

VILLAGE OF GRAFTON
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2018

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

Board members present: Trustee Tom Krueger, Trustee David Liss, Pat Murray, and Les Blum.

Staff present: Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Amber Thomas, Superintendent of Public Works Jake Arndt, Utility Superintendent Tim Nennig, and Deputy Clerk Diana Degnitz.

Others present: Joe Poirier with the Ozaukee Press and other members of the community.

HEAR PERSONS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD

None

RESPONSE TO SOUTH GREEN BAY ROAD RESIDENTS REGARDING CONCERNS RAISED AT THE SEPTEMBER 10, 2018 BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING

Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Amber Thomas stated that the written response to questions asked by the residents on Green Bay Road was sent. Trustee Tom Krueger confirmed that residents in attendance had received and read the response and opened the discussion for questions.

Richard Jackson, 1927 South Green Bay Road, stated that he felt the response to question one, detailing the steps in the process of draining rain water from storm sewer to disposal site was generic. Mr. Jackson asked whether the waste water removal system is shared within the system that deals with draining rain water. Trustee Krueger responded that they are two separate systems, however in the event of excessive rain, water can get into the sanitary system and cause sewer backups. Additionally, Trustee Krueger noted that due to potential cracks in sewer piping, flow may commingle. Director Thomas added that the Village also experiences the illegal discharge of sump pumps into the sanitary system.

Trustee Krueger asked Superintendent Tim Nennig to speak about the performance of the Green Bay Road Lift Station. Mr. Jackson inquired about where the excessive wastewater flows to the Green Bay Road Lift Station ended up going to. Superintendent Nennig estimated that one half of the lift station's incoming flows were conveyed to the WWTP for treatment and the other half bypassed from the station's wet well. The bypassed flows ultimately ended up in the Milwaukee River. A portable trash pump was used for the bypass pumping.

Trustee Krueger asked Superintendent Nennig to speak about the performance of the Green Bay Road Lift Station. Superintendent Nennig commented that Utility staff had recently been involved in some extensive performance testing at the lift station comparing existing lift pump flow capacities versus design flows when the station was rehabbed in

2009. Staff has also reviewed the station's written emergency response plan for effectiveness. When questioned why a portable pump remains at the site, Nennig stated it was his directive to keep the pump in place due to heavy rains which were being forecast.

Neil Schuette, 1915 South Green Bay Road challenged the response to question number eight: How would emergency vehicles have access if a medical emergency occurred at a house where the road was flooded? Mr. Schuette has experience on the Fire Department and did not feel that emergency vehicles would be able to navigate high water. Director Thomas confirmed that the response given was directly from the Fire Chief.

Mr. Schutte also asked whether it might be an option to changing the curbing on Green Bay Road near the bottom of the hill. Director Thomas stated a potential change might help with some roadway flooding challenges but would not prevent future issues with sewer backup.

Trustee Krueger commented that the Village is limited in what options are available to correct issues with flooding and wastewater. Trustee Krueger also reiterated that large scale rain events can produce more water than capacity in the Village facilities.

Director Thomas stated that systems are not designed for one hundred year rain events, it is cost prohibitive to do so. Director Thomas also reiterated that the issues being addressed on Green Bay Road involved more than just flooding, the wastewater backups are a separate issue. Director Thomas commented that on Green Bay Road the water comes from both directions at a low point. The Public Works Department could look at potentially adding additional piping and drains.

Mr. Jackson addressed the response to question number two regarding the last analysis/study completed for storm sewer water capacity in the Village. Director Thomas stated that analysis and studies are all in compliance with requirements and standards set by the Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Jackson stated that he has redone his basement two or three times due to sewage backup and asked about a study specific to that issue. Director Thomas stated that a storm sewer study addresses street flooding and would not necessarily improve issues within the sanitary system.

Superintendent Nennig stated that the day immediately following the heavy rain event, several thousand feet of sanitary sewer main in the lift station's tributary area was cleaned and televised as previously scheduled. Areas of active sewer main infiltration/inflow were noted and will be repaired as part of the 2019 street improvement work. Superintendent Nennig also cited several other examples of ongoing Utility's efforts to reduce clearwater entry into the sanitary sewer system.

Brenda Martin, 1909 South Green Bay Road, asked why the pump located outside the lift station wasn't utilized until 3:00 a.m. as she reported street flooding to the Grafton Police Department at 10:30 p.m. Superintendent Nennig reported that use of the portable pump is specific to the sanitary sewer system and was engaged at the station when crews observed the inability of the station to keep up with incoming sewage flows.

