

MINUTES
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING
September 13, 2004
New Berlin City Hall Common Council Chambers
3805 S Casper Drive

Please note: Minutes are unofficial until approved by the Board of Public Works at their next regular scheduled meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 A.M.

Members Present: Mayor Wysocki, City Engineer J.P. Walker, Alderman Chiovatero, Alderman Ament and Alderman Augustine.

Staff Present: Ray Gryzs, Director of Streets and Utilities, Chuck Trevorrow, Stormwater Supervisor, Greg Kessler, Director of Community Development, Ron Schildt, Division Engineer

OLD BUSINESS

ITEM 01-04 Approval of Minutes from August 18th meeting

Alderman Ament made a motion to approve the minutes

Alderman Augustine 2nd the motion

JP Walker: Made two revisions to the minutes. Under Item 17-04 the dollar amount should read \$20,000 not \$1,000. On the second page in the Mayor's comments the A before eyes should be deleted.

JP made a motion for the amendment.

Mayor Wysocki 2nd the motion

Upon voting the motion passed unanimously

OLD BUSINESS

ITEM 11-04 Computer TakeBack Campaign

Alderman Chiovatero made a motion to take this item off the table.

Mayor Wysocki 2nd the motion.

Ray Grzys: The requested action is to recommend to Council to support a resolution urging the Wisconsin State Legislature to introduce and support legislation requiring computer and consumer electronics producers to take back their products, phase out the use of hazardous material and recycle these products responsibly.

Chuck Trevorrow: Stated that he was bringing this to the Council on behalf of the Grass Roots Recycling network. They would like the municipalities to try to help the state implement laws that would require manufacturers to take care of these concerns.

Mayor Wysocki: Questioned if the computers that are brought into our recycling center are handled in this manner.

Chuck: Yes, there are 5 bins to drop them off in and then the State has a schedule to pick them up. They are then taken up to Waupun to be disassembled.

Mayor Wysocki: Does the sample resolution that is in the packet cover the point that you just brought up? The Resolution that states "Resolution Urging the Wisconsin State Legislature to introduce and support legislation, is the one that we would bring to Council, if we choose to do this?"

Chuck: Yes

Ray Grzys: In your packet there is a letter from the City Attorney and a list from Chuck of other communities that already do this.

Alderman Chiovatero: I agree with Attorney Blum's synopsis that this will cause an increase to consumers, but we do need to get them out of the landfills.

Mayor Wysocki made a motion to recommend to Council.

Alderman Augustine 2nd the motion.

Alderman Ament: The concept is a good idea. However he questioned the comment that says, "maintain fair living wages and safe working conditions". What does this have to do with the takeback campaign?

Chuck: Just to make sure that everything is safe for all people that are working with this program. It's to make sure that whoever does this, does it in a safe practice.

Alderman Ament: Questioned if Wisconsin should be included in this list.

Chuck: The garbage haulers don't pick these up at all. This resolution is to get Wisconsin included in the list.

Mayor Wysocki: Wisconsin has separate laws for in-state and out-of-state. We require recycling but material coming in from Illinois doesn't require it. I do believe that the State of Wisconsin for municipal landfills has nothing to say about the computer equipment and that's one of the reasons for this resolution. I agree with Alderman Ament about the recycling responsibilities but in the resolution it does not say that. There is a concern that there is a requirement that they don't want this material to go to other parts of the world.

Upon voting the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

ITEM 18-04 Winter Hours of operation change for the Recycling Center

Alderman Chiovatero: The Requested Action is to recommend to Council to approve the changes in the recycling center winter hours of operation by eliminating Tuesday from 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. and extending Saturday operation hours to 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Mayor Wysocki made a motion to recommend to Council to approve the operation change for the Recycling Center.

Alderman Ament 2nd the motion.

Mayor Wysocki: In our 2005 budget this subject came up. Many citizens have requested that we change the length of open times on Saturdays. It also gets dark earlier during the winter months and this makes people not want to come to recycling center during the week.

Alderman Chiovatero: Agreed with the Mayor. The savings would be for snow removal costs?

Mayor Wysocki: The snow removal costs would be a minimal savings and also dependant on weather conditions.

Ray Grzys: This would allow the Streets Department to not have to go down there in a snowstorm and they could concentrate on other residential streets first. It wouldn't have to be plowed right away because there wouldn't be any citizens going down there. There would be some cost in starting this because we would have to post signs at the center now to let people know that the hours will be changing. We will also put this in the "Leaflet" newsletter and on the website. There would be no overtime costs because the people that work there are all part time. It would just be taking their hours from Tuesday and putting them on Saturday.

Upon voting the motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 19-04 Citywide Streets and Decorative Lighting Policy

JP Walker: The Requested Action is to recommend to the Common Council approval of the Citywide Street and Decorative Lighting Policy.

Mayor Wysocki made a motion to recommend to Council the approval of the Citywide Street and Decorative Lighting Policy

Alderman Chiovaturo 2nd the motion.

Alderman Ament: Questioned estimated cost to install the new and upgrade the existing lights.

