

MEETING:	REGULAR MEETING OF THE PUBLIC WORKS & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE
DATE AND TIME:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024 5:30 PM
LOCATION:	Germantown Village Hall Board Room N112 W17001 Mequon Road

MINUTES

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Kaminski called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Chairperson Kaminski and Trustees R.Miller, Hudson and Warren are all present.
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - A. PWHC 1/9/24 Minutes for Approval
Motion: Approve as presented
Motioned By: Phil Hudson
Seconded By: Robert Warren
Yes: Terri Kaminski, Rick Miller, Phil Hudson, Robert Warren
No: None
Abstain: None
Motion Passed (Yes 4, No 0, Abstained 0)
- IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** 2 residents spoke.
- V. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - B. Open PO to replace hydrants, valves, water service repairs and water main breaks in 2024
Director of Public Works Mortwedt stated that the Water Utility has requested an open PO on a time and material basis for hydrant replacements, water main and water lateral repairs, gate valve repairs and hardscape restoration. This is an ongoing replacement program and emergency repairs as they come and as we identify old and malfunctioning water infrastructure. Staff recommends authorizing water utility staff to:
 - Hire as needed contract services for the replacement of hydrants, lead, valve assembly and hardscape restoration not to exceed \$215,000.00 from account #50642000-531730 and account #50000000-182330
 - Hire as needed contract services for water lateral repair and hardscape restoration not to exceed \$50,000.00 from account #50642000-531770.
 - Hire as needed contract services for the repair of water mains, gate valve repair and hardscape restoration not to exceed \$150,000.00 from account #50642000-553000 and #50000000-182480

Motion: Approve as presented

Motioned By: Phil Hudson

Seconded By: Robert Warren

Yes: Terri Kaminski, Rick Miller, Phil Hudson, Robert Warren

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion Passed (Yes 4, No 0, Abstained 0)

C. Contract Award - Tower 3 Rehab Construction and Grant Administration
Director of Public Works Mortwedt stated the scope of services for the Tower #3 Rehab Construction & Grant Administration. Staff recommends approval of the Foth contract services agreement in the amount not to exceed \$147,000. Funds will be used from account #50000000-182170 until reimbursement from the DNR Safe drinking water loan program.

Motion: Approve as presented

Motioned By: Rick Miller

Seconded By: Robert Warren

Yes: Terri Kaminski, Rick Miller, Phil Hudson, Robert Warren

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion (Yes 4, No 0, Abstained 0)

D. Proposed Infrastructure Improvement Projects around GBP, Truck Country and TID's 7 & 8

Administrator Kreklow provided a map of and discussed several additional utility and road improvements that could be considered around Holy Hill Road and the Freistadt district. These projects are not included in the IGA with the Village of Richfield that we may want to consider: 1. Rockfield Rd - extending water, sewer and road improvements going east from Goldendale to Gateway Crossing. The road is in bad shape, and he thinks the Village Board should consider getting all the roadwork needed done at the same time as the water extension included in the IGA. 2. Lift Station - Germantown has the opportunity to upsize that station for future planning and development. The 2050 plan does include future growth in that area, allowing for lift station capacity increases. 3. Potential construction of a frontage road from Rockfield to Holy Hill Rd is no longer an option. 4. High Point Pass would give access from Holy Hill Road going south into the Freistadt district, which includes a RR crossing in that area. When Truck Country goes into that area, they will need a private road or access via a public road. Without a public road, we would lose access to that site for the potential RR Crossing. 5. Going south of the RR tracks the VB could decide to construct a road south proactively. Staff isn't recommending it, but it is an option. 6. We could look at continuing installation of water & sewer lines on Freistadt Rd going west along Hwy 41. Both D.J. Frank & Germantown Mutual Insurance Co have both requested access to sewer & water if possible and the road is not in the best condition in that area, so road improvements could also be made at that time.

The VB asked staff to look into funding sources: 1st option is to pay for these improvements through our regular budgeting process, which would include additional borrowing that would go on the tax levy and increase property tax bills, 2nd option would be to borrow money and pay for them out of sewer & water revenues which would include rate increases which would impact what residents are paying, 3rd option

would be to have TID 7 & 8 pay for them. TID 8 has more cash flow capacity than TID 7. That money comes from the property tax payments from the businesses in those TIDs. In rough #'s 7.5-8 million to fund these projects out of TID 8 would extend the TID for 2-3 years to pay for these projects and TID 7 would be extended 3-4 years. He would like to get design and bid documents done by September so the roads are only torn up once and the updates are made all at once.

