

**City of Portage
Municipal Services and Utilities Committee Meeting
Thursday February 5, 2015, 6:00 p.m.
Municipal Building, 115 West Pleasant Street, Conference Room One
Minutes**

Members Present: Doug Klapper, Chairperson; Mary E. Hamburg; Jeffrey F. Monfort; Bill Kutzke; Rick Dodd (arrived at 6:04)

Others Present: Shawn Murphy, City Administrator; Bill Tierney, Mayor; Tammy O’Leary, Public Works Secretary; Marianne Hanson, Chamber; Jeff Grothman, Jeff’s Tire; Robert Redelings Public Works Director; Craig Sauer; PDR and Bill Welsh, Cable TV.

1. Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Approval of meeting minutes from previous meeting from 1/5/15.

Motion by Hamburg second by Montfort to approve minutes from January 5, 2015. Roll call 4-0 Passed. Dodd not present.

3. Discussion and possible action on policy for commercial garbage.

City Administrator Murphy reviewed the Memo on commercial garbage collection. Committee and others present discussed options of weekly and bi-weekly commercial garbage collection from all city businesses.

Garbage carts for commercial properties will have a different colored lid. New businesses would need to purchase carts and businesses having carts would need to purchase the different colored lid.

Mr. Grothman and Ms. Hanson commended the Committee and Mr. Murphy for the attention and consideration given by the City.

City Administrator commended Columbia County Recycling Center for working so closely with the city on resolution of this matter.

Motion by Hamburg second by Dodd to recommend changing the commercial collection program to bi-weekly collection for all businesses choosing to opt-in to the program, starting in July and ending December 31. Also to recommend budgeting for weekly commercial garbage collection in 2016.

Roll Call. Passed Unanimously 5-0.

4. Discussion and possible action on 2015 Street and Utility Projects.

Redelings discussed the well-attended Public Information meeting that was just held and the success of the direct mailing. The project designs are not finalized at this time but will be within a couple of weeks. There will be a public hearing for the special assessments in early March.

No action taken.

5. Discussion and possible action on pedestrian accommodations at the West Conant Street- West Wisconsin Street intersection.

Redelings presented alternatives for pedestrian safety by the Portage Theater. Redelings stated that Dan Pruess had given advice from the D.O.T standpoint. The committee discussed several alternatives and noted there isn't any funds budgeted for this project.

Motion by Hamburg second by Dodd to recommend the Finance Committee modify the budget to fund this \$10,000 project by changing the crosswalk to a 90 degree crosswalk, removing two parking stalls in front of the Portage Theater, adding a temporary (seasonal) speed bump, adding the Rapid Flash Beacon pedestrian crossing signs and cutting the curb for handi-cap accessibility.

Roll Call. Passed Unanimously 5-0.

6. Discussion and possible action on informational signage along the levee walking path.

Klapper explain that Mr. Galley would like to add some signs to the levee walking path.

Redelings stated that the USACOE has been contacted in the past regarding this issue but hasn't responded to the city.

Mr. Grothman suggested revisiting this discussion after the Portage Pride meeting in the next few weeks.

No action was taken.

7. Public Works Director's Report.

Redelings stated that the department has been busy getting the projects ready for 2015. Individual projects will be going out for bids within the next few weeks.

City Administrator Murphy stated that Columbia County, DNR, DOT and others are going to meet the last week of February to discuss the Highway 51 project and Canal project impacts on the County building project.

8. Adjournment

**Move to adjourn at 7:13 p.m. by Monfort and second by Dodd.
Roll call. Passed 5 -0.**

Prepared by Tammy O'Leary, Public Works Secretary.