Ray Grzys: One of the things we needed to include in this policy is the existing lights. The existing lights are identified by the locations on the left side of the paper. Also gives the number of poles in there. Some lights are on till 9:00, some all night and some not at all. When we investigated this we found that they were not connected to the City lighting. So we talked to WE Energies to see if these could be transferred to the City system. Waukesha Medical, Jewell Osco and Walgreen's which is already being billed to the City. It would just be a matter of transferring that meter number to our account. United Wisconsin does not have outlets on the poles. In order for us to put outlets on the poles, we are looking at a total cost of \$2,000 and an additional \$10,000 for separate control. Qdoba is already on a separate breaker, so it's a little cheaper.

Alderman Ament: Do you know what the yearly maintenance cost is?

Ray Grzys: Unknown at this time. The lights will be put in over a number of years. One fixture, depending on wattage could be about \$41.43 per light. As far as the maintenance goes the Streets Department will handle as many as possible, but at this time the exact price is not known. The range of Maintenance Costs for things we could not handle or emergency situations are listed at the top of the cost estimate sheet.

Alderman Ament: How many lights will this cover when all is said and done?

Greg Kessler: In the National Avenue corridor alone, there are approximately 500 lights, which does not include the City Center, which will have 115 lights.

Alderman Ament: Then we are looking at on the average of \$65 to \$102 a year per fixture?

Greg Kessler: That's for on-call maintenance, as we need them.

Mayor Wysocki: The \$41.43 is the estimated cost to have the lights lit on a year round basis.

Greg Kessler: There were many concerns when this was first brought to Council about the costs. Those were actual contracts for all the maintenance. The costs on this list are only on an on-call basis.

Alderman Ament: If we are averaging \$40 a fixture we are going to need to put \$200,000 in the budget for this.

Mayor Wysocki: Over time that is correct.

Ray Grzys: That would be in addition. We already get charged for all the other streetlights in the city.

Alderman Ament: I like the idea that this would all be standard. Just concerned about the cost of this per year, that we have it budgeted in and doesn't sneak up on us. Is there any way to see if some of these businesses could help pay for these decorative lights? Could we have some agreement when they turn in a developer's agreement that they would help pay for lighting in front of their business?

Mayor Wysocki: We have the policy that when a business is established along National Avenue they pay for the installation of the lights. It becomes an issue of equity because of the many gaps where we have subdivisions

backing up against National Avenue where we put lights. Is it fair to charge a commercial entity when we don't charge the other ones? If we have a developers agreement can we then mandate the number of hours the lights have to be on? Do we carry forward also the maintenance issue and the energy costs?

Alderman Chiovero: The City has to take control. United Wisconsin lights are connected to their sign. I understand the Mayors concern. Can we somehow charge the commercial entities a surcharge?

Mayor Wysocki: Looked at other City policies and procedures. We don't want to treat commercial properties unfair. The National Avenue corridor has residential frontage and we are not charging those residents a surcharge for the lights, so it wouldn't be fair to charge the commercial properties for this service. It's just a good policy to provide good service from the City by paying for these lights.

Alderman Chiovero: I feel that we have to act quickly. By not putting a surcharge on these retailers is going to be a burden on everybody in New Berlin not just those specific commercial properties. There is an advantage to the commercial industry to be along National Avenue.

JP Walker: On Waukesha Medical, Pro health and Jewell Osco, what is the cost of getting those re-wired or re-metered to the city.

Ray Grzys: There is no cost.

JP Walker: Who will coordinate it and when is it anticipated.

Ray Grzys: I would take responsibility of having WE Energies working with our Department making sure that these lights are operating to our policy.

Mayor Wysocki: To be more specific, the Streets Department would be taking over the management and work associated with this.

JP Walker: Will it be in 2004 or 2005?

Ray Grzys: There is no money in the budget this year so it will have to be put in the budget for 2005.

Alderman Chiovero: Page 2 regarding the Pole and Fixture Specifications – Alternatives to any standard pole and fixture will be permitted after approval by the Director of the Department of Community Development. Shouldn't that fall under Ray or the City Engineer?

Greg Kessler: There are actual 2 issues here, the design and maintenance. It is our Department's responsibility to determine what type of light is put in, and to make sure that it is the same as the other ones and not a knockoff. Once the light is in, it is then Ray's responsibility.

Alderman Ament: Is this figure roughly figured in the 2005 budget already?

Mayor Wysocki: We don't have it in the budget you received. We can anticipate some 53 lights and then 115 lights in the City Center. They won't all be put in at the same time. We will be able to put a figure in when we get closer to the end of the budget.

Alderman Ament: This is very much like the maintenance of the sidewalks themselves. It's too bad that this wasn't considered back then so we wouldn't have to deal with it now.

JP Walker: To answer the question about who should be doing the approvals. The Director of Community Development approval goes hand in hand with the way our zoning code is set up. All the approvals listed there go under the zoning requirements.

Greg Kessler: It just is either we do it or not, so we can tell developers when we sit down with them at the initial meeting as to what the rules are for development.

Alderman Chiovatero: I agree that the lights are needed. I can see improvements as I drive along the National Avenue corridor. My only struggle is the cost.

Upon voting the motion passed, with Alderman Ament opposing.

Alderman Augustine made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Alderman Ament 2nd the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 a.m.