



City of Milwaukee

City Hall
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Meeting Minutes

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

ALD. ROBERT J. BAUMAN, CHAIR
Ald. Russell W. Stamper, II, Vice-Chair
Ald. Khalif J. Rainey, Ald. Mark A. Borkowski, and
Ald. Nikiya Dodd

Staff Assistant, Yadira Melendez, 414-286-2775
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Legislative Liaison, Jeffrey Osterman, 414-286-2262,
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Wednesday, September 28, 2022

9:00 AM

ROOM 301-B, Third Floor, City Hall

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 am

1. [220757](#) Substitute resolution approving levying of assessments and construction of assessable public improvement projects at various locations and appropriating funds for these purposes with the City cost of these projects approved by this resolution is estimated to be \$2,961,423.11 for a total estimated cost of \$17,308,793.11.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Holly Rutenbeck - DPW - said that no survey is conducted for this type of assessments. David Tapia said that there were 2 informational meetings (one virtual and one in person) and that in general, they were well attended and that the majority seemed satisfied with the projects.

4th and 15th Aldermanic Districts

W. Vliet St. - N. 12th St. to N. 27th St. (ST3202208XX) Concrete pavement reconstruction, replace curb and gutter, sidewalk and driveway approaches as necessary, signals, street lighting, storm sewer and grading.

Ms. Rutenbeck said that this project is for driveways approaches and sidewalks of 95 properties.

Ald. Stamper moved approval. There were no objections. (Prevailed 4-0)

15th Aldermanic District

W. Walnut St. - N. 12th St. to N. 20th St. (ST3201903XX) Concrete pavement reconstruction, replace curb and gutter, sidewalk and driveway approaches as necessary, sodding (9.5' width of tree border area), grading, separated bike lanes, signals, street lighting, and storm sewer.

Ms. Rutenbeck said that this project is for driveways approaches and sidewalks of 35 properties.

Ald. Stamper moved approval. There were no objections. (Prevailed 4-0)

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Borkowski

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Borkowski

No 0

No 0

Excused 1 - Dodd

Excused 1 - Dodd

2. [220758](#)

Substitute resolution determining it necessary to make various assessable public improvements at various locations and appropriating funds for these purposes with the City engineering cost estimated to be \$22,000 for a total estimated cost of these projects being \$245,000.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Holly Rутtenbeck - DPW

SUBSTITUTED

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Borkowski

No 0

Excused 1 - Dodd

[220758](#)

Substitute resolution determining it necessary to make various assessable public improvements at various locations and appropriating funds for these purposes with the City engineering cost estimated to be \$22,000 for a total estimated cost of these projects being \$245,000.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Borkowski

No 0

Excused 1 - Dodd

3. [220759](#)

Resolution determining it necessary to make various nonassessable public improvements at various locations and appropriating funds for these purposes with the City engineering cost estimated to be \$221,000 for a total estimated cost of these projects being \$3,728,000.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Holly Rутtenbeck - DPW

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Borkowski

No 0

Excused 1 - Dodd

4. [220760](#) Resolution approving construction of nonassessable public improvements at various locations and appropriating funds for these purposes with the City construction cost estimated to be \$323,988.19 for a total estimated cost of these projects being \$1,819,940.95.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Holly Ruttenbeck - DPW

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Borkowski

No 0

Excused 1 - Dodd

5. [220762](#) Resolution relative to the cancellation of a special improvement bill placed on the 2021-2030 Tax Rolls.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Holly Ruttenbeck - DPW - said that this is a MPS owned property but that it was not identified as one when the bill was issued.

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Borkowski

No 0

Excused 1 - Dodd

6. [220761](#) Communication from the Department of Public Works, Infrastructure Services Division transmitting the 2023 Assessment Rates Report.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Holly Ruttenbeck - DPW said that this is an increase of the cost for driveway approaches (11%), alleys (6%) and sidewalks (6%) due the raise in the cost of materials and construction that happened last year.

RECOMMENDED FOR PLACING ON FILE

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Borkowski

No 0

Excused 1 - Dodd

7. [220351](#) Substitute resolution assigning the honorary street name "Sr. MacCanon Brown" to North 24th Place from the 2600-2700 block in the 15th Aldermanic District.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Yance Marti - DPW - and Karem Dubis (applicant) were present along with Mr. Reuben Harpole.

Ald. Stamper asked why the application was made for this address.

Ms. Dubis said that this center is where MacCanon Brown is truly continuing her legacy.

Ald. Stamper requested to hold this item to be discussed with him.

HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Borkowski

No 0

Excused 1 - Dodd

8. [220646](#)

Resolution authorizing City of Milwaukee entry into a Limited Term Conservation Easement Agreement with Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District for Green Infrastructure at 1640 South 10th Street, in the 12th Aldermanic District.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Kurt Sprangers - DPW

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Borkowski

No 0

Excused 1 - Dodd

9. [220763](#)

Resolution authorizing the Commissioner of Public Works to execute a Memorandum of Understanding to accept and expend funds from a subaward from the State of Wisconsin - Department of Administration (grantor) allocation of the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds from the American Rescue Plan Act for the program Prevent Reckless Driving Through Design, and to setup project costs at a total estimated cost of \$3,500,000, with costs fully covered by the grantor.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Jerrel Kruschke and Mike Amsdem - DPW

The city has reached out to Gov. Evers for this matter and that they want to focus on the following projects:

- 1. *N 35th St and Capitol Dr. (more friendly crossing)*
- 2. *Streets and access to parks*
- 3. *Schools (crossings)*

Mr. Kruschke said that the public will be involved with this plan.

