

VILLAGE OF GRAFTON

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 14, 2009

The Board of Public Works meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Ron LaPean.

Members present: Ron LaPean, Pat Murray, Edwin Dietrich, and Richard Rieck.

Members absent: Scott Volkert.

Staff Present: Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Dave Murphy, Superintendent of Public Works Gary Helm, and Administrative Assistant Melissa Depies.

Others Presents: Andrew Struck, Matt Aho and Ryan McCone – Ozaukee County Planning and Parks, John Griffin, Chad Davison, Dave Cleary and Dale Buser – Bonestroo, Brent Binder and William Wawrzyn – Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and many concerned residents.

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING REGARDING REMOVAL OF THE LIME KILN DAM

Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Dave Murphy stated that this is an informational meeting regarding removal of the Lime Kiln Dam. The intention is to explain how the project will proceed, what is being done, the restoration plan, and the project timetable.

Andrew Struck – Ozaukee County Planning and Parks, explained that the Lime Kiln Dam removal is being funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) grant received by the county. The purpose of the grant is to eliminate fish passage barriers in the Milwaukee River. The Lime Kiln dam is only part of the project, the entire project includes many fish passage barriers in all of Ozaukee County. There are approximately 70 plus culvert or public works type barriers as well as several man made barriers that will be addressed as part of the grant.

John Griffin – Bonestroo, stated that the DNR completed an environmental assessment of this dam in October and Bonestroo has been working on the project specifications and design since September.

Mr. Griffin referred to several design diagrams and explained the project:

General Location Map: This diagram showed the entire impoundment being between the Falls Road Bridge and the Lime Kiln dam. In order to remove the structural materials the reservoir will need to be dewatered. There are two options for

dewatering, they are to use the old mill race that is currently buried under rock and rubble or put in a culvert. The dewatering process is very slow; the reservoir will be lowered only six inches per day.

There was an additional diagram that explained how the controlled dewatering will take place as well as some of the erosion control details.

Restoration Map: This diagram showed the areas that will need to be restored due to the lower water levels. Mr. Griffin explained that they will seed the area and if necessary they will come back and re-seed.

The timeframe or project schedule is dependent on when NOAA releases the funding. If the funds are released in January, then bids for construction will go out in January as well. Work in the Milwaukee River cannot take place in March, April, or May due to spawning season; therefore it is probable that construction will not begin until June. Construction is estimated to take approximately one month and then restoration will follow. The contract will call for the restoration to be augmented in 2011 if needed.

A diagram of what the Falls Road dam looks like after it was removed was presented to give an idea of what this area will look like once this dam is removed.

Mr. Murphy stated that any debris left behind will be removed.

Tim Adams – 759 Nantucket Court, questioned the purpose for removing the dam. Mr. Murphy stated that this meeting is about the project design and schedule not about how we got to this project. The Village Board has taken action to remove this dam and we are here to make sure that all resident concerns are addressed. Mr. Adams questioned if an additional fish ladder was considered, why is this dam being removed. Mr. Murphy replied to eliminate maintenance and liability from the Village.

Warner Schafer – 1913 Cedar Drive, stated that the first three homes after the Falls Road bridge are not shown on the general location map to be involved in the project, however on the restoration plan they are included to have some marsh grasses planted. He noted that on his property there is a swale; however he believes that the natural banks of the river will be out by the sand bar. When the water level is elevated, this area will fill with water and then it will possibly take all summer to dry out, can this area be leveled or changed so that it is not mucky and we can gain access to the river. Brent Binder – DNR, replied that it may be possible to manipulate the sand bar and the swale so the area can drain properly. This will need to be considered once the area is dewatered; a situation such as this is not something that can be designed prior to dewatering. Mr. Schafer commented that he would like it restored so that they can walk down to the river without going through a mucky, rocky area. Mr. Griffin stated that because this area is in the floodplain, we may be limited to what can be done.

Terry Kranz – 1967 Cedar Drive, stated that his area has a limestone wall and once the dam is gone the wall drop off would be 4, 5, or 6 feet deep in some spots, what will

happen in those areas. Mr. Griffin again noted that this is in the floodplain therefore we are limited to what can be done, worse case scenario is that he will have dry land at the bottom of the wall.

Erin Blum – 1108 Sunset Court, questioned if the Village insurance rates would actually go down when and if these dams are removed. Mr. Murphy referred her to Finance Director Paul Styduhar regarding insurance rates. She stated she has been to the park and have found children wading in the river without adults around, who is liable. This will continue to happen, possibly more if the dam is removed.

Mr. Adams again questioned how we got to the point of removing this dam, what were the other options.

Cheryl Wegner – 820 South Green Bay Road, stated that she lives on the west side of the cliff and they police themselves. When they see someone being unsafe, they call the police. She questioned what the slope will look like once the dam is removed. Chad Davison – Bonestroo replied that the top of the sediment in the channel will be reduced to about a 1 foot to 6 foot drop.

Kevin Kotes – 758 Nantucket Court, questioned how far up the river this project would be going. Mr. Davison stated that the exact delineation will be determined once the dewatering is complete. Mr. Murphy stated that they will be removing all the concrete that was placed in the river which is an arch that runs about 180 feet.

Dale Buser – Bonestroo, stated that the natural channel of the river flows about 20 to 30 feet per mile. Mr. Griffin stated that once they hit the limestone they will stop. Mr. Buser questioned if it will look similar to the Falls Road dam. Mr. Griffin stated that it should be very similar to the Falls Road dam area except for the rip rap.

