



Public Works Committee
Tuesday, March 14, 2023
6:00 p.m.
Cravath Conference Room
Municipal Building - 2nd Floor
312 W Whitewater St
Whitewater, WI 53190

MINUTES

1. Call to order and roll call

The regular meeting of Public Works was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Allen.

Present: Gerber, McCormick, Allen

Others: Brad Marquardt

2. Approval of minutes from February 14, 2023

It was moved by McCormick and seconded by Gerber to approve the Public Works Committee minutes from February 14, 2023.

AYES: All by via voice vote (3). NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

3. Hearing of Citizen Comments

There were no hearing of citizens comments at that time.

4. New Business

Allen asked the committee members to change the order of new business. The Johns Disposal discussion was moved to the top of the list.

c. Discussion and Possible Action regarding Strand Task Order 23-4 for the design of water main to serve Johns Disposal.

Brian, the president of Johns Disposal, introduced himself along with Britten, from Angus-Young, the architectural/engineering firm representing Johns. Marquardt stated with the recent fire at Johns Disposal and water quality issues with their well, Johns Disposal requested the water main be extended to their site. Strand's Task Order is to provide engineering services to design and provide bidding documents for approximately 2,300 feet of watermain. The project would tie into the watermain that feeds WE Energies (formerly LSP) on the west side of their property and extend the watermain to approximately the east property line of Johns Disposal.

The design plan would take place early this spring and summer with bidding for construction going out by late summer or early fall. The estimated fee based on an hourly rate plus expenses is not to exceed \$43,000. While money was not specifically budgeted for this project in 2023, money was already borrowed for the Vanderlip lift station project, which was not awarded. Staff is in the process of trying to secure additional funding for that project. Therefore, funds for the Vanderlip project can be reallocated to this project. In 2022, Reel submitted an application to the Clean Water Fund for a low interest loan and possible principle forgiveness on part of that loan. Marquardt stated they just found out the City's

ranking last week. There were 13 pages of projects and the City's project was on page four. Many municipalities put their name on the list and then decide they are not ready to move forward with the project. Marquardt stated he will be submitting an application to move forward on that process. In talking with the DNR, they believe that anyone who wants to move forward in the application process will have their project approved because of all the extra federal monies now available. Marquardt is anticipating getting that money to pay for the Vanderlip lift station project, which would free up the money to do the Johns Disposal project. Johns Disposal and the Wastewater Facility will be responsible for a portion of the design and construction cost through special assessments.

Brian, from Johns Disposal, stated this project is a potential benefit for the future (long-term) water connection further east. Marquardt stated it is the City's long-term plan that this would continue east and hook up with the water main by Generac to complete the loop.

Gerber asked why this project has to be done now. Marquardt stated the water quality of the well at Johns is under orders by the DNR. Brian, from John's Disposal, stated their level of arsenic is too high. If Johns had fewer than 25 employees they would be fine. Since they don't, they are required to take care of it. Brian said they will be in trouble if they do not take care of this issue. He stated they also want to have the project done for fire suppression as well. Brian asked if it would help to phase the project starting on the west side of their property first and then going to the east side of their property. Marquardt stated it would construction wise, but then the City would end up paying more money in the future.

It was moved by McCormick to approve Strand Task Order 23-4 for the design of water main to serve Johns Disposal and seconded by Gerber.

AYES: Allen, McCormick, Gerber. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

d. **Discussion and Possible Action regarding granting an easement to Johns Disposal for a driving aisle to access parking stalls.**

Marquardt turned this discussion over to Brian and Britten for further discussion.

Britten stated Johns Disposal is reached by a private drive that is shared by the Wastewater Utility and WE Energies. There is currently pavement that extends up to the property line. When the architectural firm was doing the design of the addition, they tried keeping the same pavement coming across but it crossed the property line. The parking itself would be on their property. It was mentioned the building has the appropriate setbacks from the property line. Britten stated it would be just a drive aisle and enough space to back out of the stall and drive to the other parking lot on the north side of the facility, which is fully on their property line. It would be the parking stalls immediately west of the building that would need the additional space having the appropriate drive aisle. Brian stated they really need every parking space they can get. They currently have cars parked where trucks are trying to get through, and this would really help to organize the parking situation. With the additional entrance to this new parking area, it would create a safer environment from the car to the large truck traffic.

