

VILLAGE OF GRAFTON
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 10, 2014

The Board of Public Works meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Sue Meinecke.

Board members present: Trustee Sue Meinecke, Trustee Dave Antoine, Pat Murray, Les Blum, and Trustee Lisa Harbeck.

Staff present: Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Dave Murphy, Utility Superintendent Tim Nennig, and Administrative Assistant Melissa Depies.

Other Officials present: Trustee David Liss

Public present: Ed Lamb, Brian Smith, Mike Brown, and Bill Hass.

HEAR PERSONS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD

None

MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Blum, seconded by Mr. Murray, to approve the October 13, 2014, Board of Public Works meeting minutes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS

Falls Road design update

Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Dave Murphy explained that the Village and the Town have been working together for several years to design a cross section for Falls Road improvements that both communities are in agreement with.

The Town of Grafton would like to simply pulverize and repave Falls Road without any additional upgrades. The Village of Grafton would like to provide safe pedestrian travel by widening the road, adding sidewalks, and bike lanes. Town Board members believe that having sidewalk in front of the town properties would cause a hardship for those property owners in keeping the sidewalk cleared of snow and ice. Town Board members were also concerned with the special charges that were being incurred for those properties, stating that the special charges were too much if those properties were ever annexed into the Village.

Village President Jim Brunquell and Town Chairman Lester Bartel met to come up with a design that both communities could approve. Village Administrator Hofland and Dave Murphy facilitated the design. The cross sections agreed on are being presented tonight.

Mr. Murphy presented and explained the cross-section that was agreed to.

- The pavement will be reduced by narrowing the travel in lanes to the minimum allowed, which is 10 feet. Same width as it currently is.
- From Cheyenne Avenue to Shasta Avenue: the north side of the road will include a three foot paved shoulder and the south side of the road will have a 13 foot paved section that includes an eight foot shared use lane with a five foot buffer section. A rumble strip has been added to the travel lane edge to alert drivers should they veer off the travel lane. This option will save cost in ditching and grading yet still provide a safe bicycle/pedestrian path.
- From Cheyenne Avenue to Blackhawk Valley: the north side of the road will include a three foot bike lane and curb and gutter. The south side of the road will have curb and gutter, a 4.5 foot terrace (paved), and the eight foot shared use path.

The shared use path would be plowed by Village crews. The eastern portion of the project would be done with a large truck, plow, and wing, the western portion would be done with a pickup truck with a plow blade.

Mr. Blum questioned why the eastern portion included a paved terrace and the western portion was grass. Mr. Murphy explained that the grade of the land and storm water management were the determining factors on this.

Trustee Harbeck questioned if this information will be included as an IFC for board members prior to the joint meeting. Mr. Murphy did not believe so.

Trustee Meinecke questioned what the cost savings was for this change. Mr. Murphy stated that adding two feet of asphalt, removing the sidewalk, and reducing the grading and ditching work should reduce project cost by approximately \$80,000.

Mr. Murphy stated that the road should be posted, no trucking, to preserve the pavement and the Village and Town need to create an ordinance for this to occur.

Mr. Murray questioned if this design would change the grade of any of the driveways. Mr. Murphy responded that most driveways will be somewhat improved; however, there may be some that are slightly worse.

Trustee Antoine questioned when we were anticipating a project start. Mr. Murphy stated that he is aiming for a project start of April of 2015 with substantial completion by the end of July.

Brian Smith, 2402 Kiowa Drive, had several questions as he was representing himself as well as several of his neighbors:

1. What is the Town / Village paying for on the section from Cheyenne Avenue to Shasta Avenue? Mr. Murphy responded that the Town will be paying for the pavement in the road and two feet of the shoulder. The Village will be paying for additional grading and the remainder costs.
2. Why do the properties in the section from Cheyenne Avenue to Blackhawk Valley get curbs and storm sewers and the remainder of the project has open ditches. Mr. Murphy explained that curbs and storm sewers are necessary due to the

steep hill. Curbs and storm sewers will help eliminate erosion that is currently happening during and after heavy rain events. Also, Blue Stem has four lots that will need storm laterals; therefore, a storm sewer needs to be installed in this section.

