

**CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON  
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023**

**ROLL CALL:** Chairman Jason Wittek called the Board of Public Works meeting to order at 5:35 pm prior to an on site tour of Valley Creek, beginning on the Interurban Trail at Jackson St. Members present: Alderman Mike Gasper, Alderman John Sigwart, Alderman Patrick Tearney, and Jim Haley. Also, present were Director of Public Works Rob Vanden Noven, City Engineer Roger Strohm, Street Commissioner JD Hoile, Parks and Forestry Supt. Jon Crain, Water Utility Supt. Dan Fisher, and Wastewater Supt. Dan Buehler. Cam Pauli was absent for the Valley Creek tour, but present at City Hall when the meeting reconvened at approximately 6:30 pm.

**Tour of Valley Creek:** Rob Vanden Noven led a tour of Valley Creek. The Board walked approximately 3,000' north of Jackson St. on the Interurban Trail and then walked back. Mr. Vanden Noven pointed out areas of creek downcutting, bank erosion, and dying trees. He informed the Board that several grant applications had been submitted to various agencies for the purposes of stream restoration, bank stabilization, flood prevention, and habitat restoration. Any grants requiring City contributions beyond budgeted amounts in the operating and capital budgets will be brought to the Board. The City has been awarded grand funding for planning (Fund for Lake Michigan), Guenther Pond Restoration preliminary engineering (NOAA), and Habitat Restoration (Krier Foundation) in Birchwood Hills. The tour was for information only.

**Chairman's Business: None.**

**Approval of Minutes for February 14 and April 11, 2023:** Motion to approve by Patrick Tearney. Seconded by Cam Pauli. Motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comments/Appearances:** Ald. Jonathan Pleitner, 1890 Aster St. informed the Board that he contacted the residents of Hidden Hills regarding the proposal to reduce STH 33 to one travel lane with a bike lane in each direction, and he received 10 comments in favor of keeping the 4 lanes striped as they are today. Mr. Pleitner wants to keep the four lanes as well. Troy Kasten, 290 Sweetwater Blvd., told the Board that he agrees with Jonathan.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

- A. **Presentation by Miller Engineers on Schematic Engineering Report for North Beach Bluff.** – Emily Blum and Roger Miller of Miller Engineers and Scientists presented to the Board their Schematic Plan Summary Report for the Upper Lake Park Bluff and North Beach. They explained the investigative work they performed including soil borings and completing topographic and bathymetric surveys that were used for the basis of their conclusions. The recommended course of action is the installation of 3 drain pipes, installation of a stone revetment at the base of the bluff, beach nourishment, and excavation of the bluff to a 2:1 slope, and moving approximately 600' of roadway 50' to the west.. Ald. Gasper asked how long the beach nourishment would last. Miller estimates 30 – 50 years before additional nourishment would be required. They also informed the Board that the revetment would be approximately 10', and that there would be deep rooted plants on the hillside, including

junipers. Roger Miller suggested that if money is a factor, he would go with Option B, which cut back the bluff for approximately 400 LF. At an upcoming meeting of the BPW, they will present their proposal to complete the engineering work. This was for information only.

