

Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes  
July 17, 2012  
Conference Room

Call to order 10:02 A.M. By Councilwoman Szukala. Szukala asked if there were any objections to her chairing the meeting for Councilman Gonzalez. (excused) No objections.

Members in attendance: Councilwoman Szukala and Councilman Michalski

Also in attendance: Stephanie Kiyak, Bill Rivera, Tony Gugino, observer writer, Al Zurowski, Ron Szot and Zen Olow.

Lake Front Boulevard repairs along with Sea wall improvements were discussed by Tony Gugino. As long as the footprint of work does not change, an extension has been granted. When city agrees on how to move forward, a proposed plan will be sent to the Army Corp. of Engineers to review. Green Technology is currently being explored, with the hope that grant money will be available. Along with the phase 3 bike path, according to the 2004 grant, \$80,000 is allocated for a new playground at Wright Park. \$51,241 for construction of playground, \$21,981 for Admin. Costs, with a maximum total of \$79,102. Kiyak felt the city should put out another RFP for the sea wall. Szukala asked how Tony felt and if it would cost any more money, and if it jeopardizes our time frame and extension. He agreed it was possible and the council will wait to hear about a meeting to go over spec plans from Nussbaumer and Clark. This will give us a guideline and a starting point for \$\$ and work. Council in attendance agreed to seek another RFP. Kiyak asked where we advertise the RFP, and Tony replied on the internet thus reaching far and wide. Mike asked what happens if permit expires, and Tony replied the Army Corp. will not be very happy and not eager to work with city again in the future on other projects.

Tree removal was briefly discussed and a spreadsheet was given to council for our use. City workers are not trained in removing branches near wires. The city does what it can, time permitting and then forwards the tree list we can not complete to National Grid for them to cut. It costs Approximately \$1000 to cut 1 tree. We are not mandated to cut trees that cause sidewalk issues, ugly or healthy trees, or trees causing sewer issues.

The hot patch schedule of streets as well as paving was discussed. Tony informed council that NO streets will be paved this year. We will carry over all money allocated for paving (\$278,000 CHIPS) to next year and get more streets paved. Any firm will more than likely give us a better rate if we have more money to work with. Tony referenced Ruggles Street and Lincoln Avenue, stating they were done correctly last year. All streets should be done this way.

Bill questioned the Howard Avenue Bridge. Tony reported that the large barriers are the result of residents ignoring the small barricades and there was not going to be any work

done to fix the bridge in the near future. Back in 2004 the cost was \$150,000 to fix and now in 2012 the cost for repair is near \$250,000. Bill Rivera also asked Tony for help on a portion of Lucas Avenue. There is a large hole in the ground. Temp. snow fence will be put up and work on this site is on the list. Szukala asked if the large potholes on Nevins street were repaired yet. Tony replied no.

Szukala then asked about the railroad property, stating she called Mr. Morris and had a pleasant conversation and he assured the grass would be given attention along the tracks in fourth ward as well as Franklin Avenue. A couple days later, the grass was sprayed with weed killer. This only changed color of the 4-5 foot weeds. It still needs to be cut. As of today, that has not been done. The contact number was given to all in attendance, and they were urged to call by Councilwoman Szukala.

Lastly, Zen Olow from Harbor Commission asked about subletting the launch. This would be up to harbor commission to discuss and get back to the council with suggestions. Stephanie wanted more info about the Harbormasters duties including hours and rate of pay. It is a mayoral appointment and \$10,000 is budgeted for 3 employees. They work 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. 7 days a week. They also return in afternoon for a few hours. This is seasonal April through September. They tend to fish station, bathrooms, wash docks, weed control along curbing.

Meeting adjourned 11:17 A.M.