3. Is there any way to provide a greater definition between the road and the pedestrian walkway other than the rumble strip; with this plan there is nothing to stop a car should it slide or veer off the roadway? Mr. Murphy indicated that the five foot buffer area was included for that reason. Mr. Smith questioned how wide the rumble strip was. Mr. Murphy responded that state standards would be followed for the rumble strip which he believed to be between six and 12 inches.

Ed Lamb, 1915 Shasta Avenue:

1. What will the speed limit be once the road is improved? Mr. Murphy responded that the posted speed limit will be 25 mph, Village and Town will both be the same. The Village still needs to pass an ordinance changing the speed limit from 35 mph to 25 mph.
2. What is the projected traffic volume? Mr. Murphy stated that currently he believes that approximately 1,200 vehicles travel Falls Road each day. We anticipate that it will double once the road is improved and Meijers opens, so somewhere between 2,000 and 4,000 vehicles per day. Mr. Murphy noted that Blue Stem Subdivision will extend Cheyenne Avenue and in the future the road will continue to River Bend Road which will add another way in and out of the Village.
3. Who plows Falls Road? Ed indicated that sometimes it is plowed and other times it is not. Mr. Murphy stated that the Village crewpersons plows Falls Road; however, Falls Road does have snowdrifts often because of the open fields.

Mr. Lamb stated that he would highly recommend some kind of barrier between the roadway and the pedestrian path. He has witnessed many cars in the ditches for various reasons, and he does not want anyone hurt. He also suggested removing the three foot paved shoulder from the north side of the road and make the buffer lane eight feet rather than five feet. Mr. Murphy stated that bicycles will ride on the westbound lane and we need to give them some room, so the three foot shoulder needs to be retained. The five foot buffer is adequate, especially with the rumble strip being added.

Mike Brown, 2367 Kerres Court, questioned if it was possible to have a storm sewer drain directly into a ditch? Mr. Murphy stated yes. Mr. Brown then suggested that curb be installed the entire length of the project as a separation barrier between the roadway and the pedestrian path. He is very concerned regarding pedestrian safety, stating that if a car would hit the rumble strip he could either; correct his driving and go back into the lane of traffic or he could veer further off onto the pedestrian path. Mr. Murphy stated that this design would not work due to the shallow ditches.

Mr. Murphy stated that this project is very hard to design because there are two communities trying to do what they believe is in the best interest of their residents. The Town will not approve any plan that has large special charges outstanding to their property owners, some type of agreement needs to be achieved to move this project forward.

Mr. Brown questioned if the property owners between Cheyenne Avenue and Blackhawk Valley would have special assessments. Mr. Murphy stated that there would be special charges for the water main only: the Town is funding the road work, and the Village and the Town are negotiating the cost of the sidewalk, curb and gutter.

Mr. Lamb questioned if Blue Stem subdivision was part of the Village or the Town. Mr. Murphy stated that Blue Stem has already been annexed to the Village. Mr. Lamb commented that with all the tax money that comes from Falls Crossing Subdivision and the potential tax money from Blue Stem Subdivision, four homeowners should not be able to hold up this project. Trustee Liss commented that town property owners are not willing to maintain the sidewalk at all.

Motion by Mr. Blum, seconded by Mr. Murray, to recommend the Village Board accept the cross sections as presented. Motion carried.

Project 14-06 / Bridge Street Dam Lighting – Change Order 1

Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Dave Murphy explained that the lights specified in the bid package are not reaching the light level needed for the desired effect. Mr. Steiner has modeled 17 lights under the bridge and the eight to 10 foot candle requirement was still not being met.

Mr. Steiner and the light manufacturer recommend a Lumenpulse LBG light. The photometric drawing for this light indicates that it will provide the required level of lighting with only 10 lights, however the fixture is more expensive. There would be an additional charge of \$7,600.

Administrator Hofland is discussing this matter at the Public Arts Board and will be seeking additional donations to fund this change.

Trustee Meinecke questioned why it was not determined prior to project bid what type of lights would be most effective for this project. Mr. Murphy stated that the MSOE professor was given direction to provide a plan for lighting the dam within a certain budget; therefore, the students and professor specified a less expensive light hoping it would reach the necessary levels.

Mr. Blum stated that it was known that this application would be close to the maximum throw of light. He stated that a higher foot candle is needed because the project involves shooting the light off of the water rather than wall.

Trustee Meinecke suggested adding language into the motion indicating that the additional funds needed would not come from the taxpayers. Trustee Antoine stated that it has always been the goal that this project would be funded by donations with no tax dollar assistance. Trustee Harbeck was against this language being included in the motion.

