

**CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012**

ROLL CALL: Chairman Craig Czarnecki called the City of Port Washington Board of Public Works meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. in the Lower Level Conference room at the City Hall. Members present: Alderman Mike Ehrlich, Alderman Jim Vollmar, Alderman Paul Neumyer, Board Member Kevin Rudser, and Board Member Peter Herrmann. Also present were: City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven, Water Supt./Commissioner Dave Ewig, City Administrator Mark Grams, and Wastewater Supt. Dan Buehler.

Chairman's Business: There was none.

Approval of Minutes: **MOTION BY MIKE EHRLICH AND SECONDED BY PETER HERRMANN to approve the minutes from June 12, 2012 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

Public Comments/Appearances: There was none.

New Business:

A. Consider EAB Treatment Options: City Engineer Vanden Noven reviewed this item with the Board Members. He stated that in June, Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) was detected on Powers Street. Several trees in that area and downtown have been identified as having been killed by the EAB. Now the EAB has become prevalent in SE Wisconsin, it appears most communities with street trees are treating for EAB, including Milwaukee, Shorewood, Whitefish Bay, and Cedarburg. There are two types of treatments that are primarily used: Imidacloprid and Tree-age. The imidacloprid can be administered through soil injections as well as trunk injections. Tree-age is only administered through trunk injections using a drill (Imidacloprid is administered with a needle). Staff is recommending selectively treating primarily the White Ash species with soil injected imidacloprid and fertilizer. Street Department Employee Jon Crain reviewed his report for the Board Members. The estimated total DBH of identified ash trees for treatment is 6,500 x \$2/dbh = \$13,000. Additional cost for updating tree management software and updating inventory (necessary for tracking treatment and maintenance of all trees is \$5,000. This is for street trees only and does not include park trees. Staff recommends the City budget \$13,000 per year for the treatment of selected Ash Trees, plus \$2,500 for 2013 for ½ of the cost of the tree inventory/management software and data collection. Staff also recommends applying for a DNR Urban Forestry Grant for updating the tree inventory/management and also for ½ of the cost of EAB treatment. If we are not successful in obtaining grant funds, we would still treat for EAB, but wait on the tree inventory/management updates. Board Members discussed this item. **MOTION BY JIM VOLLMAR AND SECONDED BY MIKE EHRLICH to recommend to the Common Council to approve budgeting monies for 2013 for the treatment of EAB and to apply for a DNR Urban Forestry Grant for monies for treating the EAB and updating the tree inventory/management software. Motion carried unanimously.**

B. Consider Signage On STH 33: City Engineer Vanden Noven reviewed this item with the Board Members. He stated that at recent Common Council meetings, several members of the Council have expressed a desire to reduce signage on STH 33. Staff has asked the DOT to advise the City on their policy for highway signage, particularly in regards to the roundabout. Per the DOT letter of August 29, 2012, at the completion of the project, the City may eliminate signage that is not specifically required

by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (a federally accepted standard). The City has this flexibility because STH 33 is a designated “connecting highway” in Port Washington. City Engineer Vanden Noven reviewed the signage plan with the Board Members, indicating the signage that the City may remove. Board Members agreed to various signs being removed from STH 33. The DOT will receive a list of all signage being considered for removal by the City for final approval. All signage removed will be at the City’s expense. Sign removals and relocations would be made by DPW personnel as an operating expense. Removal of the overhead signage would be performed by a contractor and paid using borrowed funds. **MOTION BY CRAIG CZARNECKI AND SECONDED BY MIKE EHRLICH to recommend to the Common Council a list of signage on STH 33 to be removed or relocated. Motion carried unanimously.**

C. Consider STH 33 Parkway And Sidewalk Maintenance: City Engineer Vanden Noven reviewed this item with the Board Members. He stated that the improvements to STH 33 have added additional sidewalks, multi-use trails, and parkways than previously existed. Because of the varied nature of the fronting lands ownership (City, County, Utility, Town, Business, Residential, front, rear, and side properties), staff is asking the Board Members to review staff’s recommendation for maintenance of the parkways and sidewalks/path and approve it as a policy. The Board Members reviewed the recommendations and agreed to the new policy.

