

**Board of Public Works
of the City of Onalaska**

Tuesday, May 5, 2015

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1 The Meeting of the Board of Public Works of the City of Onalaska was called to order at 6:30
2 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5, 2015. It was noted that the meeting had been announced and a notice
3 posted at City Hall.

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5 Roll call was taken with the following members present: Mayor Joe Chilsen, Ald. Jim Bialecki,
6 Ald. Barry Blomquist, Financial Services Director/Treasurer Fred Buehler, City Engineer Jarrod
7 Holter

8

9 Also Present: Ald. Bob Muth

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11 **Item 2 – Approval of minutes from previous meeting**

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13 Motion by Ald. Bialecki, second by Ald. Blomquist, to approve the minutes from the previous
14 meeting as printed and on file in the City Clerk's Office.

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16 On voice vote, motion carried.

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18 Item 4 was addressed first.

19

20 **Consideration and possible action on the following items:**

21

22 **Item 4 – Election of:**

23

24 A. Chair

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26 Motion by Mayor Chilsen, second by Ald. Blomquist, to nominate and elect Ald. Jim Bialecki as
27 Chair of the Board of Public Works.

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29 On voice vote, motion carried.

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31 B. Vice-Chair

32

33 Motion by Mayor Chilsen, second by Ald. Bialecki, to nominate and elect Ald. Barry Blomquist
34 as Vice-Chair of the Board of Public Works.

35

36 On voice vote, motion carried.

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38 **Item 3 – Public Input (limited to 3 minutes/individual)**

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40 Ald. Bialecki called for anyone wishing to provide public input.

41

42 **Dale Oestreich**
43 **Wisconsin Department of Transportation Representative**

44
45 “I’m a planning supervisor here for the La Crosse office. I wanted to have a statement read into
46 the record regarding the issue for the left-turn lane at South Kinney Coulee Road and [State
47 Trunk Highway] 16. The [DOT] fully supports the proposal that’s on the table to extend the left-
48 turn lane. Doing so would address our safety concern with turning traffic spilling into the
49 through lanes, and also finalize the commitment from the city on the Gundersen TEA Project. I
50 also would like to point out that we are, however, very disappointed with the inability of the
51 affected parties to work out any alternate access for Farm and Fleet in regards to their left-
52 turning vehicles. Understanding that we’ve allowed time to work this out, and with the inability
53 of the parties to reach some compromise, we’re ready to move forward at this point. That would
54 be the department’s position.”

55
56 Ald. Bialecki called three times for anyone else wishing to provide public input and closed that
57 portion of the meeting.

58
59 **Item 5 – Review and consideration of installing State Trunk Highway 16 left-turn lane**
60 **extension at South Kinney Coulee Road and Pralle Center Drive extension, including**
61 **possible Farm and Fleet access, including impacts to commitments to Wisconsin**
62 **Department of Transportation Economic Assistance Grant**

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64 Motion by Mayor Chilsen, second by Ald. Bialecki, to satisfy the Wisconsin Department of
65 Transportation Economic Assistance Grant and approve the installation of State Trunk Highway
66 16 left-turn lane extension at South Kinney Coulee Road, with no improvements to Pralle Center
67 Drive.

68
69 On voice vote, motion carried.

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71 **Item 6 – Review and consideration of Evenson Drive request for traffic calming measures**

72
73 Ald. Bialecki noted that board members had received a copy of a letter dated Tuesday, March 24
74 from Brian Zach, 2102 Evenson Drive, Onalaska. Ald. Bialecki also noted there has been
75 dialogue at City Hall regarding motorists who allegedly exceed the speed limit in Green Coulee.
76 Ald. Bialecki said the Police Department had temporarily placed a speed box in the
77 neighborhood. Ald. Bialecki also said the Police Department had explained to Brian Zach that it
78 did not have the resources to place officers in the neighborhood. Ald. Bialecki said it is his
79 understanding that the residents in the neighborhood would like the city to consider other options
80 such as curb build-outs or possibly speed bumps. Ald. Bialecki noted he had spoken to residents
81 in the neighborhood, and they understand that speed bumps are not the best solution as they
82 would impede snow plowing and possibly present a public safety hazard. Ald. Bialecki said he

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83 was told that 70 percent of the motorists who exceed the speed limit reside in the neighborhood.
84 Ald. Bialecki said a resident who stays at home and cares for his children monitors which
85 motorists are speeding and has recorded the license plate numbers of nine or 10 vehicles that
86 belong other residents in the neighborhood. Ald. Bialecki noted that Green Coulee residents
87 receive a neighborhood newsletter that ran a piece asking motorists not to exceed the speed limit.
88 This proved to be effective, but only temporarily. Ald. Bialecki reiterated he does not believe
89 bump-outs or speed bumps are viable options, and also stated it is not possible to consistently
90 place patrol cars in the neighborhood. Ald. Bialecki referred to a motorist who, while not seen
91 by law enforcement speeding on State Trunk Highway 35, received a citation from the La Crosse
92 County Sheriff's Department after being reported by a citizen and suggested that Green Coulee
93 residents report any motorists who are speeding to the Police Department. Ald. Bialecki noted
94 the speed box that was placed in the neighborhood is capable of recording data and asked who is
95 monitoring this data. Ald. Bialecki asked Ald. Muth if warning citations could be issued to
96 motorists who exceed the speed limit.