Jim Lilyquist, 1921 South Green Bay Road, asked if the homes on Green Bay Road were the only ones affected by sewer backup during the event being discussed. Superintendent Nennig indicated that he had reports of one or two other isolated incidents.

Mr. Jackson asked about the possibility of check valves being utilized to potentially avoid future issues with sewer backups. Superintendent Nennig provided some insight into the functionality of a check valve and confirmed it was an option to install on the private sanitary laterals.

Trustee Krueger confirmed that questions from the members of the community had been answered and summarized the discussion.

Trustee Krueger summarized that the Village is constantly making improvements, studying performance and noting issues with the system. Trustee Krueger further provided that the Village would keep residents updated regarding status of future studies and results. Trustee Krueger concluded that any corrective actions or potential construction would likely not be included in the 2019 budget, but that work that has been budgeted for would continue and that the Board of Public Works would include an update regarding the flooding and/or waste water backup issues on approximately every third meeting agenda.

Mr. Schuette thanked the Board for agreeing to provide updates.

Paul Gasser, 1903 South Green Bay Road stated that he appreciated any updates and asked if the Village could consider providing information and guidance to residents as to how to clean up sewer backups. Mr. Les Blum stated that providing general guidelines would be beneficial.

Mr. Gasser stated that while the Village is accepting insurance claims for losses due to the rain event being discussed, the claims are being denied. Trustee Krueger confirmed that rain events like this are considered "Acts of God" by insurance and therefore, unfortunately are not covered.

Mr. Jackson confirmed that the 211 Program managed by the County is still a possible source of compensation for damage. Director Thomas confirmed the program is currently active and that FEMA was in Grafton last week to visit properties. Director Thomas also confirmed that FEMA would follow up with claimants directly with additional information.

MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Blum, seconded by Mr. Murray, to approve the September 10, 2018 Board of Public Works meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS

Award project 18-04 – Traffic Signals (Wisconsin Avenue/Cedar Street)

Motion by Mr. Liss, seconded by Mr. Blum, to recommend the Village Board award project 18-04 – Traffic Signals (Wisconsin Avenue/Cedar Street) to Outdoor Lighting, Milwaukee, WI for a cost of Not to Exceed \$97,947.50. Motion carried.

Director Thomas stated that two bids were received with Outdoor Lighting's quote coming in significantly under budget. Director Thomas further commented that the Village of Grafton has a great working relationship with Outdoor Lighting and the project manager to be assigned this project is a Grafton resident.

Re-allocate Milwaukee River Watershed Conservation Partnership Funds to Fund for Lake Michigan Grant

Motion by Mr. Blum, seconded by Mr. Murray, to recommend the Village Board approve reallocating funding previously committed to MRWCP to the Fund for Lake Michigan Grant work in the amount of \$80,000 over the next four years, contingent upon Village Board annual budget approval.

Director Thomas stated that in 2016 the Board of Public Works and Village Board approved a commitment of support for the Milwaukee River Watershed Conservation Partnership (MRWCP) for a total of \$80,000 in financial assistance over 2017-2020. The funds were not spent in 2017 or 2018 as the MMSD has received outside funding and discovered some issues in receiving funds from the Village of Grafton. In 2018 the Village was approached by the Sand County Foundation interested in obtaining a grant from the Fund for Lake Michigan and needed a partner.

The Village of Grafton and Sand County Foundation were awarded a \$100,000 grant last month for the same efforts as the MRWCP. MMSD is in full support and the Village intends to continue partnerships with both groups. Director Thomas is asking the Board to recommend reallocation of these funds to the Fund for Lake Michigan Grant.

Mr. Blum asked if this is a matching grant to which Director Thomas confirmed it is not. Director Thomas further explained that the \$100,000 grant is to establish the program and clarified that the \$80,000 would be reviewed in \$20,000 increments annually for four years. The \$100,000 grant would be invested to do modeling with farmers before any of the Village funding would come into play. Village funds would be used to put actual practices in place on farmland where the DNR would provide credit to the Village.

Trustee Krueger asked Director Thomas to confirm that staff believes the program would provide benefit to cost savings and that the DNR was in support of the program. Director Thomas confirmed.

Amended Motion by Mr. Blum, seconded by Mr. Murray, to recommend the Village Board approve reallocating funding previously committed to MRWCP to the Fund for Lake Michigan Grant work in the amount of \$80,000 over the next four years contingent upon Village Board annual budget approval.

