



Parks, and Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes

February 20th, 2023

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a meeting of the Parks, and Public Property Committee was held, February 20th, 2023, Municipal Building, 800 Borner Street, Prescott, Wisconsin 54021. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm

Committee Present: Bailey Ruona, John Peterson, Pat Knox

Committee Absent: None.

Staff Present: City Administrator Matt Wolf, Planner Carter Hayes, Public Works Director Mike Kinneman

Others Present: Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Greg and Cole Adams of Cedar Corporation, Members of the public.

1. Approve Minutes for January 17th, 2023.

John Peterson motioned to approve the minutes for January 17th, 2023. Knox seconded; motion passed without a negative voice (3-0).

2. Public Works Items

A) USH 10 & STH 35 Project Discussion

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation will be present at the Committee meeting to discuss the upcoming STH 35 and USH 10 project scheduled for 2027-2028, which they will be providing handouts. Additionally, Cedar Corporation at the direction of City Council has drafted a proposal for STH 35 to add a multi-use trail concept plan from downtown. This concept plan will be shared during the meeting for the Committee to review and discuss.

Steve Bruce, Bob Held, and Dave Wincensen of the WisDOT Eau Claire office were present to head the discussion for the DOT. Cole Adams of Cedar Corporation presented information regarding the trail design that was designed. The new design extends from Kinnikinnic Street to Wacota Street. The DOT states that the roadway may not be narrower than the standard 36' curb face to curb face. The design created by Cedar Corporation has a roadway width of 28'. The DOT will confer with their design and traffic department to verify if any narrowing of the roadway can occur and if a 10' path can fit within the ROW.

WDOT has a schedule of Hwy 35 and HWY 10 slated for 2028 construction. Steve Bruce shared that the existing roadway pavements and condition of ancillary components were assessed and found to require significant pavement resurfacing and repairing/replacing stormwater inlets. It is also planned to replace the modular block retaining wall along HWY 35. Any added repair to parking spaces and aesthetic coloring to sidewalks in the downtown would be a city cost within the project. Resurfacing of the DOT park and ride will be conducted in 2028 as well. The intersection of Cherry Street and HWY 10 is looked to be reconstructed with new islands and turn signals as a part of the project. The parking along HWY 10 could subject to removal.

The DOT proposed path along HWY 35 includes a 6' wide sidewalk against the back of curb rather than a 10' wide multi-use trail recessed from the roadway. The cost for this proposal would be approximately \$400,000 with the city responsible for \$88,000 per the 80/20 cost share. The DOT alternate proposed plan would require movement of the retaining wall, costing a significant portion of the project and totaling nearly \$1.6 million.

The city also has proposed a sidewalk and pedestrian access at HWY 29 and HWY 35. The sidewalk would have a city cost of approximately \$30,000. The crosswalk across HWY 10 would require modifications to the traffic signals to accommodate pedestrian movement. The DOT was willing to construct the sidewalk at an 80/20 cost share.

Committee member Peterson raised the question that the cost sharing percentages may change, in which the DOT explained it would be in the city's best interest to take advantage of the 80/20 cost sharing.

The DOT shares that the intent of this project is to repair and reconstruct everything that needs to be, and not to leave the city with a financial liability. Typically, projects must be near full design within 1-2 years to the construction start date. Committee Member Ruona shared that the City could create an agreement limiting liability for changes to cost or scope.

The Committee favored the proposed sidewalk near HWY 29 and HWY 10 intersection, along with removing parking North of HWY 10 near the HWY10 and Cherry Street intersection.

Committee Member Ruona motioned to move the matter to Council. Knox seconded; motion passed without a negative voice (3-0).

3. Parks Items

A) Knowles Nelson Stewardship Grant Proposal

The City is pursuing Knowles-Nelson Stewardship funds as a part of the Magee Park Renovation Project. The project has a current probable cost of \$1,209,280 (see attached project estimate). The City is eligible to apply for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and Recreational Trails Program (RTP) for the project. Deadline to apply for stewardship funds is May 1st, 2023. The application will be submitted to both programs and ultimately the DNR will decide if the project meets the

criteria and what program the project would receive funding. The RTP is capped at a maximum grant of \$100,000 whereas the LWCF is capped at 50% of total project costs and no federal funds can be used to match the 50%. Cedar Corporation has drafted a proposal to assist the City on submitting a 2023 WDNR Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant for the Magee Park Renovation Project.

Planner Carter Hayes presented information regarding the proposal for Knowles Nelson grant.

Committee Member Knox motioned to approve the proposal to council; Peterson seconded. Motion passed without a negative voice vote. (3-0).

B) Farmers Market Special Event Request

The City has been approached by a group looking to start a Farmers Market within the City of Prescott. The current proposal would be to hold the event every other Friday starting on May 19th and go through late October from 4 pm – 8 pm. The group is looking to see if there would be a willingness of the City to use a community park for the event. As part of the event, they would like to make use of picnic tables and a shelter, as a result the options listed below meet that criteria to consider; if there is a willingness to allow the event in a City park.

1. Public Square Park
2. Freedom Park
3. St. Croix Bluffs Park
4. Mercord Mill Park

City Administrator Matt Wolf presented information regarding the proposed farmer's market. Committee member Ruona favored Freedom Park, but Committee Member Peterson stated that due to the typical utilization, it would conflict with regular community use. St. Croix Bluffs Park was decided to be best fit to accommodate a farmers' market.

4. Other Business

5. Adjourn

Peterson motioned to adjourn. Ruona seconded; motion passed without a negative voice (3-0) at 6:53 pm

The next Parks Committee meeting will be March 20th, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carter Hayes

Carter Hayes
Planner