

Minutes of the Public Works Committee

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Chair Swan called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Supervisors Dave Swan, Keith Hammitt, Jim Batzko, Darlene Johnson, Chris Mommaerts, and Tom Schellinger. Christine Howard arrived at 8:36 a.m.

Also Present: Legislative Policy Advisor Alex Ignatowski, Chief of Staff Sarah Spaeth, Waukesha Metro Transit Manager Brian Engelking (via phone), Business Manager Rhiannon Cupkie, Director of Public Works Allison Bussler, Engineering Services Manager Karen Braun, Wisconsin Coach Lines President Tom Dieckelman, Airport Manager Kurt Stanich, Highway Operations Manager Bob Rauchle, Fleet Manager Tom Zembruski, Highway Supervisor Dan Moudry, Fiscal Assistant Julien Thomas, Facilities Manager Shane Waeghe, Facilities Supervisor Javier Ramos, County Board Supervisor Ted Wysocki, and Budget Management Specialist Michelle Beasley.

Approve Minutes of September 10, 2020

MOTION: Hammitt moved, second by Johnson to approve the minutes of September 10. Motion carried 6-0.

Correspondence

Ignatowski distributed a copy of a Public Works Department fund transfer totaling \$60,000 which was approved at the September 16 Finance Committee meeting. The CTH Y and Pilak Creek Tributary Bridge Replacement project bids came in over budget. Public Works staff indicated that waiting to re-bid the project is not recommended for many reasons, one being that this will adversely affect the Waukesha Water Utility's construction for the Lake Michigan Water route in Spring 2021. The Culvert Replacement Plan has been identified as an appropriate source of additional funds for the CTH Y and Pilak Creek project which she explained in detail as outlined in the fund transfer.

Executive Committee Report of September 14 and September 28, 2020

Swan indicated the Executive Committee, at their last two meetings, approved two ordinances and two appointments and reviewed the 2021-2025 Capital Projects Plan.

Future Agenda Items

- Presentation on How Speed Limits are Determined

Future Meeting Dates

- October 15, 2020
- November 12, 2020

Howard arrived at 8:36 a.m.

Discuss and Consider the 2021 Operating Budget for Transit Services

Engelking, Bussler, and Cupkie discussed the proposed 2021 operating budget for Transit Services as outlined in the budget book including program highlights and ridership data. Both expenditures and revenues total \$976,663 – a decrease of \$124,756 from the 2020 budget. The County tax levy shows a credit of \$867,700 – no change from 2020.

Bussler indicated that health precautions have been taken in light of the coronavirus.

She discussed the Gold Line and changes that will be made to the Milwaukee County portion of the route. Waukesha County will not increase expenditures. Hammitt expressed concerns over this change.

Discuss and Consider the 2021 Operating Budget for the Public Works Department

Bussler and staff discussed the proposed 2021 operating budget for the Public Works Department as outlined in the budget book including the financial summaries, major departmental strategic plan objectives, program highlights, and activities. Total all funds, revenues total \$23,531,540 – an increase of \$556,368 or 2.4%. The County tax levy totals \$11,351,865 – an increase of \$90,000 or 0.8%. Expenditures total \$34,413,700 – an increase of \$508,663 or 1.5%. The number of full-time equivalent positions decreased 1.11 for a total of 142.66.

Hammitt and Swan raised concerns about ambitious targets set for snow removal. Bussler noted that new metrics will be used next year that give a more accurate picture of snow removal.

Bussler gave an update on work zone safety.

Answering Swan’s questions regarding route optimization, Bussler and Rauchle discussed the ways in which Public Works has created efficiencies.

Bussler, Braun, and Rauchle discussed the new road condition survey that was recently completed. Zemruski discussed how repair and maintenance has expanded service to external customers. He also discussed increased costs of vehicles and mitigation options.

The committee discussed the airport’s plan to hire temporary help with maintenance.

Wysocki expressed concerns with the proposed 2021 Public Works Department budget.

MOTION: Hammitt moved, second by Johnson to approve the 2021 budget for the Public Works Department. Motion carried 7-0.

Legislative Update

Ignatowski updated the committee on the Wisconsin Counties Association’s state budget priorities.

MOTION: Hammitt moved, second by Batzko to adjourn at 11:10 a.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

James Batzko

James Batzko
Secretary