

CITY OF ELKHORN
Municipal Services and Utilities Committee
Minutes
First Floor Conference Room, 9 S. Broad Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin

November 13, 2017

Municipal Services and Utilities Committee was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Alderman Kluck followed by Roll Call.

Roll Call

Present: Michael Kluck, Cathy Bensaïd, Bruce Lechner

Also present: Alderman Tom Myrin, Administrator Sam Tapson, City Clerk Cairie Virrueta, Recreation Director Wendy Meyer, City Engineer Greg Calhoun, Kellen Olshefski

East Market Street Construction Discussion

The contractor for E. Market Street informed the City Engineer that they feel more bad soils will need to be removed than the engineer's estimate. City Engineer Calhoun said RAMS dug their own test pit and they felt up to 1 ½ feet of soil needs to be removed. He said the contract should have had a higher estimate for soil removal. The contractor is only paid for the amount of soil removed. It is estimated that the extra soil removal would not exceed \$295,000 and is expected to be about half of that. The bids came in below the engineer's estimate so even with the extra cost, will still be under budget. Administrator Tapson asked if it was plausible that the contractor could have determined this before the bidding. Engineer Calhoun said yes, but contractors want to win the bid and keep their prices competitive. Alderman Kluck asked if this would affect the bid quantities; they would be the same. Alderman Lechner said it was good to be informed of this now than later. Junior Council Member Fink asked what the engineer's soil removal estimate was; it was ½ to 1 foot based on soil borings that Kapur had done.

2018 CIP: Babe Mann Improvements

Administrator Tapson asked the committee to consider what it wants to do at Babe Mann Park. He suggested having a park planner work with the Rec Advisory Board to determine a plan for the park. He suggested against putting dollars into the budget to piecemeal improvements at the park without a plan in place. Alderman Kluck agreed with getting it started with a professional planner and wanted \$50,000 in the budget next year to get it going. Administrator Tapson said he spoke with Teska, who has worked well with the City before, and they would charge \$15,000 to develop and plan. The planning would take about 4 – 6 months and if additional funds are needed, it could be found later. It would include meeting with the Rec Advisory Board three times. Alderman Bensaïd agreed with getting a planner and felt the work should be done by the advisory board. Alderman Kluck felt \$50,000 was needed to cover the planner and start prepping at the end of the year. Alderman Myrin didn't support the \$50,000 as he felt a plan was needed first as there were too many ideas to consider. He also supported updating the park in four stages, as was previously discussed. Alderman Bensaïd asked why a plan created in 2005 suggested passive use of the park; Administrator Tapson said the Council didn't want swimming as they felt it was dangerous without lifeguards. In addition, it was considered waters of the state by the DNR so motorized boats were not allowed which needs to be clarified with the state. Alderman Lechner asked why the 2005 plan wasn't implemented; because it cost over one million dollars and the council at the time didn't prioritize it. Alderman Lechner questioned whether the City had dollars available given all the other planned projects. Administrator Tapson said the City would have to find the dollars or borrow. Finance Director Heilman said borrowing for the park could be part of the 2019 borrowing, which could also include Court Street. Alderman Myrin felt the park should be prioritized as everyone can use it but streets were only used by homeowners. He felt the economy is improving and the park is an imperative part of the City's future. Alderman Kluck said the City doesn't have any volleyball for citizens and it could

be part of the park. Recreation Director Meyer said they should survey the community to see what they want at the park. Administrator Tapson suggested the advisory board include another board member, with no more than nine people. Alderman Bensaid suggested including someone from the Chamber of Commerce. Alderman Kluck asked where money for the planner would come from; the Community Development Fund.

Adjournment

Motion (Lechner/Bensaid) to adjourn at 5:51 p.m.

Cairie L. Virrueta
City Clerk