

CITY OF VERONA

MINUTES

PUBLIC WORKS/SEWER & WATER COMMITTEE

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2021

1. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Touchett at 5:06pm.
2. Roll Call: Present: Evan Touchett, Charlie Ryan, Chad Kemp. Also present: Theran Jacobson, Director of Public Works; Carla Fischer, City Engineer, AECOM; Dave Walker, Director of Parks and Urban Forestry. **Note:** This was a remote meeting via Zoom and phone conference, instructions on how to join were included with the posted agenda.
3. MOVED by Touchett, seconded by Kemp, to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2021 meeting of the Public Works/Sewer and Water Committee. Motion carried 3-0.
4. MOVED by Touchett, seconded by Ryan, to recommend approval of amendment no. 2 with AECOM for construction related services for Project ID 2017-115 Well 6. Motion carried 3-0. Touchett asked how the city can better control and plan for amendments. Fischer answered that construction contract amounts are always best guess estimates based on scope and schedule and that every project varies.
5. MOVED by Touchett, seconded by Ryan, to recommend approval of professional services agreement with Short Elliot Hendrickson for Project ID 2018-108.3 Badger Mill Creek restoration, in the amount not-to-exceed \$28,804.00, contingent upon legal and city administrator review. Motion carried 3-0.
6. Discussions regarding Project ID 2018-108 Eastside interceptor gravity sanitary sewer replacement.

Mr. Jacobson provided an overview of the recent communication and presentations regarding the Eastside interceptor gravity sanitary sewer replacement project (ESI). Jacobson noted the following:

1. On January 11th the interceptor project was discussed at the Common Council level and action was taken to discuss the project at the committee level for at the Parks Board and PWS&W Committee.
2. A neighborhood meeting for this project was held on January 13th at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. The meeting included presentations and discussions by the City of Verona, Ice Age Trail Alliance, Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District, and Dane County. The public had the opportunity to ask questions after the presentation and staff responded. This meeting was broadcasted on YouTube and recorded. This presentation can be viewed on the City YouTube channel.
3. Monthly process meetings have been scheduled and will occur on the third Wednesday of the month by Zoom. Staff will update the public on the construction schedule and answer questions.
4. Information on the ESI project is located on the City's website below and the website is updated as the project progresses.

<http://www.ci.verona.wi.us/729/Eastside-Interceptor-Gravity-Sanitary-Se>

Jacobson noted the following items for discussion and potential action are as follows:

1. Engage in contract with a consultant for review and oversight of the work regarding the Badger Mill Creek Corridor
2. Multi-use path
 - a. Overall needs
 - b. Utility access
 - c. Connectivity to Parks
 - d. Separation from Ice Age Trail
3. Tree plantings along corridor and offset from the utilities.

Discussion regarding “Engage in contract with a consultant for review and oversight of the work regarding the Badger Mill Creek Corridor”.

Jacobson noted the following: Multiple agencies were involved in the review of the prepared engineered plans that included the restoration plans for the ESI project. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) was communicated with verbally, via e-mail, and also on site. The construction engineer on site is fully capable of implementing all aspects of the project and has been communicating with engineers and WDNR as necessary throughout construction. WDNR has been on site with the construction engineer and has been pleased with the project status, progress and communication. WDNR noted to staff that there is no need for them to be on site, WDNR role is to ensure permit conditions are delivered to project staff as stated in the issued permits and follow up with complaints. WDNR does not act as an inspector.

Touchett added he is not in favor of using additional consultants, and would rather spend money on trees.

Ryan stated that ecologically the corridor will be preserved and that the WDNR thinks their participation is adequate. Ryan would like them to be notified of key milestone dates. Jacobson noted he will have construction engineer work with WDNR of key milestone dates.

Kemp noted to Jacobson that we have been working together for three years and you have never steered the City in the wrong direction.

Jacobson noted, as on any project, if there is a need for additional resources we have a large network of resources with the regulatory agencies and other consultants

Discussion regarding “Multi-use path”.

Jacobson noted the following: The multi-use asphalt path will serve multiple purposes for the sewer pipelines; maintenance path for cleaning and unexpected repairs, access for locating utilities, and protection. The path will also serve the greater public on a day-to-day basis providing a connection to the following: other pedestrian travel ways in the City, East View neighborhood, and connectivity between City parks. The path’s ultimate goal is be a segregated path from the Ice Age Trail, but Jacobson noted there may be common segments due to on-site challenges such as topography and drainage. This path was one of the many pedestrian improvements projects that were identified in the Ped and Bike plan prepared by AECOM that was presented to the Common Council in spring of 2017. The plan identified multiple improvements throughout the City with many already being constructed.

Touchett stated he recalled the plan and presentation in 2017 and was involved in the preparation.

Ryan asked for the bike survey, and Jacobson responded there was no survey but he would send the link to the Ped and Bike plan. Ryan noted he is in favor of pedestrian improvements.

Kemp noted he likes the path, and noted he doesn't think a bill of goods was sold.

Discussion regarding "Tree plantings along corridor and offset from the utilities".

Jacobson noted the following: The goal through project planning and permitting development has been to perform a restoration plan of habitat along the Badger Mill Creek segment common with the Ice Age Trail, after the construction of the sewer project is complete. Ice Age Trail and Mr. Walker wanted to be able to communicate and have a visual of the landscape after the sewer project is completed so the proper plan can be developed. Mr. Jacobson noted the plan is to not plant any trees within the permanent limited easement to protect the sewer pipes below. Planting outside of the permanent limited easement can occur per the direction of Mr. Walker.

Walker discussed the tree planting schedule, path concerns, Park Board overview, and connectivity to City parks. The rough plan for replanting is to restore grassland during the sewer project and then go to Ice Age Trail for placement, staking out trees after the sewer project is complete. The city is not locked into anything per the plan renderings that were developed for presentation to the public. The schedule is to begin restoration summer/fall of 2021 for ESI project, but the true design for tree placement won't occur until fall of 2021. Tree placement won't happen until 2022. Walker noted that native trees are a spring plant and most nurseries will not provide natives trees in the fall.

Touchett asked about naming the area, and commented that he wants to keep the paved trail.

Walker responded this area has been previous know as the "East View Nature Sanctuary".

Touchett commented that the planting approach is ideal in order to locate placement in the field.

No action was taken by the Committee. Staff proposal was presented to the Committee. Based upon discussion, no concerns were raised by the Committee. Staff will proceed with the ESI project and tree planning approach.

7. MOVED by Touchett, seconded by Ryan adjourn at 5:57pm. Motion carried 3-0.

Note: These minutes were prepared by Theran Jacobson, Director of Public Works. These minutes are based on the notes of the recorder and are subject to change at a subsequent meeting.