the entire framework for the new fencing is up. The project will be completed in the spring. There is also a need for a small storage shed to house the gasoline powered equipment as it is currently stored inside the wooden stadium. The storage shed will be constructed with in-house staff as well.
- Director Ahrens expressed appreciation to the Council for being able to purchase salt early and replenish the salt supply in time for the winter season and also stated the Public Works Operations Division is doing very well on the salt supply so far this season.

#10 ENGINEERING & URBAN SERVICES – David Schnelle, Director

#10-A) Chairman Puhr presented a resolution amending CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Annual Action Plan for Program Year 2013, to cancel an activity called "Redevelopment Assistance Midtown/West Downtown" and its \$10,000.00 allotment be reallocated to the Koehn Creek Study, in the amount of \$7,500.00 and Neighborhood Impact Program, in the amount of \$2,500.00. Alderman Williams moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval, seconded by Vice Chairman Cooper. There being no questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Williams, Cooper, Puhr

Nays: Alderman Strebing

Absent: Aldermen Davis and O'Kane

Motion failed 3 to 1 with 2 absent and 1 vacancy in Ward 7.

#10-B) Chairman Puhr presented a resolution approving land acquisition for Replacing South Griffin Street Bridge over Stoney Creek, waiving the requirements of Section 30.07(A)(1) and (2) of the Code. Alderman Strebing moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval, seconded by Vice Chairman Cooper. Alderman Strebing asked how much ground is needed to be purchased and Director Schnelle stated not very much and the land acquisition is necessary due to the roadway widening to meet up with the new bridge width. The embankments that are coming down require drainage improvements and the widening takes up space so it is necessary to buy some permanent right of way for maintenance purposes. Alderman Strebing asked if it was going to be one or two lane bridge and Director Schnelle stated it will be a two lane bridge. There are three parcels and letters have been sent to the property owners, who all live outside of the City, explaining the project. He has not heard from any of them yet. Final plans on this project will be sent to the State by the end of this week for their final review. There being no further questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:

Ayes: Aldermen Williams, Cooper, Strebing, Puhr

Nays: None

Absent: Aldermen Davis and O’Kane

Motion carried 4 to 0 with 2 absent and 1 vacancy in Ward 7.

#### #10-C Items of Information

#10-C-1) H & L Landfill Update – The City is still waiting on the EPA to respond the request that was sent in a formal letter.

#10-C-2) NPDES Update - nothing to report.

#### #10-C-3) Project Updates

Upcoming Project on North Vermilion Street – Staff is in the process of sending letters to property owners on North Vermilion Street regarding removing problem retaining walls where the widening took place. The retaining walls were put in to protect trees and also to protect some of the grading so there was not as much grading that needed to take place on those properties. The letters offer removal of the retaining walls and do the necessary grading. The property owners will take care of the lawns. It is all voluntary and is just a matter of trying to eliminate a nuisance. Director Schnelle stated not all properties are eligible such as if removal of the wall would sacrifice a tree then a letter would not be sent to those ineligible property owners. Director Schnelle stated responsibility of retaining walls should be the property owner’s which causes a financial burden and that is why the City is offering to remove them if it is feasible to do so. The State only maintains edge of pavement to edge of pavement.

Fairchild Overpass Project Cost Recap – Director Schnelle handed out a spreadsheet of the Fairchild Subway Replacement Cost Recap and highlighted the following:

- The City is still waiting on the final bill from CSX and do not anticipate it will be a large amount.
- The total project cost including engineering and right-of-ways is \$23,238,727.44.
- The reimbursements totaled \$22,302,516.77 of which \$3,000,000.00 funds were through a Federal EDA Grant, funds of \$7,000,000.00 through the Illinois Jobs Now, the Illinois Commerce Commission Grade Crossing Protection Funding totaled \$11,265,516.77, with the remaining funds which came from the right-of-way sales, and railroad and utility reimbursements.
- Net project actual City of Danville cost (2009 Bond Issue) totaled \$936,210.67; the original cost to the City (2009 Bond Issue) was anticipated to be \$3,000,000.00.

Director Schnelle introduced Marlys Sutton, Engineering Technician and Mitch Lankford, Engineer and thanked them for their hard work and expertise during the project and stated they saved the taxpayers of Danville hundreds of thousands of dollars on the project from their creative work on the project. They found opportunities to reduce pay items, change pay items, did a lot of design to circumvent issues that came along during the project, and worked tirelessly on the project as this project demanded it. Typically a project of this magnitude would have three or four full time engineers and this project was completed with two engineers. Mayor Eisenhower stated to bring a project of this size and this nature in at right where anticipated with very few taxpayer dollars

involved was a successful project. He thanked Director Schnelle for overseeing the project and while certainly a great deal of credit goes to Marlys and Mitch, a great deal of accolades should go to Director Schnelle. He did a fantastic job leading this project. Alderman Williams inquired about the \$2 million dollars remaining bond funds and asked for the parameters for its use. Director Schnelle responded the \$2 million dollars will be rolled back into Motor Fuel Tax Funding and funds per the bond issue have to be used for infrastructure improvements so they will be used for allocation for the local match for the Bowman Avenue Project and also be used for local match on the South Griffin Street Project and the Maple Street Improvement Project. Also, the Poland Road improvements will be moved up a year due to receiving some of the Illinois Department of Transportation Truck Access Route Program (TARP) funds. Alderman Williams asked if there would be any remaining funds after those project matches and Director Schnelle responded there would be some funds remaining and is working with the Finance Division to receive the final ledger amounts and will provide Mayor Eisenhauer with a forecast of where those funds will be anticipated to be used. Alderman Strebing asked how long ago it was known bond money would be left and Director Schnelle responded we knew it as soon as the project became a reality with the Illinois Commerce Commission. To address Alderman Strebing's question regarding how many engineers the City employed when the project began, Director Schnelle stated there were three engineers plus the engineering technician so a total of four, not including himself and currently the City has three engineers. Alderman Strebing stated he has always said the City needed engineers and a few years back he pushed for salary increases. Director Schnelle stated the salary increases enabled the Division to attract and keep candidates and the team the Division has right now is by far the best team the Division has ever had and they are doing things that are phenomenal.

#11 CLOSED SESSION – None

#12 COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Alderman Williams commended Director Ahrens and the Public Works Operations Division staff for a fantastic job on the roads during the recent snow event. Director Ahrens gave credit to the staff due to the tools they have been provided and also due to the cross manning and stated it was a great program overall.

#13 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. by acclamation after a motion by Alderman Strebing and a second by Alderman Williams.

  
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Lisa K. Monson, City Clerk

Approved: 02/10/15

Posted Publicly: 02/12/15