Discussion Followed: How will this affect debt service for residents? Property taxes would remain the same if we use the TID's. If Truck Country wasn't coming in would we be looking at this now? Yes, we would, these were planned before they came into play, only the timing is affected by Truck Country. Could we create a new TID instead of using existing ones? After talking with Ehler, because the tax flow is so healthy in TID 7 & 8 it would make more sense to use those rather than creating a new TID. All the improvements in the TID have come from development in the TID's themselves. That adds up to \$360,000,000 for a 15 million dollar investment. Freistadt Road would be the highest priority and with water and sewer going into that area it will develop. Would it be possible to continue with water and sewer under the freeway west on Freistadt Road? Yes, that is also possible.

Staff recommends proceeding with all proposed improvements and move this onto the VB for discussion.

Motion: Proceed with proposed improvements and forward to VB as presented with a positive recommendation.

Motioned By: Rick Miller

Seconded By: Robert Warren

Yes: Terri Kaminski, Rick Miller, Robert Warren

No: Phil Hudson

Abstain: None

Motion Passed (Yes 3, No 1, Abstained 0)

E. Contract Award - 2024 Water Main Relay Project Design

Director of Public Works Mortwedt stated that as part of the 2024 budget, the Water Utility has identified three priority projects, including water main relays and the Menomonee River Crossing at County Line Road. Staff received proposals from 3 Engineering Consultants with the low bid coming from Kapur. The schedule for the projects is to complete a survey in the spring of 2024, complete design in summer with construction in fall 2024. Staff recommends approval of the proposal from Kapur for \$89,444 and forward it to the Village Board with a positive recommendation.

Motion: Approve as presented

Motioned By: Phil Hudson

Seconded By: Robert Warren

Yes: Terri Kaminski, Rick Miller, Phil Hudson, Robert Warren

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion Passed (Yes 4, No 0, Abstained 0)

F. Status of Current Tree Trimming Contract

Director of Public Works Mortwedt stated that in November 2023, a tree pruning project was approved by the Public Works Committee and the Village Board. The remaining 10% of the project was delayed due to trees that were decorated for the Christmas season and staff were asked by elected officials to pause the project for further discussion. He included a memo from Wachtel stating that the contractor did

as the spec stated when trimming trees along the road ROW, making 1 cut on the tree and then waiting several years to make additional cuts on the other side, which makes the tree look imbalanced. We would like to finish this project as proposed.

6 residents spoke on this topic. They were unanimously unhappy with the results of the tree trimming project so far.

Discussion followed. Trustee Miller stated that we only had 16 trees left and Director Mortwedt stated we would work with the contractor for more balanced trimming. If it's in the ROW, it is the responsibility of the village. Wachtel acts as the Village Forester and Crawford Tree Service is the contractor. Both are certified arborists.

Superintendent Anderson stated that it is the goal of the Village to do street tree trimming on a regular cycle. Up until 2014, there were parts of that neighborhood being trimmed routinely, but since then there have been trees that have been becoming a concern to the traveling public, which is why we brought it up to this committee. The project was previously approved, so no action is required.

Motion: Approve - Move forward with the current contract but the arborist needs to be involved while trimming.

Motioned By: Rick Miller

Seconded By: Robert Warren

Yes: Terri Kaminski, Rick Miller, Robert Warren

No: Phil Hudson

Abstain: None

Motion (Yes 3, No 1, Abstained 0)

G. ROW Tree Trimming Discussion

Director of Public Works Mortwedt discussed potential policy changes available regarding management and maintenance of right-of-way (ROW) trees.

1. Maintain the current tree ordinance with no changes: In this scenario, the Village continues to develop a program for tree care and regularly performs maintenance on ROW trees.

2. Modify the tree ordinance to shift primary responsibility for ROW tree maintenance to the adjacent property owners. This would not limit the village's liability. An inspection and enforcement mechanism would have to exist. Failure to perform maintenance could result in the village assessing the cost of tree care for a property owner.

3. Adopt a HOA-by-HOA or Subdivision-by-Subdivision approach: The Village Attorney advised that this is not a legal or recommended approach.

4. Adopt a hybrid approach

5. Reducing planting of right-of-way trees or future developments could shift responsibility for planting trees to private property owners.