97

98 Ald. Muth deferred to Jarrod.

99

100 Jarrod said the speed trailer cannot take photographs. However, it can record data such as a
101 vehicle's speed. This data is put into a table; however, it does not associate it with a particular
102 vehicle. Therefore, citations may not be issued.

103

104 Ald. Bialecki said he believes the two viable options are either to place the speed box and record
105 data or ask residents to report motorists who exceed the speed limit to the Police Department.
106 Ald. Bialecki noted that a patrol car had been placed in the neighborhood in addition to the speed
107 box. However, this was only a temporary solution.

108

109 Jarrod said he has numerous discussions regarding speed, traffic calming measures and stop
110 signs over the course of a year. Jarrod said he attempts to explain to residents of a particular
111 neighborhood that he does not see what occurs there on a daily basis, but rather he sees the city
112 as a whole. Jarrod said the Police Department attempts to enforce posted speed limits.
113 However, Jarrod also said he agrees with Ald. Bialecki in that if there is not a consistent Police
114 Department presence in a neighborhood, motorists still will exceed the speed limit.

115

116 Jarrod said, "We haven't put a lot of traffic-calming measures out in our city. We haven't really
117 developed a formal policy on those requests. As you know, in 2003 [County Trunk Highway]
118 PH was rebuilt. We put speed tables in that neighborhood. That was a specific instance of 'cut-
119 through' traffic, though. We have really tried to keep our street system free of any items across
120 the way. This individual [Brian Zach] has been adamant. He's been in my office I know of at
121 least four times. He's delivered the petition from the residents."

122

123 Jarrod said the Engineering Department could research crash history and traffic counts in the

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124 neighborhood and suggested that perhaps the street could be narrowed and include storm water
125 features. Jarrod also mentioned speed tables, traffic circles and raised intersections as possible
126 solutions and noted that the neighborhood's residents must drive on its streets daily. Jarrod said,
127 "I think if we're going to do anything in that neighborhood we would have to invite all the
128 residents in and get all their concerns and all their sentiments if we wanted to go down that route.
129 The other obstacle in this is eventually, how and where do we pay for it? If we wanted to do
130 something, my thought would be it would go into the Capital Improvements Budget like an alley
131 project or any other project that's requested. We would prioritize it when we're going through
132 the list. I don't have a specific recommendation on which way to head. I was looking for
133 committee input and see where we wanted to go."

134

135 Ald. Bialecki reiterated that it seems a majority of the individuals who are speeding reside in the
136 neighborhood and that residents must police each other. Ald. Bialecki also stated he does not
137 believe the traffic-calming measure to which Jarrod had referred belong in the Capital
138 Improvements Budget.

139

140 Mayor Chilsen said he would speak with Police Chief Jeff Trotnic about possible solutions.

141

142 Ald. Bialecki suggested that Police Chief Trotnic discuss the matter with the Board of Public
143 Works.

144

145 Jarrod asked Ald. Bialecki if he would like to see this item placed on the June 2 Board of Public
146 Works meeting agenda and invite Police Chief Trotnic to the meeting. Jarrod said he also can
147 bring the speed table data to the June meeting.

148

149 Ald. Bialecki said yes and asked Jarrod to email Brian Zach a copy of the minutes from this
150 evening's meeting. Ald. Bialecki said Brian is welcome to attend the June meeting and noted
151 that speed tables were installed on CTH PH because several motorists who did not live in the
152 neighborhood utilized the road.

153

154 **Item 7 – Review and consideration of closing access to Main Street right of way at 1st**
155 **Avenue South**

156

157 Jarrod referred to a photograph showing what is referred to as the "Fisherman's Parking Area,"
158 which sits below Main Street. Jarrod noted that on Monday city staff had blocked off access to
159 this parking area with signage. This is due to Burlington Northern Santa Fe's request to thwart
160 trespassers from going underneath the trains as they sit parked and waiting to enter the yard.

161 Jarrod noted that this has been a long-standing area that has been utilized and said he wanted to
162 make the board aware of staff's actions.