Major Projects Update

Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Amber Thomas highlighted the projects:

Improved Traffic Signals at Wisconsin Avenue and Cedar Street: discussed previously. Equipment has been preordered and project is estimated to be two weeks of work likely beginning in about one month.

Repainting Wisconsin Avenue Railing: complete.

Sidewalk Replacement Program (18-02): complete.

Street Reconstruction (18-03): Project is substantially complete, only minor punch list items remain.

Bridge Street Dam Repairs: Project rescheduled for 2019 construction.

RR Crossing Replacements at Hickory Street and Washington Street: Received notification from Canadian National Railroad the crossing on Washington Street is currently scheduled for the week of October 22.

Trustee Krueger asked Director Thomas for information about a project requiring cones at the South end of Chateau near the railroad tracks. Director Thomas confirmed that Ozaukee County is doing work in that location for the Town of Grafton.

Report of benchmark measurements – Public Works

Superintendent of Public Works Jake Arndt highlighted the benchmark report and the activities of the crew.

Superintendent Arndt commented that the department has been catching up after the rain event including running two sweepers and plans to plant approximately 145 trees in the following week. Superintendent Arndt also planned to do some sign replacing in the near future.

Trustee Krueger questioned the recycling percentages noticing a declining trend in July and August of this year. Director Thomas indicated that those percentages were listed as they are a concern to her as well and she is trying to work with Advanced Disposal to reveal any underlying cause. Unfortunately Advanced Disposal has not been able to determine a cause but Director Thomas' team is working to have recycling reminders and additional information for residents at Village facilities and available at the upcoming November 6th General Election.

WATER & WASTEWATER

River Bend Road Lift Station project closeout

Motion by Mr. Blum, seconded by Mr. Murray, to recommend the Village Board approve the project change orders detailed in Applied Technologies Incorporated's Amendment to Professional Services Agreement River Bend Road Resurfacing and Lift Station in the amount of \$18,302.00

Superintendent Timothy Nennig stated that after two years the project is ready for close out and he is asking for approval of change orders requested by Applied Technologies.

Superintendent Nennig stated that many of the change orders occurred in the design phase of the project and were approved by predecessors to Director Thomas.

Trustee Krueger commented that he felt the change orders were valid but was concerned about how late in the process they were requested. Trustee Krueger further asked that the Board consider directing consultants in the future to present any and all change orders in a timely fashion.

Mr. Blum added that a log of change orders and requests should be kept for each project to track and document approvals of modifications.

Utility Projects Update

Superintendent Tim Nennig highlighted the Utility projects:

Well #5 Rehabilitation: complete.

17th Avenue Lift Station Design Engineering: Project kickoff meeting held August 16, 2018 and field survey work has been completed.

WWTP Headworks Design Engineering: Facilities planning study has been sent to the DNR for review and approval.

WWTP Anaerobic Digester Cleaning: All bio solids must be processed before tank can be cleaned. Superintendent Nennig anticipated time to completion to be about one month.

Master SCADA PC Systems Replacement: In the initial phase of project. Orders for hardware are in process with Taylor computers and project is estimated to be complete by the end of 2018.

Report of Benchmark measurements – Water & Wastewater

Superintendent Nennig highlighted the benchmark report and the activities of the field and WWTP operations staff.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Rate Increase Bill Insert: Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Amber Thomas stated that the insert will be printed on brightly colored paper and included with the next billing cycle invoices.

Trustee Krueger relayed a question from a resident inquiring as to whether or not haulers are paying the same rate increase as residents. Director Thomas and Superintendent Nennig both confirmed that while the haulers are not paying the same rate as residents, the rates are consistent with other communities and necessary to maintain revenue levels.

Utility Plant Operator Position: Director Thomas stated that the position has been posted based on a November 30th retirement date for the current employee. To date Director Thomas is aware of one possible candidate and is exploring recruitment opportunities online as well as with a placement company. Mr. Blum asked if current Village consultants

and vendors had been approached about possible candidates and Director Thomas and Superintendent Nennig both confirmed they had.

Washington Street Railroad Crossing Replacement – October 22-27: Director Thomas confirmed with the Railroad that the crossing at Highway 60 would be replaced October 22-27th with traffic being detoured to Highway I to Highway 33 to Highway O. The Department of Public Works will be working to complete additional crack filling, asphalt patching and tree trimming that needs to be done during that same time to avoid any future necessary closures. Mr. Murray asked what the estimated time for completion of the project is and Director Thomas confirmed six days.

ADJOURN

Motion by Mr. Blum, seconded by Mr. Murray, to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m.
Motion carried.