Discussion Followed. Chairman Kaminski feels that we need to keep the ordinance as it is with more citizen input/involvement in the future. We need to have a plan in place with possibly a representative for the area involved with the planning. Trustee Miller wants to implement a 5-year plan for tree planting and trimming. Trustee Warren stated that it's a bit of sticker shock because there has been no trimming in 23 years, and residents are seeing it now. His concern is that we cannot have pruning by committee because it would take so much time to reach a consensus on how a tree should look and what type of tree it should be etc. He's been involved in this for over 40 years, so he understands how sensitive this topic is. Chairperson Kaminski doesn't want committee involvement, just 1 or 2 HOA representatives. Recommend no change

to the ordinance and look to make communication, planning and operational modifications to the program. Chairperson Kaminski asked that this topic be brought back before them in about 3 months.

H. Mailbox Policy Discussion

Director of Public Works Mortwedt discussed potential changes available regarding the existing Mailbox Replacement Policy which is part of the Winter Operations Manual. He summarized and said that we had 139 complaints of mailbox damage and that we have only taken responsibility for the repair of 7 which were determined to have been physically hit by the snowplow. We made temporary repairs whenever possible, and we have about 40 temporary mailboxes to put out where/when needed. We do not make repairs if the damage is determined to be caused by the weight of snow. There is an appeal policy in place that the resident can bring their complaint to committee and get reimbursement that way as well.

Options to consider:

1. Make no changes: Inspect complaints, determine the cause of the damage, direct plow blade strikes, qualify the property owner for reimbursement, keep reimbursement at \$75.
2. Offer no reimbursement: There are nearby jurisdictions that take this approach.
3. Offer reimbursement to every complainant: The Village would need to allocate a budget to fund this annually.
4. Adjust the \$75 reimbursement amount.
5. Some combination of the changes above.

Director Mortwedt did some research with other communities in the area, and stated that we are in the middle. Chairperson Kaminski asked for an explanation of the weight of the snow policy. Director Mortwedt explained that with 26.1 inches of heavy, wet snow it could weigh up to 20 lbs per square foot. So we were at the top of that weight so you need a faster plow to push that heavy snow off the streets. We have determined that a majority of the damages were due to weight of snow. Trustee Warren road along in a plow and witnessed very competent driving. They battle parked and stuck cars, cars that are traveling too close, etc. So to ask them to focus on mailboxes and to slow down or plow further away is just not realistic. He saw a lot of mailboxes either tipped over or being buried during plowing. There was so much snow that it was flying over the top of the wing on the plow. It's not just the wet snow or the driver being too close it's also the condition of the mailboxes. There are a lot of mailboxes that were constructed incorrectly, very cheaply, have rotten posts, are old, not maintained or put too close to the road. He did a cost estimate on a mailbox replacement and for materials it totaled about \$86. He thinks we are good where we are at. Trustee Miller stated that the rural road that he lives on was hit rather hard and you expect that. He thinks the reimbursement of \$75 pays for the materials to replace it and he would like to keep it the same. Trustee Hudson stated that he doesn't see how we would make any logical changes to this policy. We can't possibly be that careful with where the snow is going to go and there's no way to guarantee no damage to mailboxes and if we plow further into the street and then the mail can't be delivered by the post office. Wherever we can regardless of fault, we do temporary repairs or put out a temporary mailbox if we have one available. Superintendent Anderson clarified what they look for in the inspection, like evidence of physical

damage to the box, dents, paint striped off etc. The post office specifies where a mailbox should be placed. Staff does not recommend any particular approach.

Motion: Keep the policy the same but up the reimbursement with receipt to \$150 for residents or businesses

Motioned By: Phil Hudson

Seconded By: Rick Miller with discussion regarding the reimbursement amount. How long has it been at \$75? Probably 6-8 years.

Yes: Terri Kaminski, Rick Miller, Phil Hudson, Robert Warren

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion Passed (Yes 4, No 0, Abstained 0)

Amended Motion: Keep the policy the same but up the reimbursement to \$100

Motioned By: Terri Kaminski

Seconded By: Robert Warren

Yes: Terri Kaminski, Rick Miller, Phil Hudson, Robert Warren

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion Passed (Yes 4, No 0, Abstained 0)

I. 2024 Tar & Mastic Purchase

Director of Public Works Mortwedt stated that each year, we perform crack sealing on village roadways as needed to improve longevity by minimizing water intrusion in cracks. Sherwin Industries is the sole provider of this product in our region.

Crafco Asphalt Rubber Plus: \$14,167.73

Crafco Mastic One: \$18,018.00

Total cost: \$32,185.73

Staff recommends the purchase of Crafco Asphalt Rubber Plus and Crafco Mastic One for the amount of \$32,185.73 and to forward this request to the Village Board with a positive recommendation.