Bill Hass stated that he attended the Public Arts Board meeting this evening and much of the cost increase has already been donated, only an additional \$2,100 needs to be raised.

Motion by Trustee Antoine, seconded by Trustee Harbeck, to recommend the Village Board approve change order 1 to Steiner Electric to change the light fixtures to 10 Lumenpulse LBG lights for a cost of \$7,600. Motion passed 4-1 (Meinecke – nay).

Project 14-07 / House Razing – Change Order 1

Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Dave Murphy stated that Guelig's Waste Removal & Demolition was contracted to raze three homes: 1005 Beech Street / 905.907 Beech Street / 1421 Wisconsin Avenue. A fourth home, 1001 Beech Street, also needs to be razed. Guelig's Waste Removal & Demolition provided a quote of \$11,400; however, this quote does not include disconnection of water and sewer. If the Village would like him to include this work, the cost would be increased to \$15,400.

Mr. Murphy stated that the Public Works crews can complete the water and sewer disconnection for much less; therefore he recommended that the \$11,400 be approved.

Mr. Blum questioned if this quote included any asbestos removal. Mr. Murphy explained that the home is currently being tested for asbestos; if found then another firm will be contracted to complete the asbestos removal. Mr. Blum questioned if asbestos was found in the other three homes. Mr. Murphy responded that all three homes did have asbestos.

Motion by Mr. Blum, seconded by Mr. Murray, to recommend the Village Board approve Change Order 1 for Project 14-07 / House Razing – 1005 Beech Street / 905.907 Beech Street / 1421 Wisconsin Avenue, in the amount of \$11,400. Motion carried.

Major projects update

Street Reconstruction: Road project is complete; however, the contractor will need to come back in the spring to complete final restoration and any touch up work that is needed.

Report of benchmark measurements - Department of Public Works

Director of Public Works Murphy stated that crews are busy with leaf collection. Hoping to have the majority of the leaves collected by the end of the week, with one final sweep next week.

Trustee Harbeck questioned the status of the recycling tonnage. Mrs. Depies responded that she has contacted Advanced Disposal several times regarding this matter. Representatives from Advanced Disposal are researching the matter but have not provided any response.

WATER & WASTEWATER

Utility projects update

Ninth Avenue Lift Station Replacement: The drywall ceilings have been installed, painters have applied final coatings to the interior block walls and ceilings, and the entrance doors have been hung. Lift pumps have been installed and the related wet well

mechanicals are complete. A main disconnect panel needs to be installed and then We Energies needs to install the electric service; gas service was recently ran into the property. Mole Drive has been re-paved and is open to traffic. Looking at a mid-December startup. Site restoration and the final coat of asphalt will be completed in the spring.

WWTP Digester Cleaning and Inspection: The contractor has indicated that they cannot provide a firm project start date. The initial plan was to have the sludge land applied to farm fields near Saukville; however, due to the late start of the project the sludge will likely need to be hauled to a storage tank in New Holstein. This will add approximate \$90 per truck load to the project cost.

Trustee Meinecke questioned if any other local contractors have been contacted to see if they could complete the project in a more timely manner. Mr. Nennig stated that the Utility had submitted a purchase order to United Liquid Waste Recycling, Inc. that would need to be cancelled before working with another contractor. Scheduling the completion of this work this late in the season is a primary consideration.

Trustee Meinecke questioned if the project could wait and be re-bid next year. Mr. Nennig stated that although the project was budgeted for in 2014, if the funds carry over to 2015 that would be a possibility.

Mr. Nennig will meet with staff to determine the best plan for this project.

Report of benchmark measurements – Water and Wastewater Utility

The board reviewed the report with no questions or comments.

Utility Superintendent Tim Nennig noted that there are a number of benchmarks that may not reach their goal by year end due to increased efforts with field activities such as: meter testing, upgrades and installs, water main and service breaks and sanitary sewer mainline televising and jetting.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Utility Superintendent Tim Nennig acknowledged Trustees Antoine and Liss for the designation of “Extra Ordinary Citizen” from Partnership Bank for their work within the community. This award is to recognize those individuals that do many things for the community without being in the limelight.

ADJOURN

Motion by Mr. Blum, seconded by Trustee Harbeck, to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m. Motion carried.