

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING HELD AT GREENFIELD CITY HALL, COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ROOM 100, ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2018 AT 6:30 P.M.

1. Ald. Lubotsky called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

Meeting called to order

Roll Call: Ald. Pam Akers Present
 Ald. Bruce Bailey Present
 Mr. Richard Kasza Present
 Ald. Linda Lubotsky Present
 Mr. Richard Mrochinski Present
 Atty Roger Pyzyk Excused

Also Present: Mr. Jeff Katz, Director of Neighborhood Services
 Mr. John Laskoski, Superintendent of Public Works
 Mr. Bryan Haas, Project Engineer

2. Approval of the September 26, 2017 Meeting Minutes

**Approval of the
09/26/17 Meeting
Minutes**

It was moved by Ald. Akers, seconded by Mr. Kasza to approve the September 26, 2017 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously

3. Citizen Commentary

Citizen Commentary

Curt Hetzel of 4628 S 48th Street asked if there was an update on the parking restrictions that were previously discussed for the Shirley Crest Neighborhood. Mr. Hetzel stated that he was not in favor of the mailbox gang boxes but would like to see the parking enforced. Mr. Katz advised that no decision has been made yet. Mr. Laskoski also advised that plowing is an issue because there is no alternate nightly parking and they need to wait until vehicles are moved in order to clean up the snow islands that develop. Only if there is a snow emergency can DPW contact the police department to have a vehicle moved or ticketed. Mr. Hetzel would be in support of having alternate nightly parking during the evening hours in conjunction with the rest of the city.

4. Discussion and decision to create an Ordinance as written by the City Attorney to require a Tree Maintenance License and Insurance for tree services to do work in the City of Greenfield. (Public Works) (BPW 7/25/17, CC 8/15/17).

**Ordinance to Require a
Tree Maintenance
License and Insurance
for Tree Services
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Fermenich, the City Forester, addressed the Board stating that a few times a year he receives a call from a resident concerned about hazardous or unsafe conditions with tree trimming. The City of Greenfield requires a license for various professions, but for moving thousands of pounds of wood above a house and dangling from ropes the city has no measurement for the safety or insurance of the persons doing that work or our residents in the vicinity.

Arborists follow a set of rules called the ANSI standards. Right now Mr. Fermenich can only talk with the resident who hired these individuals and advise them that if the worker hurts themselves the homeowner will likely be liable for the worker's recovery if the company is not property insured. If we have a license requirement, residents can be given a list of those companies, and know that they are insured, and committed to following the safety standards.

In order to obtain a license the company would apply at DPW and pay a \$50 fee, show evidence of insurance and follow the ANSI standards which all tree care operations are required to follow. This permitting would allow the city to protect

the citizens of Greenfield. The new permitting process would be published in local trade magazines and newspapers as well as our city website. The DNR also produces a regular newsletter that goes out to landscape companies and those who do tree service.

Ald. Akers noted that it is really the consumers that need to be notified of this new permit as they will be the ones hiring someone to take care of their trees. Mr. Fermenich stated that he has an information booth at the Greenfield Farmers Market where he can let individuals know about the new permitting. Postings could also be done at the Library and the city website for residents to see.

Joan Stevens, Chairman of the City Tree Commission, relayed a story regarding a tree service she had hired to care for a tree on her property. The worker showed up with no hard hat or harnesses, young children as his helpers and used spikes to climb her tree which by standards is forbidden on live trees. Joan had the worker leave before completing the work and this is why she is a proponent for the license requirement as the majority of residents would not have known that this worker was not using proper protocol to work on trees.

It was moved by Ald. Lubotsky, seconded by Mr. Kasza to approve an ordinance to require a Tree Maintenance License and Insurance for tree services to do work in the City of Greenfield. Motion carried unanimously.

- 5. Discussion and decision to sign agreements with Milwaukee County to operate and maintain a traffic signal on West Layton Avenue at South 51st Street. (Engineering).**

**Sign Agreements with Milwaukee County to Operate and Maintain Traffic Signal on West Layton Avenue at South 51st Street
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Katz noted that at South 51st Street and West Layton Avenue, across from Konkel park, there is a pedestrian signal and it has not been working very well. We are going to replace that with a regular traffic signal. We need to enter into an agreement with Milwaukee County to allow the city to replace that signal on West Layton Avenue. There are times at night that the signal could go into flashing mode similar to the traffic light at South 47th Street and West Layton Avenue.

It was moved by Ald. Akers, seconded by Mr. Kasza to sign agreements with Milwaukee County to operate and maintain a traffic signal on West Layton Avenue at South 51st Street. Motion carried unanimously.

- 6. Discussion and decision to release a temporary easement for roadway purposes on West Spring Green Road. (Engineering).**

**Release a Temporary Easement on West Spring Green Road
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Katz stated that in 2017 the cul-de-sac on West Spring Green Road was reconstructed and changed from a bulb shaped cul-de-sac to a T shape. There was an existing easement that took up a lot of yard space of some of the residents there. By changing it to the T shape we no longer need the easement.

