

City of Portage
Municipal Services and Utilities Committee Meeting
(This meeting will constitute a meeting of the Legislative and Regulatory
Committee as a quorum of members will be present; but no business of that
committee will be taken up.)
Tuesday, November 20, 2012 5:45 p.m.
Municipal Building, 115 West Pleasant Street, Conference Room One
Amended Agenda

Members: Jeff Garetson, Chairperson; Carolyn Hamre, Doug Klapper, Frank Miller,
Michael G. Oszman

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of meeting minutes from previous meeting
3. Discussion and possible action on footbridge at Riverwood Apartments
4. Adjournment

Jeff Garetson, Chairperson

Municipal Services and Utilities Committee Meeting
Thursday, November 1, 2012 5:00 p.m.
Municipal Building, 115 West Pleasant Street, Conference Room One
Minutes

Members: Jeff Garetson, Chairperson; Carolyn Hamre, Doug Klapper, Frank Miller

Others Present: Craig Sauer, Tim Raimer, Thomas Lorfeld, Kent Fish, Gil Meisgeier, Meg Blankschein, Kory Anderson, Marylynn Baxter, Nancy Lesh, Dick Minnema. Dir. Bob Redelings

1. Roll Call

Oszman excused

2. Approval of meeting minutes from previous meeting

Motion by Klapper second by Hamre. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Discussion and possible action on salt storage facility and presentation by Columbia County Highway Commissioner

Tom Lorfeld, Columbia County Hwy Commissioner gave brief presentation on purchasing and salt storage with the county. Railroad is most efficient delivery method but not likely to happen unless the county buys a railway car. The county has larger capacity so more cost efficient. A lot of salt left over from last year so this year's price is based on last year. Surcharge is necessary to cover the cost of maintaining buildings and equipment. The county may be able to deliver salt for the city. No action taken.

4. Discussion and possible action on In-kind services for the Surgeon's Quarters

Motion by Klapper, second by Hamre to provide snow plowing services for the Surgeon's Quarters. Miller amended the motion to say that in exchange for the snow plowing service the Surgeon's Quarters would allow free tours to Portage residents for three days a year. Motion passed unanimously.

Per Dir. Redelings it is unlikely the city will be able to waive the \$5000 cost of water hook-up, but the PSC is in the process of making a determination. However, the Surgeon's Quarters can pay over 5 years at 2.5%.

A local lawn service had indicated to Hamre they would donate lawn service next season. Nancy Lesh said she has not been contacted by the service. Hamre said she would call them again

5. Discussion and Possible Action on pedestrian bridge over canal at Riverwood Apt.

Kent Fish from General Engineering brought pictures of the bridge and indicated it was his opinion that heavy snow plow equipment or a wheel chair may not be safe to operate on the bridge due to the deteriorated condition. He said the main structure is sound but some cross supports have rusted away. He thought it would cost approximately \$10,000 to have repaired.

Motion by Hamre, second by Klapper to have Kent Fish do the engineering to repair the bridge and solicit proposals to do the work. Motion passed unanimously.

It was suggested to bridge be closed until repairs are completed. A legal opinion on what should be done in the short term will be pursued.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on retention wall at Silver Lake Beach

There is still budgeted money available for beach work so Tim Raimer has received 3 bids on beautifying the retaining wall.

Motion by Miller, second by Klapper to accept the low bid on the block wall that matches the new building and use any remaining money to add railings. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Discussion and possible action on storm water management on New Pinery Road and Collins Street; and Jefferson Street

The easement description was completed and sent to the property owners for Jefferson St work.

The trees the school wanted on New Pinery have been transplanted. Work continues to fix the water problem in the area.

8. Discussion and possible action on recycling

Recycling for curb-side pick-up has dropped 15% since the switch to cart system for garbage. Dir. Redelings is addressing this issue in the Municipal Services newsletter which should be after the election. There was discussion on possibly having a local service group go around and stencil "no recyclables" on the garbage carts. There was also discussion on going to the cart system for recyclables. The cost would be \$180,000. No action taken

9. Discussion and possible action on parking on Portage Road

Rita Maass informed the committee there is a truck entrance for Rayovac on Northport Rd. Miller said he would like input from Rayovac prior to the Council meeting as to why that entrance is not used. No action taken

10. Discussion and possible action on Public Works uniforms

This is an issue for contract negotiations but Jeff indicated he would like city employees to wear something identifiable or a vest so people know they are city employees

11. Discussion and possible action on stop lights on East Wisconsin Street at Wauona Trail

DOT has found that stop lights are not warranted on East Wisconsin St at Wauona Tr. The city may still go ahead with the project but the state cannot be held responsible if there is an accident at the intersection. The committee discussed that the lights are necessary to promote economic activity to the area and to give semi-trucks a place to safely enter East Wisconsin St. Legal will be consulted to assess any increased liability the city may incur. No action taken.

12. Discussion and possible action on alley paving

A priority list will be created on alley paving and residents may petition to be moved up on the list. 50% of cost will be assessed to homeowners based on footage. City will start next year with probably only two alleys but may be able to do more than two per year after that. No action taken.

13. Discussion and possible action on grandstand repair and storm shelter renovation projects

The state wants a study done to compare cost of renovating old vs. building new before the Grant is amended. Repair work is scheduled for next spring to be completed by the end of June.

14. Discussion and possible action on 2013 capital projects

Discussion on completing a path on Collip St so there will be a full path from the beach to Collip Worden Park. Dir. Redelings said there would be a lot of fill coming out of the St Mary's Cemetery area that may be used on Collip St. Rita Maass expressed concern over whether we will be able to fill because of marsh.

Engineering is set for next year's projects so work should be starting in April 2013

Discussion that the dump site off Wauona Trail needs to be completed because there are parties interested in purchasing.

No action taken.

15. Discussion and possible action on east Haertel Street lighting

Dir Redelings indicated we will not be purchasing lighting from Alliant but would be looking into more energy saving options including LED and Solar lighting.

No action taken

16. Adjournment

Motion by Miller, second by Klapper to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

Carolyn Hamre, Secretary