- B. Consideration and Possible Action on a proposal to reduce STH 33 from four lanes to two lanes, with an on-street bike path between CTH LL and Jackson Rd.** – Rob Vanden Noven explained that WisDOT has requested that the City and Town of Port Washington as well as the Village of Saukville consider a proposal to re-stripe STH 33 between CTH LL and Northwoods Rd to a single travel lane plus a bike lane in each direction when the highway is resurfaced in 2027. Rob Vanden Noven reviewed with the Board that WisDOT had overestimated the traffic projections on STH 33 during the original design process in the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Their 2011 traffic projection was 22,500 vpd between Martin and Market Streets, and 13,750 vpd between Martin and Tower. In 2030, they projected the traffic to be 33,700 vpd between Market and Martin, and 20,280 between Martin and Tower. Mr. Vanden Noven informed the board that originally, the DOT projected even higher numbers, but he strenuously objected to their estimates. Now, in 2023, the current traffic counts are 8,700 vpd immediately east of Martin Dr., and 7,200 vpd immediately west of Tower Dr., a 37%-47% decrease in traffic over the course of 10 years. Chairman Wittek described the WisDOT proposal as “too little, too late”. Ald. Gasper spoke of his disappointment with WisDOT routinely overdesigning highways. Because the curbs will not be moving, Mr. Vanden Noven recommended that the highway continue to be striped for 4 lanes, as there is an off street multi-use path already in place. Motion by Patrick Tearney and seconded by John Sigwart to keep STH striped for four lanes. The Board voted 5 – 1 to keep 4 lanes, with Ald. Gasper casting the dissenting vote.
- C. Consideration and Possible Action on Bids Received for the 2023 Sidewalk Improvement Project-** Roger Strohm reviewed with the Board the bid tabulation for the 2023 sidewalk replacement project. The City is continuing its Sidewalk Replacement Program this year with a project that focuses on the northeast portion of the City (Seven Hills Road south to Norport Drive and Wisconsin Street East to Groeschel Road) and Garay Lane. An alternate bid was requested for James Drive and Antoine Drive. However, there are insufficient funds to cover the alternate bid. Only 2 bids were received, with the low bidder being Primoris Electric. Primoris Electric was last year’s sidewalk contractor and did a good job. Staff recommended award of the 2023 contract (base bid only) to Primoris Electric. Motion by John Sigwart, seconded by Mike Gasper to award the base bid to Primoris Electric. Motion passed unanimously.
- D. Consideration and Possible Action on a Proposal from Strand Associates for Spring Street Interceptor Engineering Design Approval-** Roger Strohm reviewed with the Board an engineering proposal from Strand and Assoc. to design sanitary sewer improvements on S. Spring St. to increase the capacity of the main between 1<sup>st</sup> Ave and the intersection of Park St./Chestnut. The current interceptor is 12” diameter vitrified clay pipe (VCP) and surcharges during wet weather. Six residents have stated that they have experienced backups. Modeling of this sewer shows that 10 of the 12 segments of the sewer will surcharge with future development. The modeling assumes a 10-year storm. Larger storms are likely to surcharge all 12 segments. Also, this sewer currently runs beneath the Veolia building on S. Park Street. There is even a manhole in the building.

The proposed solution is to install a parallel 15” diameter PVC sewer and realign the sewer so that it does not run below a building. This will eliminate bypass pumping during construction and the cost of installing sanitary laterals across Spring Street. The sewer does cross the railroad tracks, which adds to the construction costs to meet the conditions of the railroad company. This project is estimated to have a cost of \$1,100,000 including design, bidding services, and railroad permitting. The cost of the Strand proposal is \$79,000, however, with DNR and railroad permitting costs plus geotechnical services added, the design cost could reach \$100,000. Motion made by Mike Gasper, seconded by Cam Pauli, to approve the contract with Stand, for a total “not to exceed” cost (including DNR and railroad permitting plus geotechnical services) of \$100,000. Motion was approved unanimously.

**E. Consideration and Possible Action on Payment to WE Energies for Relocation of Transformers and Upgrading of Power at the Water Filtration Plant** – Roger Strohm explained that the planned upgrade to the Water Filtration Plant requires a building addition which will be located where the current secondary feed transformer is located. This requires moving the transformer and the service connections points. While construction is ongoing, we will need temporary service from WE Energies. Overall, the improvements to the Water Filtration Plant has resulted in five projects for WE Energies.

- Provide temporary electric service. \$8,335.28
- Relocation of Plant 1 service \$21,147.01
- Relocation of Plant 2 service \$33,036.30
- Removal of Transformer and Emergency Service \$6,567.49
- Permanent Service Hookup \$2,830.60

Motion by Jim Haley, seconded by Patrick Tearney to approve payment to We Energies for the electrical work at the Water Utility as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**STAFF UPDATES:** Rob Vanden Noven reviewed the staff reports from Engineering, Wastewater, Water, Street, Park, and Marina with the Board. Dan Fisher made a brief presentation on the Utility’s Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) highlighting newly added content and appearance of the report.

**Forthcoming Events:** None

**ADJOURNMENT: MOTION BY PATRICK TEARNEY AND SECONDED BY Cam Pauli to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.**