

**CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2011**

ROLL CALL: Chairman Craig Czarnecki called the City of Port Washington Board of Public Works meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. in the Lower Level Conference room at the City Hall. Members present: Alderman Mike Ehrlich, Alderman Jim Vollmar, Alderman Paul Neumyer and Kevin Rudser. Also present were: City Engineer Vanden Noven, City Administrator Mark Grams, and Wastewater Supt. Dan Buehler. Absent and excused: Board Member Peter Herrmann and Water Supt./Street Commissioner Dave Ewig.

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS: There was none.

APPROVE MINUTES: MOTION BY ALDERMAN PAUL NEYMYER AND SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MIKE EHRLICH to approve the minutes from June 14, 2011 as present. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/APPEARANCES: There was none.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Consider Upper Lake Park Bluff Stabilization: City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven reviewed this item with the Board. He stated that recently, the Ozaukee Press and two aldermen have been critical of the existing north beach access between the new timber stairway and the beach. This area of access requires constant maintenance by the Park and Rec Department to remove a steady flow of mud that seeps from the embankment. Because the embankment is unstable, the access area will continue to have mudslides on an occasional basis, and oozing mud on a regular basis. Suggestions of building boardwalks and minor retaining walls are, at best, very temporary solutions. Any such improvements would likely last less than on year and prohibit access to the beach. There was a bluff stabilization concept plan prepared by JJR in 2001 for the Council that City Engineer Vanden Noven reviewed for the Board Members. Staff recommends that the Board of Public Works take a position on this issue to either support bluff stabilization, or endorse the status quo. If the decision is made to support bluff stabilization, the BPW should include in its recommendation to the Council the amount of money that should be committed to this project. The City Engineer would anticipate that the minimum cost of any meaningful improvements would start at \$100,000 (engineering and construction) and involve cutting the bluff back as far as the existing access road on top in the area of the beach access. Bluff stabilization north of the existing access road would require reconstruction of the access road, or converting the southbound loop to a two-way street. Board Members discussed various options for the bluff stabilization and decided to table this item until Staff had a chance to talk to various Engineering firms. Alderman Vollmar asked staff to have the Gillen Company look at the situation and give the City a free design and estimate. **MOTION BY CRAIG CZARNECKI AND SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MIKE EHRLICH to table this item until Staff has discussed this item with some Engineering firms. Motion carried unanimously.**

B. Bluff Stabilization Behind WWTP: City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven reviewed this item with the Board Members. He stated that the western access to the North Beach has approximately 100 LF of 7' high retaining wall behind the WWTP that is failing. The wall is a "bin type" wall with steel construction. Repairs would require excavation of the existing wall and replacement. The existing walkway is passable, however, the asphalt path is being shoved upwards, making the fence top at "eye

level” for those over 6’ tall and Staff believes that there are safety concerns with the barbs on top of the fence. Rough estimate of cost would be \$50,000 for engineering and construction. Staff recommends options include: 1. Repair immediately. 2. Wait for failure or until path is impassible and then repair. 3. Wait for failure or until path is impassible and close west access. 4. Use \$50,000 +/- to improve the eastern access around the WWTP, and close off the west access (wall would still require repair upon complete failure). Suggested improvements to the eastern access could include: 1. Moving the existing light poles to the west side of the fence to make it less constricted and wheelchair accessible. 2. Replace the existing barbed wire/chain link fence with ornamental fencing for either the sections adjacent to Veteran’s Park, or the entire property. We have already planted Bittersweet vines along the eastern path in an attempt to shield, soften and improve the scent of the walkway. Board Members discussed this item and decided to monitor the situation and take a wait and see approach. **MOTION BY CRAIG CZARNECKI AND SECONDED BY ALDERMAN JIM VOLLMAR to monitor the situation and take a wait and see approach on the bluff stabilization behind the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Motion carried unanimously.**

At this 6:04 p.m., Chairman Craig Czarnecki left the meeting and Vice-Chairman Jim Vollmar took over.

C. Consider Fish Day Power Pedestals: City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven reviewed this item with the Board Members. He stated that on North Lake Street, WE Energies will be burying all power lines between Washington Street and Veteran’s Park. This will result in the removal of three services that are used for Fish Day. One is owned by Rotary, one by the Leathernecks, and one by Port Fish Day, Inc. In order to replace the services, a private electrical contractor will need to be hired to replace them. The existing services are located in the ROW by permission, not by right. Therefore, the owners of these services should be required to replace the pedestals, not the City. The estimated cost is \$1,000 per service. The question is whether or not the City should reimburse these entities for replacement of the existing services. Because they exist by permission of the City and because they are privately owned, Staff believes that they should be replaced by the individual groups at their expense, however, Staff is asking the BPW to consider this item before Staff proceeds to notify the affected parties. **MOTION BY ALDERMAN MIKE EHRLICH AND SECONDED BY ALDERMAN PAUL NUEMYER to notify these individual groups that the pedestals will be removed and these individual groups will need to replace them at their expense. Motion carried unanimously.**

OLD BUSINESS:

PROJECT UPDATES:

- a. **Hwy. 33:** City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven stated the Hwy. 33 Project is behind schedule. The traffic on Hwy. 33 in the winter will probably be on the east side of the road. They hope to have the bridge abutments down this week.
- b. **Fish Cleaning Station Improvements:** City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven reported that the landscape improvements look very nice. He stated that with help from several civic groups the Fish Cleaning Station is very much improved.
- c. **Oakland Avenue Railroad Crossing:** City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven discussed the Oakland Avenue railroad crossing with the Members. He stated that he is still working on this item. City Planner Randy Tetzlaff will be talking to the Bike Trail Committee regarding the future location of the bike path.
- d. **North Lake Street:** City Engineer Vanden Noven informed the Board Members that he had been working with WE Energies with the street lights and this project should be starting after Labor Day.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS: Maritime Heritage Festival will be held on August 19 to August 21, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION BY ALDERMAN MIKE EHRLICH AND SECONDED BY KEVIN RUDSER to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.