



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, JoCasta Zamarripa, and
Ald. Jonathan Brostoff

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Wednesday, February 15, 2023

9:00 AM

City Hall, Room 301-B

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 am

Present 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, Brostoff

1. [221600](#) Substitute resolution approving construction of nonassessable public improvements at various locations and appropriating funds for these purposes with the City construction cost estimated to be \$10,398,837.06 for a total estimated cost of these projects being \$18,747,908.06.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Holly Rutenbeck - DPW

A motion was made by ALD. BROSTOFF that this Resolution be SUBSTITUTED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

- [221600](#) Substitute resolution approving construction of nonassessable public improvements at various locations and appropriating funds for these purposes with the City construction cost estimated to be \$10,398,837.06 for a total estimated cost of these projects being \$18,747,908.06.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

A motion was made by ALD. STAMPER that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

- 2. [221599](#) 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 \$12,000 for a total estimated cost of these projects being \$108,000.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Holly Rutenbeck - DPW

A motion was made by ALD. ZAMARRIPA that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

- 3. [221597](#) 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 \$1,152,000 for a total estimated cost of \$1,367,000.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

1st Aldermanic District

Alley between W. Florist Ave., W. Oriole Dr., N. 34th st., N. 35th St. (ST212220105) Concrete alley pavement reconstruction, and grading.

Ms. Rutenbeck said that the majority of responses to the aldermanic survey were in favor.

Ald. Brostoff moved approval. There were no objections.

5th Aldermanic District

N. 84th St. to N. 87th St. (ST211210198) Asphalt pavement resurfacing, replace curb and gutter, sidewalk and driveway approaches where necessary, sodding (8.0'width of tree border area) and grading.

Ms. Rutenbeck said that 19 properties were surveyed and that 1 was in favor and 2 in opposition of the project.

Neighbors present:

Sharon Jordan - 8543 W. Glendale Ave. - said that the schools should be directly responsible for these costs because there is heavy equipment and trucks servicing the schools and the huge amount of cars and buses dropping and picking up children daily.

Ms. Rutenbeck said that schools are not assessed because they are MPS.

Ald. Brostoff moved to hold the item. There were no objections.

7th Aldermanic District

Alley between W. Glendale Ave., W. Ruby Ave., N. 41st St., N. 42nd St. (ST212220103) Concrete alley pavement reconstruction, replace some abutting walk or driveway approaches, grading, storm drainage facilities, and permeable pavement as necessary.

Neighbors present:

Murjorie W - 3626 W Glendale Av - said that she cannot afford to pay the bill due

financial hardships even with the payment plan offered with simple interest.
 Ald. Bauman said that the cost of the alleys are assessable only at 50% and that the cost can be spread out for 10 years.
 Ms. Rutenbeck said that 29 properties were surveyed, 4 responded in favor and 1 opposed and that Ald. Rainey supports the project.
 Ald. Zamarripa said that there is a back up for alleys to be repaired.
 Ms. Rutenbeck said that there are 4,000 alleys in the City of Milwaukee and that they get to repair about 8 per year.
 Ald. Rainey moved approval. There were no objections.

11th Aldermanic District

S. 48th st. - W. Forest Home Ave. to W. Oklahoma Ave. (ST211180218) Asphalt pavement resurfacing, replace curb and gutter, sidewalk and driveway approaches where necessary, sodding (1 1 .0'width of tree border area) and grading.
 Ald. Borkowski said that the response was rather poor and very close but that he did not receive any indication of a greater opposition. He added that no one contacted him or is here to talk, so he supports the project.
 Ald. Zamarripa moved approval. There were no objections.

S. 94th St. — W. Howard Ave. to a point 600' North of W. Howard Ave. (ST211150111) Asphalt pavement resurfacing, replace curb and gutter, sidewalk and driveway approaches where necessary, sodding (8.0'width of tree border area) and grading.
 Ald. Borkowski said that this one really needs attention.
 Als. Rainey moved approval. There were no objections.

13th Aldermanic District

S. 5th st. -W. Howard Ave. to S. 5th Pl. (including W. Morgan Pl.) (ST211210202) Asphalt pavement resurfacing, replace curb and gutter, sidewalk and driveway approaches where necessary, sodding (8.0'width of tree border area) and grading.
 Neighbors present:
 Robert Heirs - 3828 S 5th St - said that he wants to move forward with the project but that he wants to know what happens with the money from the taxes. He said that trees are not trimmed and that he has reported it many times. He also said that 5% of interest is not a low rate even if it's paid in 10 years.
 Ald. Brostoff said that Mr. Heirs is right on all the things that he expects but that reality is that the City of Milwaukee does not receive the funds to operate at the level that is needed. He also said that for every dollar that the City gives to the state in shared revenue, we get only 67 cents back which means that 33% of the budget gets taken away just like that. He added that negotiations are going on and that residents should call their state legislators to put more pressure to fix the problem that is chocking the life out of us.
 Ald. Spiker said that the results of the survey were in favor and that the costs are higher due the inflation also.
 Ald. Stamper moved approval. There were no objections.

