

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved as amended 12/02/10

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

November 15, 2010 - 6:00 P.M.

1. **Call to Order, Roll Call, and Establishment of a Quorum.** Chairman Dzierzanowski called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M. Roll Call found Aldermen James Beifuss, Nanette Connelly, Sandra Dimas, Nicholas Dzierzanowski, and James Smith present. Alderman Russell Radkiewicz arrived at 6:03 P.M. Alderman John Smith arrived at 6:27 P.M.

Also in attendance were Public Works Director Robert Flatter and Administrative Secretary Michelle Baldino.

Others in attendance included Mr. Brian Pawula and Mr. Kevin VanDeWoestyne of Thomas Engineering Group, LLC.

2. **Approval of Minutes.** None.

3. **Public Participation / Presentations.** None.

4. **Items for Consent.** None.

5. **Items for Discussion.** None.

6. **Unfinished Business.**

A. Direction to Staff – Galena Street Reconstruction Project (Main St. to High St.).

Chairman Dzierzanowski opened up the floor for discussion.

Alderman Connelly stated that the designs with a center median seem to be too restrictive and she would prefer Alternative 1. She expressed concern with area delivery trucks and safety for passengers on the busses that stop and load/unload at Jan's Hair Design.

Alderman Dimas stated that she would prefer Alternative 5C adding that she feels the design is innovative and adds more parking, which she believed the Committee was tasked to do. She disagrees that there are lane use restrictions with this design.

Alderman Beifuss stated that although he likes Alternative 5C, he would still prefer Alternative 1. He said he walked the street and talked to constituents (long time residents) about what they thought. For the most part, *some residents had strong opinions against Alternative 5C, but none of them had any strong opinions for it.* ~~the residents did not have a strong opinion against Alternative 5C, but no strong opinions for it either.~~ He stated that Alternative 1 will repair/replace the underground infrastructure, make the parking spaces legal,

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and repair *and expand* the sidewalks making the street more pedestrian friendly. This design will not maximize the parking, but it ~~will still~~ be fixing the underground problems.

Alderman James Smith said that he preferred Alternative 4, the one-way going eastbound. He said that this design will provide the most parking, will eliminate issues with delivery trucks and snow plowing operations. Alderman Radkiewicz asked if the project is designed and built as a one-way, can it easily be restructured to a two way. Mr. Flatter informed him that it would require a total reconstruction of the roadway above ground at a substantial cost.

Alderman Radkiewicz asked if a center median design would restrict snow plowing operations and if the Fire Department was consulted. Mr. Flatter assured him that the plowing operations would not be affected, and although the Fire Department has not been directly involved, turning templates were used in conceptual design.

Chairman Dzierzanowski stated that he prefers the design with the center median. He stated that it is innovative and it would provide for more parking. He felt that this design would also follow the City's motto – Where History and Progress Meet. Chairman Dzierzanowski, Alderman Dimas and Alderman James Smith all agreed that the Committee was tasked to have/build more parking.

Chairman Dzierzanowski asked for a show of hands from Committee members for each Alternative. Four (4) Aldermen voted for Alternative 1, one (1) Alderman voted for Alternative 4, and two (2) Aldermen voted for Alternative 5B. Alderman Dimas again stated that she felt direction to Committee was to add more parking. Alderman Beifuss stated that this design (Alternative 1) will provide more legal parking due to the parking by the apartments, and the possibility of two to three additional spaces by El Pææ Coco Loco. The street will also be more usable and visually pleasing.

The engineering staff advised that the Alternative 1 provides greater opportunity for installation of benches and planters.

Alderman Connelly made a motion to approve Alternative 1 design for the Galena Street Reconstruction Project, seconded by Alderman Radkiewicz. Voting Yea: Aldermen Nanette Connelly, Russell Radkiewicz, James Beifuss, and John Smith. Voting No: Aldermen Sandra Dimas, Nicholas Dzierzanowski, and James Smith. Motion carried. Direction to staff also included that the work is to be started prior to the beginning of Bloomingfest.

7. New Business.

A. Alderman Radkiewicz asked staff to look into the possibility of installing a crosswalk sign on Main Street such as the one used by the High School. Mr. Flatter informed him that staff is researching permanent alternatives. The one by the High School is portable and removed from the street every night.

B. Alderman Dimas informed staff that there was a parking sign at the intersection of Sassafrass and Thomas that was knocked down and was replaced with a Stop sign. Mr. Flatter informed her that it would be taken care of.

8. Reports from Staff. None.

9. Adjournment. At 6:45 P.M., Alderman Russell Radkiewicz made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Nanette Connelly. Motion was approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Baldino
Administrative Secretary