

# CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved June 1, 2023

## MINUTES

### INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

May 4, 2023 7:00 P.M.

1. **Call to Order, Roll Call, and Establishment of a Quorum.** Director of Public Works, Mehul Patel, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Roll call found Aldermen Dan Beebe, Heather Brown, Sandra Dimas, Alton Hallett, Joe Morano, Jeanne Short, and John C. Smith, Jr., present.

Staff present included Director of Public Works, Mehul Patel, and Administrative Assistant, Ashley Heidorn.

2. **Selection of a Chairman and Vice-Chairman.**

Alderman Dimas nominated Alderman Morano as Chairman of the Infrastructure Committee, seconded by Alderman Brown.

**Roll call found the vote unanimous for approval. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beebe, Brown, Dimas, Hallett, Morano, Short, and Smith. Voting Nay: 0.**

Alderman Dimas nominated Alderman Smith as Vice-Chairman of the Infrastructure Committee, seconded by Alderman Brown.

**Roll call found the vote unanimous for approval. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beebe, Brown, Dimas, Hallett, Morano, Short, and Smith. Voting Nay: 0.**

3. **Approval of Minutes**

A. **Infrastructure Committee Minutes of April 6, 2023.** Alderman Brown made a motion, seconded by Alderman Smith to approve the Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2023.

**Roll call was taken. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beebe, Brown, Dimas, Hallett, Morano, and Smith. Voting Nay: 0. Abstaining: Alderman Short.**

4. **Public Participation / Presentations.** None.

5. **Items for Consent.** Alderman Dimas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Brown to approve:

- A. Ordinance No. 23-O-0011 – Authorizing the Disposal of Surplus Equipment, Stock Inventory, and/or Personal Property Owned By the City Of West Chicago
- B. Resolution No. 23-R-0044 – Execution of a Joint Funding Agreement for State-Let Construction Work with Illinois Department of Transportation and Local Match Appropriation for Construction Costs Associated with the Conde Street Resurfacing Project
- C. Resolution No. 23-R-0045 – ESI Consultants, LLC – Phase III Construction Engineering Services for Conde Street Resurfacing Project in the Amount not to Exceed \$76,700.00

**Roll call found the vote unanimous for approval. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beebe, Brown, Dimas, Hallett, Morano, Short, and Smith. Voting Nay: 0.**

**6. Items for Discussion.** None.

**7. Unfinished Business.** Mr. Patel provided an update regarding some METRA repairs requested by Alderman Beifuss at the last Infrastructure Committee meeting. Union Pacific crews began working on the stairs this week but have not yet started repairs on the platform. Mr. Patel anticipates that work on the ADA detectible warning tiles will follow after the stairs are completed.

**8. New Business.** Mr. Patel discussed the Headworks Influent Gate Replacement Project at the West Chicago/Winfield Wastewater Authority Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The flow of raw sewage enters the WWTP at two locations – one through a 20-inch forcemain into the grit chamber and one through a 36-inch gravity interceptor at the headworks. The two influent gates that control the gravity flow from the City of West Chicago into the headworks lift station are currently inoperable. The Project was first bid in 2022, but results came in much higher than was budgeted, and the two bids received were subsequently rejected. The thought was to modify the project to include other work planned for 2023 at the WWTP and re-bid the project in the hopes of receiving more bids, which was done in March 2023; however, no bids were received. The only contractor that expressed interest in the project was the low bidder from 2022, Boller Construction. The scope of work has since changed, and staff has decided to handle the bypass pumping in-house, as it was the most costly item from the original Project scope. Boller has been working with staff to identify ways to get this Project in motion and at least get it done during 2023. Boller has done satisfactory work for the WWTP in the past, and staff is unsure if they would show further interest in the project after assisting staff over the past month if the project was bid out for the third time.

It is Mr. Patel's recommendation to get a proposal for the work from Boller Construction and waive competitive bidding. Since the Project must be approved jointly under the West Chicago/Winfield Wastewater Authority, Mr. Patel has also discussed this recommendation with Winfield's Village Manager and Village Engineer, and they concur with this course of action. So long as the proposal comes in near the budgeted amount, the Project would come back to the Committee for approval at the June Infrastructure Committee meeting.

**9. Reports from Staff.** Mr. Patel noted that the 2023 Roadway Rehabilitation, Fair Meadows Subdivision Rehabilitation, and Sophia Street Area Water Main and Streets Rehabilitation Projects are all underway. Staff also had a pre-construction meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup> for the Technology Boulevard Resurfacing Project; the contractor anticipates a starting date of May 15<sup>th</sup>. The 200 Main Street – Lower Level and Main Street Rehabilitation Project will also begin next week.

Alderman Hallett mentioned that he has gotten several questions from residents about why the construction is going on simultaneously throughout town. Mr. Patel noted that construction season is relatively short in this region, and every community competes for contractors and their availability; the availability of subcontractors can also come into play. All contractors also have a completion date in their contract that must be met or liquidated damages could be imposed. By getting projects done earlier in the season, the focus can then be shifted to the next year's design projects as well, so the City can go to bid early in the year when contractors are ready to fill their calendar and may provide more competitive pricing.

**10. Adjournment.** At 7:15 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