McCormick asked Brian if there were plans to replace the building. Brian said they are running 24 hours a day in their Racine County facility. Things are sent to Whitewater from all over the state and northern IL. They do divert some items to different parts of the state. McCormick specifically asked about rebuilding the recycling plant. Brian said they are well on their way. They currently have two recycling buildings in Whitewater. It was the new one that burned in Whitewater. They are currently moving back into the original one they built in 1988. They had a 15-week goal and they have about seven weeks left; so, they are partially running. They can remove about 80% of the recycling and the rest is sent to Racine.

Marquardt reiterated the private drive is technically private property and is not in the right of way. If it was right of way, they would not even entertain giving an easement to have that in our public right of way. Since it is private property, owned by the City, granting the easement is not an issue. Johns does

maintain that area already with mowing grass and picking up trash, etc. From the Public Works standpoint, there is no opposition of letting them use that area. Allen stated he appreciates the efforts of Johns for picking up the garbage along Hwy U and the private drive.

Allen moved to approve the easement to Johns Disposal for a driving aisle to access parking stalls, contingent upon Plan Board approval of the office, and seconded by McCormick.

AYES: McCormick, Gerber, Allen. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

Marquardt stated this item will be taken to Council on March 21, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

a. Discussion and Possible Action regarding Resolution Authorizing Submission of Grant to Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for Storm Water Planning Purposes.

Marquardt stated the City has a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit from the DNR requiring the City to make improvements to the overall storm water system, in particular improving the water quality before it enters into the waters of the State. In 2015, the City received a Planning Grant from the DNR to develop a Stormwater Quality Management Plan and Report, which was completed in 2017. The City has been using this Plan to help guide projects and improvements to help meet the requirements of the MS4 permit. With the help of Strand, the City is preparing an application for a planning grant to update the Management Plan to incorporate past projects, update our Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and Phosphorus removal percentages, incorporate new anticipated requirements from a new MS4 permit in 2024, update potential projects, and update the storm sewer map.

There is no cost for submitting the application. If selected, the grant covers 50% of the cost. There are a number of requirements with the application process. One being a resolution authorizing the appropriate City official to sign the application and grant, if selected. Marquardt stated the authorizing person would be listed as the city manager, and not a person. In addition, we must provide three letters of support from different organizations. Marquardt did reach out to the Chamber, Downtown Whitewater, and the Rock River Coalition. If selected and approved to move forward by the Council, money will be budgeted in the 2024 Stormwater Utility budget for work to begin in 2024.

The MS4 permit requires the City to make continual efforts in meeting the reduction goals of TSS and Phosphorus. Updating our Management Plan continues to meet this requirement and will help guide the City over the next five years on projects that can be implemented to achieve the MS4 goals. Staff recommends approval of the attached Resolution to be sent to the full Council for action.

McCormick moved to approve the Resolution Authorizing Submission of the Grant to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for Storm Water Planning Purposes and seconded by Gerber.

AYES: Gerber, Allen, McCormick. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

b. Discussion and Possible Action regarding payment to the Town of Cold Spring for reimbursement of repaving portions of Howard Rd within the City limits.

Marquardt stated he worked with the Town of Cold Spring on planning the repaving of Howard Road from STH 59 to the Walworth County line in the summer of 2023. Town of Cold Spring plans on advertising in late March with bid opening in April. The majority of Howard Road is half in the City and half in the Township with pockets where the full right-of-way is in the Township. The City is responsible for the portions within the City limits. It makes sense from a construction stand point and fiscally that the City's portion is completed at the same time as the Township's.

An estimated cost for this project is around \$340,000 with the City's estimated cost at \$170,000. There are sufficient funds in Fund 280-Street Repairs to pay for this improvement.

Gerber asked if the cost was lower through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Marquardt thought it was but the Cold Spring Township had concerns with some possible requirements of the project. Gerber asked what happens if the price of the project comes in more than expected. Marquardt said if that happens he would expect to hear from the township.

McCormick moved to approve the payment to the Town of Cold Spring for reimbursement of repaving portions of Howard Rd within the City limits and seconded by Gerber.

AYES: Allen, McCormick, Gerber. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

e. Discussion and Possible Action regarding Strand Amendment to Task Order 22-05 for performing Construction Related Services for the installation of the Southwest Water Main Extension.