It was moved by Ald. Lubotsky, seconded by Ald. Akers to release a temporary easement for roadway purposed on West Spring Green Road. Motion carried unanimously.

- 7. Discussion and decision to release and extinguish three (3) existing city storm water drainage easements (Doc. No. 6388264, 6388265 & 6388270), being a part of Tax Key No's: 565-9990-005 & 565-9990-006. (Engineering).**

**Release and Extinguish Three Storm Water Drainage Easements.
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Katz noted that in 2016 the city entered into an agreement with David and Therese Fennelly of 12111 West Howard Avenue. We exchanged some

property to better maintain Wildcat Creek so there are now some easements that are no longer needed because the city now owns the land.

It was moved by Ald. Lubotsky, seconded by Ald. Akers to release and extinguish three existing storm water drainage easements (Doc. No. 6388264, 6388265 & 6388270), being a part of Tax Key No's: 565-9990-005 & 565-9990-006. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Discussion and decision to grant an easement to Tuckaway of Greenfield condominiums to install a fence within city right-of-way on South 31st Street. (Engineering).

**Grant an Easement to Tuckaway of Greenfield to Install a Fence in City Right-of-Way
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Katz stated that the Tuckaway of Greenfield condominiums currently have a fence installed in the city right-of-way on South 31st Street. The fence is approximately 4' into the right-of-way and has been that way for a very long time. The city has a very wide right-of-way on South 31st Street so allowing the new fence to go back in the same location as the old fence is not a problem. The reason for the new fence is partly because of the reconstruction of West Edgerton Avenue where their old fence was taken down along Edgerton Avenue so they want new fencing for their entire property.

Ald. Akers asked if we have an agreement with them that if we ever need access to the property that the condominium pay the cost of it. Mr. Katz replied that this easement would take care of that agreement.

It was moved by Ald. Akers, seconded by Ald. Lubotsky to grant an easement to Tuckaway of Greenfield condominium to install a fence within city right-of-way on South 31st Street. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Director of Neighborhood Services Report

Director of Neighborhood Services Report

Ald. Lubotsky congratulated Mr. Laskoski on his promotion to Superintendent of Public Works and also thanks to Dan Ewert for 23 plus years of service with the City of Greenfield.

Mr. Katz stated that Neighborhood Services has had a fair amount of turn over with three building inspectors leaving and/or retiring. Three new inspectors have now been hired. Chuck Erickson retired at the beginning of the year and we now have a new Community Development Manager. Dan Ewert also retired from Public Works.

10. Superintendent of Public Works Report

Superintendent of Public Works Report

Mr. Laskoski reported that Public Works has done three general snow plowing operations and six salting operations since January 1st. There are some new staff members in place so we have been training them both on salting and snow plowing as well as the facilities around the city.

LED street light installation is ongoing, so far approximately 35 lights have been changed out between South 92nd Street and South 76th Street on West Layton Avenue.

New message boards are available for use by all departments in the city. Public Works is currently using them for helping with the street lighting project.

Training has taken place on a new asphalt hot box and the entire department received training on the fork truck. Staff also attended a Diggers Hot Line

seminar and a few staff members will be attending an upcoming Arborist conference.

Public works did a retrofit on the Law Enforcement Center training room work out facility and also some rehab on the Konkel park dug out and some planters that are in the parking lot. Some grubbing and sight line improvements will be done at Kulwicki park.

Forestry continues with Public Works completing a joint effort with We Energies near South 83rd Street and West Norwich Avenue. Some vacant properties had hazard trees looming over some structures and We Energies helped out immensely on that project. Structural pruning of trees continues and we are gearing up to do some leaf grinding and composting for the year from the leaves that we collected in the fall.

11. Engineering Report

Engineering Report

Mr. Haas gave an update on the capital improvement projects for 2018. There is a reconstruction project planned for the Midland Neighborhood and a sidewalk project on West Howard Avenue at South 43rd Street. Spot concrete work will be done on West Edgerton Avenue, West Grange Avenue and South 68th Street. Pondview park, near South 35th Street and West Cold Spring Road will have a culvert replaced as well as some path repair around the pond, and various locations around the city are scheduled for a mill and overlay. Konkel park will have a pavilion built with completion expected around Memorial Day.

The Edgerton Avenue project, which was constructed in 2017, will have a final lift of asphalt and landscape restoration done. There is not a scheduled date yet but it is anticipated for April or May.

Mr. Katz mentioned that he has observed someone in a motorized wheel chair using the sidewalks on West Edgerton Avenue and Ald. Bailey stated that he was told the sidewalk on South 43rd Street is used a lot. Neighbors are also helping other neighbors with the snow shoveling.

12. Other topics for future agendas

Other Topics for Future Agendas

13. Adjournment

Meeting Adjournment

It was moved by Ald. Lubotsky, seconded by Ald. Akers to adjourn the Board of Public Works meeting at 7:27 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Young
Administrative Assistant
Department of Neighborhood Services

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