A motion was made by ALD. RAINEY that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

4. [221598](#)

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 \$35,000 for a total estimated cost of these projects being \$1,160,000.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Holly Rutenbeck - DPW

A motion was made by ALD. BROSTOFF that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

5. [221581](#) Resolution authorizing the City Comptroller to transfer additional funds to the previously established project for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the City of Milwaukee for cost participation for the construction of South Dana Court Bridge in the 10th Aldermanic district with a total estimated cost increase for the projects of \$60,000, with an estimated Grantor share of \$0, and an estimated City share of \$60,000.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

David Tapia - DPW

A motion was made by ALD. STAMPER that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

6. [221589](#) Resolution relating to authorizing and directing the Commissioner of Public Works to execute a document titled "1st Revision State/Municipal Agreement for a State-Let STP-U Project" with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the programming, design, real estate, and construction of North Sherman Boulevard from West North Avenue to West Burleigh Street.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

David Tapia - DPW

A motion was made by ALD. STAMPER that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

7. [221590](#) Resolution directing the Commissioner of Public Works to execute a document titled "State/Municipal Agreement for a State-Let STP-U Project" with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the

programming, design, real estate, and construction of N Sherman Blvd from West Burleigh Street to West Capitol Drive and to set up funds for design engineering and real estate acquisition at an estimated total cost of \$2,653,406 with an estimated City share of \$1,090,681.20 and a grantor share of \$1,562,724.80.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

David Tapia - DPW

A motion was made by ALD. RAINEY that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

8. [221515](#)

Resolution directing the Commissioner of Public Works to execute documents titled "State/Municipal Agreement for a State-Let Local Bridge Project" with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the rehabilitation of the Water Street Bridge over the Milwaukee River and to set up funds for design engineering at an estimated total cost of \$430,150 with an estimated City share of \$86,030 and a grantor share of \$344,120.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Jonathan Thomas - DPW - said that this project is 80% - 20% and that it will be done in 2025.

A motion was made by ALD. BROSTOFF that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

9. [221516](#)

Resolution directing the Commissioner of Public Works to execute documents titled "State/Municipal Agreement for a State-Let Local Bridge Project" with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the rehabilitation of the 35th Street Bridge over Pierce Street Phase 1 and the rehabilitation of the 35th Street Bridge over Pierce Street Phase 2, and to set up funds for design engineering at an estimated total cost of \$1,502,883 with an estimated City share of \$300,576 and a grantor share of \$1,202,307.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Jonathan Thomas - DPW - said that this project will be done on 2026-2027

A motion was made by ALD. ZAMARRIPA that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

10. [221571](#) Resolution authorizing execution of the Department of Natural Resources Principal Forgiven Financial Assistance Agreement.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

*Joshua Benson - Comptroller's Office and Patrick Pauly - Water Works.
Mr. Benson said that this resolution is to accept the grant.*

A motion was made by ALD. ZAMARRIPA that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

11. [221583](#) Resolution directing the Commissioner of Public Works to execute documents titled "Tunnel Inspection Agreement" and "State/Municipal Financial Agreement for Tunnel Inspections" with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the inspection of Kilbourn Avenue Tunnels, South and North - MacArthur Square and 9th Street Tunnel - MacArthur Square and to set up funds for three annual inspections at an estimated total cost of \$450,000 with an estimated City share of \$301,500 and a Federal/state share of \$148,500.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Anthony Gayfield - DPW

A motion was made by ALD. BROSTOFF that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

12. [221623](#) Resolution approving Port Milwaukee's 2023 Statement of Intentions for the State's Harbor Assistance Program (HAP)

Sponsors: Ald. Borkowski

Jackie Carter and Bryan Kasprzyk - Port of Milwaukee

A motion was made by ALD. RAINEY that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

13. [221565](#) Resolution relating to the acceptance of the average cost of replacing

the privately-owned portion of a lead water service line.

..Analysis

This resolution accepts the average current cost of replacing the privately-owned portion of a lead water service line.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Patrick Pauly - Water Works

A motion was made by ALD. ZAMARRIPA that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

14. [221556](#)

An ordinance relating to the amendment of the Official Map of the City of Milwaukee.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Yance Marti - Central Drafting & Records Manager

A motion was made by ALD. STAMPER that this Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR PASSAGE. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

15. [221550](#)

Appointment of Kevin Soucie to the Public Transportation, Utilities and Waterways Review Board by the Common Council President.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Mr. Kevin Soucie was present.

