

\*\*\*Public Works and Parks Meeting  
\*\* May 26, 2009  
\*Whiting Municipal Center  
\*Time: 6:02 to 7:00

Attendance: Chris Brindley (chair), John Wachowiak, Al Walkush, Kevin Lutz, Sarah Gilbert, Cheryl Coulthurst, Jeff Schlegel, Matt Riberich, Jerry Walters, Paul Stroik.  
Excused committee member: Francis Eiden

1. Review of Public Works & Parks budget.

2. Open bids for crack sealing. Discussion/action on crack sealing village streets.

One bid received, Chris B opened up Fahrner Asphalt bid. \$9,425 total price. Package includes 3 year guarantee and road inventory which would meet the DOT standards due December 2009. Bid covers 32 streets and Village Hall Parking lot, Upper Parking lot (Currier St), Lower Park lot and Pump station. The village Pump station cost would come out of Utilities budget. Work would begin after June 9. Motion by John W to go with Fahrner bid, not to exceed \$10,000. 2nd by Cheryl C. Motion carried.

3. Discussion on Sherman Ave speed bumps by River View Lodge.

Chris B advised Lem Laury from River View Lodge requested speed bumps be installed near the River View Lodge to prevent drivers from cruising down Sherman Ave, thus slowing vehicles down. Per Jerry Walters request would need to go to the Pan Commission and have owners pay for speed bumps. Chris B put request on hold until more information is gathered.

4. Update on purchase of Neenah Paper property.

Jerry W advised purchase of 43 acres has been done. He would like part of the village picnic monies raised be used for preparing area for park land. Will need a resolution for Village to put property on as Park Property (conservancy). Jeff S advised he would like to have sheds torn down; especially on the trail; as soon as possible. Jerry W contacted Glen Fulkowski (DNR) regarding availability of any funds available for clean up. He has also contacted the Portage County Land Preservation Fund to see if there are any funds available.

5. Discussion/Possible action in creating a dog park in the village.

Chris B advised there is a section of partially fenced land on the Neenah Paper property that might make a good dog park area. The fence is in need of some repair, the area is devoid of shrubs and trees. The area is easily assessable from the Green Circle Trail.

John W raised a couple of issues - Parking issue, need to make area residents aware of situation, and how is this going to be paid for in future years. John advise he would like to see a plan on paper. Chris agreed a plan is needed. Also since the area is off the Green Circle Trail, some of the users would come from there. There is a need for a parking lot, could the lot be used for fire fighters for training? There is a need in the community for this. The closes one now is in Wisconsin Rapids and fire fighters are now being charged to use the area.

Jerry W would like to see a sub-committee formed with at least 2 fire fighters being involved. There should also be topographical done and input by Core of Engineers regarding what can and can't be done because of wetland area.

Sarah Gilbert made a motion to get sub-committee to investigate with fire fighters to check on feasibility, cost and details for dog park and fire fighters training

building. 2nd by John Wachowiak. Motion carried.

Volunteers for committee: Sarah Gilbert, John Wachowiak, Matt Riberich, Chris Brindley, and 2 yet to be named Whiting Fire fighters.

6. Update on urban forestry grant.

Matt Riberich advised plan is moving along. The inventory park is done, Blue Stem Forestry has gone through the entire village and advised there are 1,100 village trees. They are working on a management plan and EAB (how things are done).

The evasive plant removal has not been started yet. Matt is also waiting until the management plan is completed before beginning any pruning.

7. Update on seasonal employee.

Jeff S advised 2009 original hire did not work out and is no longer working for the village. They reran ad for seasonal worker and have hired Pat Ligman. \$10.00/hour and he is also volunteering some time. Currently working 40+ hours a week.

8. Public Works and Parks Director report.

-maintenance on 1999 Ford F450, 2006 John Deere 727A lawn mower, 2006 John Deere 1445 lawn mower, 2007 Kromer Athletic field groomer, 2008 Aerial lift basket.

- playground maintenance
- ball field start up. dethatch, fence repair, fertilize
- street sweeping,
- install signs around McDill School
- cold patch village streets
- village hall - dethatch, start irrigation, pruning, landscape bed clean up, fertilize and general building maintenance
- new village truck should be delivered mid-July

Jeff S advised there is a slight problem with Pond. East gate has small tree or branch which was pulled down from the flow. They may need to raise the east gate. There is also an issue with the Lower Park bathroom regarding keeping it clean.

The McDill School has requested street closure for May 29 @ 10:00 for a parade. Parade route - School St, east on Elm, to Airline and back to school.

There have been some complaints about someone perhaps living in the park near Currier St. Sarah G advised she has seen and increase of traffic an debris lately.

9. Tree City USA Report - Arbor Day Celebration.

Matt R advised Arbor Day Celebration held at McDill School on May 14. About 37 students participated. Four trees were planted. Chris B, Sarah G and Pat Ligman assisted. Along with good activities done at celebration the teachers also had students do an activity before May 14. The children received a book about urban forestry called "The Forest where Ashley Lives" and their own personalized tree medallions.

10. Other such matters.

- Cheryl C attended May 19, 2009 Lake District Meeting
- John W advised he would like to see a Village Hall security plan. All firefighters are given a code to access the building, which gives them access to the entire building. If they leave the fire dept, they still have the code to the building.
- Chris B advised he would like to see the Village logo on the village truck at all times.

Motion by John Wachowiak to adjourn. Second by Al Walkush. Motion carried.

R respectfully submitted by Cheryl Coulthurst

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