Chuck Grimm – Edgewater Court, questioned if this was phase one of a multi-phase program to eliminate the dams. Mr. Murphy responded that this dam is being removed and the Village Board has approved the fish passage for the Bridge Street dam. Mr. Grimm questioned if the sludge in front of the dam had been tested for contaminants. Mr. Griffin confirmed that the sludge was tested and no hazardous materials were found. There has been sampling taken further up stream where there were low levels of a manmade chemical, however there was nothing that would be detrimental to human life.

William Wawrzyn – DNR, stated that they tested for many different chemicals, metals, and PCBs. He was happy to report that the metals were very low and in some cases below lab detection. There is nothing that is hazardous to human health or the environment.

Jim Price - 1935 Cedar Drive, questioned if soundings were done when the cross sections of the river were completed. Mr. Davison stated that they actually waded across the river rather than relying on soundings. He noted that the restoration plan is

flexible enough to accommodate any miscalculations on how the banks are and where the natural flow will go.

Mr. Struck stated that he has smaller maps available for review where the surveys were taken.

Mr. Grimm questioned of all the 50 states and waterways why did NOAA choose Grafton. Mr. Struck replied that the NOAA grant received is not just for the Grafton dams. This grant encompasses the entire Milwaukee River basin in Ozaukee County. They are interested in this project because of our connection with Lake Michigan. Fish spawning has reduced due to the fish barriers and this is a big concern. There were three projects funded by NOAA to enhance the Great Lakes, there is one in Illinois, one in Indiana, and the one for Ozaukee County.

Mr. Grimm stated that he does not want Flying Carp and Sea Lamprey. Mr. Struck stated that removal of the fish barriers is to promote spawning of native fish not to attract invasive species. Mr. Griffin stated that the Lime Kiln Park dam is not considered a barrier for these types of invasive species; they can jump over the dam.

Mr. Adams commented that if the invasive species can get over the barrier then the native fish can get over the dam as well.

Mr. Kotes stated that the Salmon and the Bass population in the river have gone way down. He has not seen these types of fish in the last 5 years or so.

Mr. Griffin stated that the goal of the countywide project is to improve the fishery in the river. He noted that once the dam impediment in Mequon is removed, the fish habitat will be improved.

Mr. Grimm questioned if there will be any blasting being done to remove the concrete material from the river, and will that have any affect on the wells and will there be any activities that may affect the contaminated soils in the park. Mr. Murphy responded that there will be no blasting; a hydraulic hammer will be used to break up the concrete.

Judy Moburg – 743 Nantucket Court, stated that she lives at the end of the big island at the bottom of the map, how this project will affect that area. Mr. Murphy stated that the flow of the river should not change downstream at all. The same amount of water will flow. She questioned if the water will move more to the west now because of what is being done upstream. Mr. Griffin stated that there may be a temporary change in the flow during the project however he believed that the preferred path of the river is where it is today, therefore it should not change.

Mr. Adams requested to be placed on the Village Board agenda regarding the merits for this project. Mr. Murphy instructed him to contact Village President Jim Brunquell.

The public informational meeting ended and the regular Board of Public Works meeting began at 7:03 p.m.

HEAR PERSONS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD

None

MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Trustee Rieck, to approve the November 16, 2009 Board of Public Works meeting minutes. Approved unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS

Downtown parking on Wisconsin Avenue, between Bridge Street and Beech Street
Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Dave Murphy explained that he and Trustee Rieck measured each parking space as well as the length of different cars and trucks to determine if the parking stalls could be made smaller so that additional parking could be made available in the downtown. After measuring the stalls and referring to the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control (MUTC) he recommended reducing the parking length of these spaces to 18 feet at the end and 22 feet for the interior stalls. This meets the MUTC recommendation, except for the end stalls, and creates an additional three parking stalls. He noted that the parking on the east side of the street will need to be extended six feet to the north to accommodate this.

Motion by Trustee Rieck, seconded by Mr. Dietrich, to recommend the Village Board reduce the length of the parking spaces on Wisconsin Avenue between Bridge Street and Beech Street as presented to create three additional parking spaces and to approve the Village Engineer contracting with a company to perform the work. Approved unanimously.

Vertical storage tanks – salt brine

Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Dave Murphy stated that proposals were received for the storage tanks for the salt brine and beet juice. These tanks will not be utilized until next winter as they will not be installed until some time this summer as part of the new facility project.

Motion by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Mr. Murray, to recommend the Village Board approve purchase and installation of three vertical storage tanks from Casper's Truck Equipment, Appleton, WI for \$8,533. Approved unanimously.

Major Projects Update

The Board reviewed the projects update.

Residential yard waste and brush drop off area: The only thing remaining to complete this building is installation of the overhead doors which should be coming the first week in January. The site will be ready in spring.

Village Hall Remodeling Project: Trustee Rieck questioned the status of the Village board room. Mr. Murphy responded that the board table is scheduled to arrive this week. Once the table is installed the AV contractor can complete their work. The board room should be available for the first meeting in January.

Report of Benchmark Measurements – DPW

The benchmark report was reviewed by Board members.

Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Dave Murphy noted that the street cleaning quantities are slightly elevated because and the end of 2008 street sweeping were stock piled and disposed in 2009 due to budgetary issues.

Mr. Murphy also stated that for the first time ever we surpassed our goal of 30 percent for recycling. The requirement for the recycling is 25 percent. Trustee LaPean commented that he likes the new cart system. Mr. Helm stated that he has noticed that the downtown is much cleaner since the cart system began.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURN

Motion by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Trustee Rieck, to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m. Approved unanimously.