163

164 Motion by Ald. Bialecki, second by Ald. Blomquist, to close access to Main Street right of way

165 at 1st Avenue South.

166

167 On voice vote, motion carried.

168

169 **Item 8 – Review and consideration of Mayo Clinic Traffic Impact Study, including request**
170 **for secondary access within Wisconsin Department of Transportation access control area**
171 **at US Highway 53 and County Trunk Highway S (Sand Lake Road)**

172

173 Jarrod noted that board members' packets include a draft of the Mayo Clinic Traffic Impact
174 Study. Jarrod also noted that since board members received their packets a conference call had
175 taken place between the traffic engineer, Mayo Clinic's engineer and the city's traffic engineer.
176 Comments on the traffic study have been finalized, and the involved parties have reached mutual
177 conclusions regarding minor alterations that need to be made to the copy of the study before the
178 board this evening. Jarrod said it is his goal to have a final copy of the draft study ready within
179 the next week, and also said he is recommending that the board approve the traffic study,
180 including revisions called out by himself as well as requests made by WisDOT regarding the
181 secondary access point shown in the traffic study.

182

183 Motion by Ald. Bialecki, second by Mayor Chilsen, to approve Mayo Clinic Traffic Impact
184 Study, including request for secondary access within Wisconsin Department of Transportation
185 access control area at U.S. Highway 53 and County Trunk Highway S (Sand Lake Road).

186

187 Jarrod noted that the secondary access called out in the report is a roundabout and said
188 discussions must take place with WisDOT as it currently is in an access-controlled area. Jarrod
189 noted that it not only is an access issue, but it also is a safety issue due to the long linear layout
190 of the site.

191

192 On voice vote, motion carried.

193

194 **Item 9 – Review and consideration of La Crosse County Trunk Highway SN project letter**
195 **of support for Surface Transportation Project – Urban and Transportation Alternative**
196 **program grant programs**

197

198 Jarrod said La Crosse County is working on a project for County Trunk Highway SN that runs
199 from CTH OT, which lies on the city's northern limits line, to the Village of Holmen. Jarrod
200 noted that the 2015 STP Urban Program only has approximately \$900,000, and also noted that
201 on the last cycle in 2013 the city had received nearly \$2 million of the \$3 million in available
202 grant funding. Jarrod said he believes it is best to support La Crosse County's project and noted
203 the proposed project would include the installation of intersection improvements on CTH OT
204 and CTH SN. Jarrod said doing so will benefit the city's northern residents as they access CTH
205 OT and out to U.S. Highway 53. Jarrod also noted that La Crosse County will be applying for

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206 bicycle and pedestrian funding for an off-street trail.

207

208 Motion by Ald. Bialecki, second by Ald. Blomquist, to approve La Crosse County Trunk
209 Highway SN project letter of support for Surface Transportation Project – Urban and
210 Transportation Alternative program grant programs.

211

212 On voice vote, motion carried.

213

214 **Item 10 – Pay Estimates: Strand Associates, Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc., Ayres**
215 **Associates, Mathy Construction, Haas Sons, State of Wisconsin Department of**
216 **Transportation and any other contractor/developer**

217

218

**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
MONTHLY ESTIMATES**

219

220

221

May 5, 2015

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<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Original Contract Amount</u>	<u>Change Orders</u>	<u>Paid to Date</u>	<u>Due this Estimate</u>
1. HAAS & SONS				
2015 Utility Project Construction Estimate #1	\$ 792,679.65	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 296,004.37
2. STRAND ASSOCIATES				
Well #9 Construction Estimate #1	\$ 157,200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,836.53
3. STRAND ASSOCIATES				
Well #9 Safe Drinking Water Loan Assistance Estimate #1	\$ 16,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 112.80

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Motion by Ald. Bialecki, second by Ald. Blomquist, to pay the three estimates as dated May 5, 2015.

Jarrold noted that the Haas & Sons estimate had been lowered by approximately \$7,000 between the time the packet was sent out and tonight's meeting.

Reviewed 5/7/15

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248 Ald. Bialecki asked Jarrod if any alley paving could occur if there is extra funding available.

249
250 Jarrod said this would be possible and that the list of Capital Projects could be reviewed.

251
252 Ald. Bialecki said he believes a number of requests have been made in the past few years.

253
254 Jarrod said it would be possible to obtain a quote from Mathy Construction as part of the 2015
255 Paving Project.

256
257 On voice vote, motion carried.

258
259 **Adjournment**

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261 Motion by Ald. Bialecki, second by Ald. Blomquist, to adjourn at 6:48 p.m.

262
263 On voice vote, motion carried.

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266 Recorded by:

267
268 Kirk Bey