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Borkowski

No 0

Excused 1 - Dodd

10. [220111](#) Communication from the Department of Public Works relating to the progress of street lighting circuitry replacement funded by the American Rescue Plan Act.

Sponsors: Ald. Zamarripa

Jerrel Kruschke - DPW said that this is to upgrade the existing oldest/worst circuits. He added that they have hired consultants to speed up the design of the circuits. He clarified that the Infrastructure bill does not replace street lighting and rewiring.

There was a discussion of how the city of Detroit made possible to upgrade the street lighting for the entire city in a shorter period.

Marvin Pratt - former Mayor - said that only on the last year, he called about 15 times for street lighting issues and that there is a relation between lighting and safety. He said that he is here to advocate to do something soon.

Ald. Borkowski said that he was invited to the electrical services department and asked members of the council to do the same just to get more understanding of what are we talking at the table. He added that the problem is that the current system is older than 60 years, that it was designed to last 60 years and that we are working with that.

HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Borkowski

No 0

Excused 1 - Dodd

13. [220373](#) Communication from the Infrastructure Services Division relating to a Statement of Mid-Year Review for Financial Condition of the Sewer Maintenance Fund.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Carl Rappelt - DPW

RECOMMENDED FOR PLACING ON FILE

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Borkowski

No 0

Excused 1 - Dodd

16. [191930](#) Communication from the Department of Public Works relating to the status of current and future operations.

Sponsors: Ald. Bauman

Danielle Rodriguez - DPW- said that they are in the middle of preparing for the fall

operation and that the winter operation comes immediately after. She added that the vacancy rate is at 19% and that the recruiting process continues. She wanted to make it clear that all those essential services will continue even during the winter months but that things are going to take a little longer. She said that 30 contractors are ready for the season to help out.

HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Borkowski

No 0

Excused 1 - Dodd

17. [211119](#)

Communication from the Department of Public Works relating to the status of Traffic-Calming and Complete Streets projects to address reckless driving and to provide a safer infrastructure for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Sponsors: Ald. Bauman

Mr. Jerrel Kruschke - DPW - talked about the report that was added to this file.

HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Borkowski

No 0

Excused 1 - Dodd

Ald. Borkowski was excused from the meeting at 10:08 am.

Ald. Dodd joined the meeting at 10:17 am (by phone first).

14. [220558](#)

Communication relating to semi-annual reporting to the Common Council by the Milwaukee Water Works and the Department of Public Works regarding lead service line replacements.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Patrick Pauli and Michelle Natarajan - WW - gave a presentation that has been attached to the file.

HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Dodd

No 0

Excused 1 - Borkowski

15. [220815](#)

Communication relative to the status of the Milwaukee Water Works request for a water rate adjustment from the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Patrick Pauli - WW - gave a presentation that has been attached to the file.

RECOMMENDED FOR PLACING ON FILE

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Dodd

No 0

Excused 1 - Borkowski

11. [220829](#) Appointment of Kevin Muhs to serve as City Engineer by the Mayor.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Kevin Muhs - read an statement thanking Mayor Johnson and talked about his experience and credentials to the committee.

Ald. Bauman said that he has had the pleasure to work with Mr. Muhs and that it is truly a benefit for the City of Milwaukee.

RECOMMENDED FOR CONFIRMATION

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Dodd

No 0

Excused 1 - Borkowski

12. [220701](#) Appointment of Jerrel Kruschke as the Commissioner of Public Works by the Mayor.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Jerrel Kruschke said that he started his career on the field and that eventually gained his engineering degree and doing his way up. He also said that he has a strong connection with the field and labor. He added that citizens often don't know what it is done on a daily basis at DPW; and that his goal is to continue with those essential services while informing citizens of the processes and making partnerships with community organizations.

He said that talking to former commissioners and seeing how involved they are still with DPW, is what made him to pursue the position.

RECOMMENDED FOR CONFIRMATION

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Dodd

No 0

Excused 1 - Borkowski

18. [220121](#) Motion relating to the recommendations of the Public Works Committee relative to licenses.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

ELEWA, Mohamed A, Agent for "Momo Place LLC", Taxicab License Renewal Application for "Momo Place" at 2329 W KIMBERLY Av. (Expired 9/14/2022)

The applicant was present who said that he has driven a taxi for 30 years and that he

never had an issue before.

Ald. Bauman explained him that there is an objection for not having the meter.

The applicant said that the new meter is digital, that looks like a tablet and that people is not used to see this new technology.

Mr. Cooney confirmed that it is the new technology licensed by the City of Milwaukee.

Ald. Stamper moved approval. There were no objections. (Prevailed 4-0)

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

Aye 4 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, and Dodd

No 0

Excused 1 - Borkowski

The meeting adjourned at 11:24 am

Yadira Melendez

Staff Assistant

This meeting can be viewed in its entirety through the City's Legislative Research Center at <http://milwaukee.legistar.com/calendar>.