

CITY OF LAKE GENEVA SPECIAL PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, March 22, 2022 4:00 P.M.
LAKE GENEVA CITY HALL; COUNCIL CHAMBERS (LOWER LEVEL)

Members: Chairperson Cindy Flower, Mary Jo Fesenmaier, Rich Hedlund, Tim Dunn, & John Halverson

Chairperson Flower called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Flower, Fesenmaier, Hedlund

Absent: Dunn, Halverson

Comments from the public as allowed by Wis. Stats. §19.84(2), limited to items on this agenda
Comments will be limited to 5 minutes

Sarah McConnell, 21 Lakeview, Lake Geneva spoke on behalf of the Avian Committee regarding what we plant. Entire nation is learning the importance of native planting in support of native bird migration. She suggested not all green space needs to be mowed and encouraged native plantings locally.

Approval of the February 28, 2022 Public Works Committee meeting minutes as prepared and distributed

Ald. Hedlund motioned to approve the February 28, 2022 minutes, second by Fesenmaier. Chairman Flower wanted to correct that the Hwy 50 project is scheduled through 2026. No further discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Alderman Flower motioned to suspend the rules and move item 7, Roadside Plantings up on the agenda, second by Ald. Fesenmaier. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion/Recommendation Roadside plantings. Ald. Flower

Chairman Flower directed the committee to page 25 in the packet to review an example of the British Beekeeping Association as a reference point on how they saved \$25,000 in mowing expenses, keeping beautification of the city and developing ecosystems in our planning. Chairman Flower and the committee identified locations to consider planting native plants i.e. Edwards Blvd. from Hwy 50 south to Bloomfield Rd., by the Riviera Beach where there are steep slopes, the Disc Golf Park, along the White River where there may be a need for tree plantings, the triangular section in Longland Park off of Williams St., and possibly in front of the Geneva Lake Museum. Dir. of Public Works, Earle referenced page 16 in the packet listing the number of hours and estimated cost for maintaining those areas at roughly \$36,000.

Ald. Fesenmaier noted that visibility and maintenance need to be taken into consideration, and she would like to refer this agenda item to both the Park & Tree Board. She recommended looking to other internal city committees to find ways to reduce costs or perhaps find volunteers to donate their time and/or talent. Director, Earle said DPW supports educating staff on native plantings, the building of ecosystems, and also recommended it be sent to the Park Board.

Dir. Earle would like more specific detail to the recommended selection of native plantings based on various location to help determine a maintenance plan, timeline and if the fall would be feasible timing for installation.

Chairman Flower suspended the rules for Sarah McConnell to speak, second by Hedlund. Motion carried 3-0.

Sarah McConnell pointed out that Roy Diblik from Northwind Perennial Farm has donated time and talent for a similar project for another organization.

Chairman Flower motioned for educating the staff on native plantings, supplying details for recommended locations and a timeline to the next Park Board meeting on April 19th, second by Hedlund. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion/Recommendation year round parking

Parking Manager Elder referenced page 6 & 7 of the packet showing a cost of \$100,000 to extend paid parking for an additional ten or eleven weeks. He stated, the revenue has the potential to increase a couple hundred thousand dollars above and beyond expenses. Chairman Flower said she believes people find the paid parking being turned on and off confusing.

Ald. Hedlund motioned to send year-round paid parking to the next FLR, seconded by Ald. Flower. Motion carried 2-1. Ald. Fesenmaier not in favor at this time.

Discussion/Recommendation WisDOT Hwy 50 project (Feb)

Hedlund referenced the WisDOT packet material under item E and asked if the WisDOT intends to expand to four lanes making good on the contract. Director Earle stated the request was denied by the state and are currently keeping to two lanes. Ald. Hedlund would like to see the WisDOT commit to their proposed four lanes. Dir. Earle would like to use the traffic count study from the construction of Dunkin Donuts and approach the state to do so. Dir. Earle also shared that the Beautification Committee expressed interest in upgrading some city light poles.

Ald. Flower recommended the PWC create a series of motions to address a response to the WisDOT letter from Ryan Bernard.

Ald. Hedlund motioned staff to obtain cost estimates for specialized non-standard signal poles requested by the city/Beautification Committee to use for the project cost estimate with an option to opt-out, second by Fesenmaier. Motion carried 3-0.

Dir. Earle mentioned issues with pedestrian crossings up towards St. Francis by Curtis and West Street going across Hwy. 50.

Ald. Hedlund motioned to pursue enhancing the existing crosswalk at West Street and Hwy 50 and look into a crosswalk at Curtis Street, signage or pedestrian safety enhancements, second by Ald. Fesenmaier. Motion carried 3-0.

Dir. Earle suggested it might be to the city's advantage to consider requesting cost analysis to upgrading the path / multi-use connection between the Chateau hotel located at 135 W. Main St. and Edwards Blvd..

Ald. Fesenmaier motioned for staff to obtain a cost estimate on Hwy 50 south-side sidewalk, north-side to include multi-use on the north, second Hedlund. Motion carried 3-0.

Ald. Fesenmaier motioned for staff to obtain cost estimates on 4-lanes, and a 3-lane taking into consideration the traffic count on weekends vs. a week day, second by Hedlund. Motion carried 3-0.

Ald. Hedlund motioned converting Edward Blvd. at Hwy 50 southbound left lane, to a northbound left lane towards the gas station (3rd entrance), and moving/extending the median taking into consideration possible increase in cost by the city, second by Fesenmaier. Motion carried 3-0.

Ald. Fesenmaier motioned State to consider for review and provide cost to include an East leg crossing the bike path at Hwy 50 & Edwards, second Hedlund. Motion carried 3-0.

Ald. Fesenmaier requested a copy of the letter to the State for the next meeting, and Ald. Fesenmaier to ask the City Clerk to create a separate tab on the website on the Hwy 50 project.

Discussion/Recommendation regarding possible placement of a traffic signal at Center Street and Interchange North **Ald. Flower**

Chairman Flower referenced page 31 of the packet, item 5 impact study interested in figuring out if these they meet warrants and if the city should be charging for these things or other options requesting from the county. Dir. Earle has had discussions with the county and he was told their eleven years out. If the city paid for half of a warrant study around \$7,000

Ald. Hedlund motioned for the city/DPW to pay for half of a warrant to place a traffic signal at Center Street and Interchange North, second by Ald. Fesenmaier. Chairman Flower added that the condition of the pavement and timeframe to repair of eleven years is unacceptable. Flower moved to amend the original motion to include the staff to draft a letter for FLR to review and be sent to the County to explore road improvements earlier than the stated eleven year review from George St. to the roundabouts. Motion carried 3-0

Discussion/Recommendation Library Park sidewalk upgrades. **DPW (Feb)**

Earle referenced where the \$40,000 is allocated for upgrading the Library Park sidewalks. Committee agreed to alternatives such as brick, or dyed concrete.

Ald. Hedlund motioned to obtain pricing on options i.e. inlay, brick, dyed, or stamped concrete, second by Ald. Fesenmaier. Chairman Flower said if there are funds left over she would like to see applied to other sidewalks/slabs of concrete. Motion carried 3-0.

Future Agenda Items

Ald. Fessenmaier handed committee suggested agenda items.

Ald. Hedlund motion to adjourn at 5:33 pm, second by Chairman Flower. Motion carried 3-0.

This is a meeting of the Public Works Committee. No official Council action will be taken; however, a quorum of the Council may be present.