Marquardt stated Strand Task Order 22-05 was for the design and bidding of the southwest watermain extension, which is the extension of watermain from the new water tower east to the railroad tracks. The original Strand Task Order 22-05 was approved at the Public Works Committee and Common Council in April 2022. The proposed amendment would be for Strand to attend the preconstruction meeting, provide staking, shop drawing review, provide construction inspection, review pay requests, and prepare record drawings.

The amendment raises the compensation from not to exceed \$34,200 to \$78,200. \$575,000 was budgeted for design, construction and inspection. The low bid for construction was \$451,700, combined with \$78,200 from this amendment puts the overall project under the budgeted amount.

Allen stated more times than not items like this are brought back to this board after the contractor finds limestone. He asked if there is a chance they will come back with these findings? Marquardt stated not on the construction side. Borings were done and they found the rock depths and rock excavation was shown on the plans.

McCormick moved to approve the Strand Amendment to Task Order 22-05 for performing Construction Related Services for the installation of the Southwest Water Main Extension and seconded by Allen.

AYES: McCormick, Gerber, Allen. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

f. Discussion and Possible Action regarding Strand Task Order 23-06 for the design of Walworth Avenue.

Marquardt stated the City is receiving Federal funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for the repaving of Walworth Avenue from Janesville Street to the Rock/Walworth County line. Due to the Federal funding, the design of Walworth Avenue must follow the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's procedures for plans, specifications and estimates, known as the PSE package. Strand's Task Order includes work related to Design Reports, Environmental Documentation, Agency Review, Utility Coordination, Public Involvement, Surveys, Road Drawings, Temporary Limited Easement Acquisition, Meetings and the final PSE package, all of which are requirements.

The Common Council approved the State Municipal Agreement at their February 7, 2023 meeting.

Marquardt stated the estimated, not to exceed, cost to complete the above required task is \$296,000. This project was not specifically listed in the 2022/2023 budget and therefore is not budgeted for at this time. However, there is sufficient money in Fund 280-Street Repairs to start paying for the design over the next two. Future discussion on budgeting and possible TID involvement will take place during the upcoming budget discussions for 2024.

David Stone, 303 W. Ann St., spoke regarding TID. He asked that any projects involving TID money go before the CDA. Marquardt acknowledged the CDA would be involved with these discussions regarding TID money.

McCormick moved to approve Strand Task Order 23-06 for the design of Walworth Avenue and seconded by Gerber.

AYES: Gerber, Allen, McCormick. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

g. Discussion and Possible Action regarding Strand Task Order 23-05 for the design of Innovation Drive.

Marquardt stated the City is receiving Federal funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for the repaving of Innovation Drive from Technology Drive to Howard Road. Due to the Federal funding of this project, the design of Innovation Drive must follow the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's procedures for plans, specifications and estimates, known as the PSE package. Strand's Task Order includes work related to Design Reports, Environmental Documentation, Agency Review, Utility Communication, Public Involvement, Surveys, Road Drawings, Meetings and the final PSE package, all of which are requirements.

The Common Council approved the State Municipal Agreement at their February 7, 2023 meeting.

Marquardt stated the estimated, not to exceed, cost to complete the above required tasks is \$82,000. This project was not specifically listed in the 2022/2023 budget and therefore is not budgeted for at this time. However, there is sufficient money in Fund 280-Street Repairs to start paying for the design. Future discussion on budgeting and possible TID involvement will take place during the upcoming budget discussions for 2024.

McCormick moved to approved the Strand Task Order 23-05 for the design of Innovation Drive and seconded by Gerber.

AYES: Gerber, Allen, McCormick. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

h. Set new date and time for April meeting.

Marquardt stated Allen and Gerber had a conflict with the Public Works Committee Meeting scheduled on April 11, 2023. In addition, McCormick will also no longer be on City Council after April 18, 2023. The committee agreed the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 12, at 5:30 p.m.

5. Future Agenda Items

There were no future agenda items at that time.

6. Adjournment

It was moved by McCormick and seconded by Gerber to adjourn the Public Works Committee Meeting at 6:47 p.m.

AYES: All by via voice vote (3). NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Stoll, Administrative Assistant
Department of Public Works