

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved November 7, 2019

MINUTES

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

October 3, 2019 7:00 P.M.

1. **Call to Order, Roll Call, and Establishment of a Quorum.** Chairman Beifuss called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Roll call found Aldermen James Beifuss, Heather Brown, Sandra Dimas, Matt Garling, Alton Hallett, and Jeanne Short present. Alderman Noreen Ligino-Kubinski was absent.

Staff present included Director of Public Works Robert Flatter, Utility Division Superintendent Rocky Horvath, and Administrative Assistant Ashley Heidorn.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

A. **Infrastructure Committee Minutes of June 6, 2019.** Alderman Hallett made a motion, seconded by Alderman Dimas to approve the Meeting Minutes of June 6, 2019.

Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Brown, Dimas, Garling, Hallett, and Short. Voting Nay: 0.

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

4. **Items for Consent.** Alderman Beifuss requested discussion on Consent Item A. Alderman Brown requested discussion on Consent Item D. **Alderman Dimas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Garling to approve:**

B. Resolution No. 19-R-0046 – FY 2020-2022 CDBG Grant Application For Participating Streets

C. Resolution No. 19-R-0049 – 2019 Sanitary Collection System Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Upgrade Project

Roll call found the vote unanimous for approval. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Brown, Dimas, Garling, Hallett, and Short. Voting Nay: 0.

5. **Items for Discussion.**

4.A. **Ordinance No. 19-O-0030 – Authorizing the Disposal of Surplus Equipment, Stock Inventory, and/or Personal Property Owned By the City Of West Chicago.** Alderman Beifuss inquired about the two 2009 SUVs on the list and wanted to clarify if they would be sold. Mr. Flatter explained that most salvageable items are sold on GovDeals.com. They orchestrate the transactions and do not charge the City for their services. Buyers are instead charged a percentage to cover the costs. Alderman Garling asked how long we hold on to

vehicles before disposing of them. Mr. Flatter explained that it is generally a 7-15 year cycle, but overall they will be kept until the cost of repair becomes greater than the value of the vehicle. **Alderman Brown made a motion, seconded by Alderman Garling to approve.**

Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Brown, Dimas, Garling, Hallett, and Short. Voting Nay: 0.

4.D. Resolution No. 19-R-0050 – Contract Award - Clark Dietz, Inc. For Professional Engineering Services Associated with the Wastewater Treatment Plant Digester #1 Improvement Project. Alderman Brown asked for clarification on what Digester #3 was being used for after being cleaned previously. Mr. Flatter explained that Digester #3 was cleaned in 2006, and Digester #2 was cleaned in 2013. Both have been and are being used currently. Digesters #1 and #2 both have heating and mixing equipment in them, while #3 does not. Digesters #1 and #2 receive all the solids that are separated from the liquids at the Plant to process them for eventual disposal at a landfill. Digester #3 is used exclusively for storage and holds excess solids when #1 and #2 get too full. However, Digester #1 has been sitting unused since 2013 pending sufficient funding to have it cleaned and repaired. Alderman Brown inquired if the Village of Winfield was helping with costs since the Wastewater Treatment Plant is shared with them. Mr. Flatter confirmed that costs are shared between the Village of Winfield and the City of West Chicago based on flow to the Plant.

Roll call found the vote unanimous for approval. Alderman Garling made a motion, seconded by Alderman Brown to approve.

Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Brown, Dimas, Garling, Hallett, and Short. Voting Nay: 0.

5.A. Installation of Railing at Stairway Adjacent to 461 Main Street. Mr. Flatter explained that the stairs were installed at this location in 2017 based on recommendation by the Committee, wherein per City Code, railings would not be required because four sets of three stairs were installed rather than one continuous stairway. Since that time the City has received inquiries about when railings would be installed. At the present time there are no plans to install any railings, but this is being brought before the Committee to determine if railing installation would be desirable. Mr. Flatter explained that there would be several options to consider: a railing on one side of the stairway; railings on both sides of the stairway; a continuous rail along the entire stairway; or four sets of railings only where the stairs themselves are located and not along the portions of landing. Preliminary pricing estimates have been obtained, though the City would need to go out to bid for this project if pursued. Two continuous railings would cost about \$23,000; a continuous railing on one side is estimated at \$12,300; railings on both sides only where the stairs are located would cost around \$15,000; and railings on one side only where the stairs are would cost about \$8,000. For reference, the cost estimate for two continuous railings to be installed during the original stairway construction in 2017 was about \$15,000. Discussion amongst the Committee followed, and Alderman Beifuss expressed concern about the stairs being a liability, particularly in the evenings and during the winter. Alderman Dimas expressed her desire for the installation of four sets of railings on one side of the stairway. Alderman Beifuss noted that this design would also be a deterrent for skateboarders. Following further discussion, there was a consensus by the Committee to install the intermittent railings on both sides to accommodate heavy traffic flow both up and down the stairway.

6. **Unfinished Business.** None.

7. **New Business.**

A. Parkway Tree Removal Restoration. Alderman Brown suggested enacting an Ordinance regarding the frequency with which the City will lay grass seed and peat moss to restore parkways following a tree removal. There have been some issues with a select number of residents that do not maintain or water the seed following the restoration. Alderman Dimas suggested that one restoration should be sufficient as the general maintenance of the parkway is the homeowner's responsibility. Following discussion, Mr. Flatter proposed discussing the matter with the City Administrator to write a policy establishing clearer guidelines that could be brought before the Committee for approval thereafter.

B. Creating New and Connecting Bike Trails. Alderman Garling noted that West Chicago is already a fairly easy city to bike around, but there are gaps in trails that he would love to see improved; connecting the downtown, parks, and schools via bike trails from different subdivisions and neighborhoods would make it even better. He suggested giving Mr. Flatter and his staff between now and next spring to come up with long-term suggestions for connecting these routes so options could be presented to the Committee for further discussion at that point. There were also suggestions made to improve signage near and along the paths.

8. **Reports from Staff.**

A. Washington Street Reconstruction Project. Mr. Flatter updated the Committee on the Project's progress and indicated it is about 30 days behind schedule. Initially, delays were caused primarily by the railroads, including delayed right of entry permits from the Union Pacific. Issues with rain and limited flagger hours also held up progress on the Project. Phase III of the Project is anticipated to begin next week; at this point, construction is not expected to be complete until the end of November. Staff is hopeful that the weather cooperates and the project can be completed this year, though there is a real possibility it may not be. As an IDOT project, there are very restrictive rules about temperature conditions in which paving and concrete work can be done. The contractor has assured the City that once Phase III begins things will really start to move quickly with multiple crews at work. Downtown businesses will be most impacted by Phase III of the Project, and they will be mailed a construction update newsletter next week to keep them informed accordingly.

B. Salt Storage Facility. Mr. Flatter distributed some recent photos of the new salt storage facility and noted that construction will hopefully be completed in the next three weeks. Staff anticipates that salt deliveries can begin being accepted around November 1, 2019.

9. **Adjournment.** At 8:11 P.M., Alderman Hallett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Dimas. Motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Heidorn
Administrative Assistant of Public Works