A motion was made by ALD. RAINEY that this Appointment be RECOMMENDED FOR CONFIRMATION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

16. [221602](#)

Appointment of Kevin Muhs to the Public Transportation, Utilities, and Waterways Review Board by the Mayor.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

A motion was made by ALD. ZAMARRIPA that this Appointment be RECOMMENDED FOR CONFIRMATION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

17. [221564](#) 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 Pauly - Water Works and Michelle Natarajan gave a Power Presentation that was added to the file.

A motion was made by ALD. ZAMARRIPA that this Communication be HELD IN COMMITTEE. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

18. [191930](#) Communication from the Department of Public Works relating to the status of current and future operations.

Sponsors: Ald. Bauman

Ald. Bauman said that he was told by a cell phone provider that there was a moratorium on cell phone towers.

James Washington - DPW - said that there is a guidance that they provide to carriers that are consistent with state statutes and that we cannot collocate by state statute.

Mr. Washington said that he won't use the term "moratorium" and that what they do is, to have the carrier to collocate where is technical visible to do so. He said that in other words, if there is an area where they can collocate, DPW will require to collocate.

Rick Meyers - Sanitation Services Manager gave the following report:

-Snow is coming tomorrow - the operation is preparing for a snow fall from 5 to 8 inches

-Sanitation updates:

1. The popular weekend box program where neighborhoods organize clean ups and reserve boxes begins March 1st. He said that updates will be sent to the aldermanic offices.

2. Narrowing down the schedules for the green and clean program that allows bulky items (up to 6 cubic yards) to be picked up without fees (done on one garbage collection day). He added that information is coming out soon.

-The sweeping program will be starting late March (weather dependant) which is the around the clock shifts of sweeping.

-The leaf program happened from October 23 to December 18 with 13,500 tons of leaves collected which is more than the last couple of years. He added that the leaf program have evolved operations due staffing limitations like working longer shifts, with less equipment out there and completing fewer total cycles through the city but that it has been successful in terms of living with our constraints and effective in the terms of the services that they are providing.

Ald. Zamarripa asked if it's possible to have a summary presentation like it used to be done.

A motion was made by ALD. BROSTOFF that this Communication be HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

19. [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

Kevin Muhs - DPW

Potholes

He said that the challenge is not the extreme cold temperatures but the changes back and forth between freeze and thaw and that this spring conditions are showing up earlier this year. He added that for this 2023 they have about 850 requests, that the average response time is 2 days with a backlog of 150 as today. He said that to catch up with a backlog like this, people from the Street Maintenance Division gets pulled off and on to work on potholes. He also said that they are going to initiate weekend overtime on potholes.

Ald. Bauman pointed out that not all the potholes are reported and that there are potholes almost on every street.

Mr. Muhs said that he understand the frustration and that there is a huge increase on the reports. He said that 11,500 requests were received on 2022 which was an increase of almost 3,000 versus 2021. He also asked the public to use the tools that are available (286-CITY, click for action and mobile action app) to report the potholes. He said that the street crews are being proactive and taking care and/or reporting potholes on the go. He added that the staffing challenges across the department is the mayor challenge and that they are doing what they can.

Ald. Rainey asked what happened with the creation of the dashboard that was approved about 6 years ago.

Mr. Muhs said that he cannot comment anything about this project but that he will talk to the DPW Commissioner to prepare a report.

Reckless Driving

He said that there was a resolution to shift \$500,000 away from the Speed Limit Reduction Initiative (for more speed humps at the reduced rate) which impacts the time spent on communication, advertising and other promotional efforts to make the public aware of the speed limit. He said that only 3 months of public outreach education is possible now instead on 6 months. He added that they are replacing the speed limits signs on residential streets and that individual commercial corridors require a different analysis to determine the correct speed. He also said that moving forward, a resolution file was introduced last Tuesday.

Van Buren Project near Downtown

He said that the design work is happening and that it will be done on the 2024 contract season.

Ald. Stamper asked about the street light program.

Mr. Muhs said that they are working on the design phase of the circuits and hoping to start the construction of some of them soon and that he will report back on it.

Ald. Zamarripa asked if decreasing the speed limits will help to curve the reckless driving and speeding.

Mr. Muhs said that it will be effective for saving lives and reducing fatalities. He mentioned that the City of Madison announced this morning that they have had two successful years in reducing fatalities and serious injuries by decreasing speed limits and letting the public to know about it. He added that the plan is to reduce the speed

limit to 20 mph on residential areas and to 30-25 mph on commercial streets.

A motion was made by ALD. BROSTOFF that this Communication be HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

20. [220436](#)

Motion relating to the recommendations of the Public Works Committee relating to licenses.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

James Cooney - License Division

A motion was made by ALD. BROSTOFF that this Motion be RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Bauman, Stamper, Rainey, Zamarripa, and Brostoff

No 0

The meeting was adjourned at 11:14 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>.