Motion: Approve as presented

Motioned By: Phil Hudson

Seconded By: Robert Warren

Yes: Terri Kaminski, Rick Miller, Phil Hudson, Robert Warren

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion Passed (Yes 4, No 0, Abstained 0)

J. 2024 Center and Edge-Line Striping

Director of Public Works Mortwedt stated that annually, we perform center and edge-line striping on main throughfares throughout the village. This season the cost from Washington County is estimated to be \$1300 per mile of painting, and we intend to paint approximately 46.75 miles of roadway. Staff recommends contracting with Washington County to paint the center and edge-line as needed on village throughfares for \$60,775 and to forward this request to the Village Board with a positive recommendation.

Motion: Approve as presented

Motioned By: Rick Miller

Seconded By: Robert Warren

Yes: Terri Kaminski, Rick Miller, Phil Hudson, Robert Warren

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion Passed (Yes 4, No 0, Abstained 0)

K. 2024 Fire Department Interior Painting Project

Director of Public Works Mortwedt stated that as reflected in the 2024 Buildings & Grounds non-borrowed capital budget, funds were allocated to paint the interior offices, corridors, and parking bay of the Fire Station. Staff has solicited pricing from area contractors and the results are listed below:

MACORP LLC: \$30,863.00

Service Painting Corporation: \$52,600.00

Hess Sweitzer Painting LLC: Responded but did not submit a proposal.

Staff recommends contracting with MACORP LLC to complete the painting project for an amount not to exceed \$30,863.00, and to forward this request to the Village Board with a positive recommendation.

Motion: Approve as presented

Motioned By: Phil Hudson

Seconded By: Rick Miller

Yes: Terri Kaminski, Rick Miller, Phil Hudson, Robert Warren

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion Passed (Yes 4, No 0, Abstained 0)

A. Director's Report

Director of Public Works Matt Mortwedt gave his Director's Report which included: Departmental updates, complaint summary, project updates, and we are working on more robust communication with residents. The MS4 permit is up for renewal this year. It's a 5-year permit. Two (2) areas where he is expecting stricter compliance, include salt reduction and impervious surface reduction.

Motion: Move item to last on the agenda as presented

Motioned By: Rick Miller

Seconded By: Terri Kaminski

Yes: Terri Kaminski, Rick Miller, Phil Hudson, Robert Warren

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion Passed (Yes 4, No 0, Abstained 0)

VII. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** March meeting date was set for Wednesday, March 6th at 5:30pm.

VIII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT:** Chairperson Kaminski adjourned the meeting at 7:49pm.

Debbie Remich

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 1:21 PM
To: Comments
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Meeting Comment Form for Committees and Village Board

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Meeting Comment Form for Committees and Village Board

First Name	Scott
Last Name	Hefle
Address1	W159N10514 Old Farm Road
City	Germantown
State	WI
Zip	53022
Section Break	
Which Committee/Commission/Board do you have comments for?	Public Works & Highway Committee
What is the date of the meeting?	2/7/2024
For which item do you wish to provide comments?	TID 7 and 8 Borrowing Proposals
What is your opinion of the item?	I OPPOSE the item.
Would you like to speak at the meeting?	No, I do not wish to speak at the meeting. I only want to submit my comments through this form.
Comments	I am both confused and angered by the proposal on the agenda for tonight. I need clarity, as it sounds like we are looking to put the Germantown taxpayer's money into MORE infrastructure for the Green Bay Packaging and

Truck Country proposals. When I see the phrase "TID borrowing", it makes nervous. We have done nothing since 2017 but open TIDs and use taxpayer money fund things our residents never asked for and had no input on! This needs to stop! I am tired of the Board using a "taxpayer funded credit card" to pay for everyone's development. It is high time these projects pay a significant impact fee, as the reason we NEED things such as a frontage road is due to THERI development. We might not have NEEDED a frontage road or access road if their project was not accepted. This amounts to a taxpayer handout in my view. We need to go on a debt diet, not expand our debt to atmospheric levels. Look at the 2022 ACFR: Debt Per Resident was \$1,346 in 2018, in 2022 it was \$4,598, an increase of an increase of 342% in FIVE years! All the while our population as a village has only increased from 20,183 to 21,015, an increase of 4.12%. We are NOT growing like we did in the 80's and 90's, yet are still borrowing like we are!

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