D. Consider North Beach Walkway Around WWTP: City Engineer Vanden Noven and Wastewater Super. Buehler reviewed this item with the Board Members. They stated that this summer, the BPW and Common Council discussed ways of improving the entrance to the North Beach, particularly along the asphalt pathway immediately north of the timber staircase. In response, the DPW channeled the flow of mud, and bids were taken on soil boring with the intent of ultimately stabilizing the bluff along the beach. Additionally, the walkway leading between Veteran’s Park and the North Beach provides additional opportunities for improvement. Specifically, the eastern path is obstructed by light poles in the middle of the walkway, and the existing barbed wire, chain linked fencing around the WWTP is unattractive and uninviting. In the past 2 – 3 years, the DPW has planted Wisconsin-native vines along the fence to improve the aesthetic and olfactory experience of the beach-goers, while the Park and Rec Department has planted several arborvitae along the fence adjacent to Veteran’s Park. Staff would like to relocate the lights for a cost of \$25,000; replace the fencing for a cost of \$49,000; and plant more arborvitae for a cost of \$1,000. The total estimated cost would be \$75,000 and would be budgeted from the Wastewater Utility’s Surplus Funds. Staff recommends budgeting \$75,000 for the moving of the light poles off the North Beach Path and replacing selected fencing at the WWTP in addition to landscape enhancements. Board Members discussed this item and also suggested painting murals on the WWTP tanks. Board Members agreed to that this was a great idea and money should be budgeted for it. The Board Members recommended including \$75,000 in the 2013 WWTP Budget for these ideas and for the mural.

E. Discuss Alley Between Schooner Pub And Port Washington Historical Society Museum: City Engineer Vanden Noven and Alderman Mike Ehrlich reviewed this item with the Board Members. They stated that the alley in question is currently used by both pedestrians and vehicles. In the Tax Increment District Project Plan, the alley was designed for redevelopment as a pedestrian way. The Port Washington Main Street Design Committee prepared a concept plan for the alley along with a concept plan for the municipal parking lot to the rear (known as the Smith Brothers parking lot). The Public Works Committee listened to a presentation back in June 2010 by the Main Street Committee. Since that time, the owners of the Schooner Pub and now the Port Washington Historical Society have been working on plans to better utilize the alley. The Plan Commission recently approved a building and site plan for the new museum that includes a walkway, stairs, and planters along the building. In addition, the owners of the Schooner Pub would like to widen the sidewalk along their building and extend their

rear deck over a small portion of the alley. In addition, to make these projects viable, as discussed in June 2010 presentation, the overhead utilities lines must be buried. In order to proceed on these projects and improvements, the following actions are needed by the Board of Public Works: 1) Recommend eliminating future use of the alley for vehicular traffic. The alley would continue as a public way; 2) Recommend the elimination of the existing power poles and for the burying of the overhead utility lines; and 3) Recommend as per the TID Plan, that TID monies be used to complete the redevelopment of the alley including utility work, decorative surfacing of the pedestrian walkway, perhaps some decorative entry on each end, and lighting. Alderman Ehrlich is the projects architect for the museum project and has been communicating with the owners of the Schooner Pub regarding their plans. The TID Plan estimated the costs for the alley to be approximately \$20,000 and over \$320,000 for the parking lot including utility relocation. **MOTION BY JIM VOLLMAR AND SECONDED BY KEVIN RUDSER to recommend to the Common Council approve the concept plan as presented. Motion carried (5-Ayes; 1-Abstained (Ehrlich)).** **MOTION BY JIM VOLLMAR AND SECONDED BY PAUL NEUMYER to recommend the Common Council approve a license agreement with the Port Washington Historical Society for use of the alley consistent with the plan (in the future, when Schooner Pub's plan is submitted to Plan Commission, the Board of Public Works also recommends that the Common Council approve a license agreement with them). Motion carried (5-Ayes; 1-Abstained (Ehrlich)).**

6. Old Business: There was none.

7. Project Updates:

a. Hwy. 33 Project: City Engineer Vanden Noven informed the Board Members that the street lights have been energized. The DOT will add seed and weed killer to the parkway areas. Some barrels and detour signs are still out. Also, there are a few items on the punch list that need to be taken care of.

b. Coal Dock: City Engineer Vanden Noven informed the Board Members that the bids for the Coal Dock Park Project were opened. The low bid was Heartland Construction with TP Concrete doing the concrete work. Pheifer Construction will be working on the pedestrian bridge. The work will begin in October and hopefully will be finished by March 2013.

8. Forthcoming Events:

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION BY JIM VOLLMAR AND SECONDED BY KEVIN RUDSER to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.