

City of Decorah Street Committee Meeting Monday, January 22, 2018 – 5:30pm

The City of Decorah Street Committee met on Monday, January 22, 2018 at 5:30pm. Chair Ross Hadley called the meeting to order.

Dan Bellrichard, Kirk Johnson, and Randy Schissel were present.

Others in attendance: Mayor Lorraine Borowski, Andy Carlson, Steve Luse, Johanna Bergan, Street Superintendent Kevin Nelson and City Manager Chad Bird.

Agenda

Oneota Drive Bridge consultant selection process

Bird provided an overview of the DOT required consultant selection process for DOT and Federal Hwy funded projects. He noted the first two steps are to develop a draft RFP process for the solicitation of consultant qualifications. He distributed copies of an RFP draft and asked for comments through the draft document.

There was a question about whether the council / selection committee could leave open the idea of in-person interviews or not.

The next item Bird noted as required for the committee is to determine a selection committee to receive and score the submitted RFPs. It was decided the street committee's four members plus an engineer of their choosing would make up the committee. The committee asked Bird to ask Jeremy Bril if he might serve on the committee. Bird said he would do so and then send this initial information off to the DOT for approval.

Staff report on administrative sidewalk policy

Bird reviewed the planning and zoning commission's recommendation for a community wide sidewalk policy. He noted the commission had spent much time on the document and the provisions for waivers and for city cost sharing.

The committee reviewed the remaining aspects of the policy. Carlson asked the committee if they were really behind the overall sidewalk policy and supported the program. General comments seemed to indicate yes. Carlson also asked about the definition of "arterial" streets and the committee agreed that section should be re-written.

The committee also discussed requiring five-foot sidewalks and that the city should pay for the one additional foot for the first six-year cycle of the program then change the code to require five-foot sidewalks as a code mandate with no city cost participation.

The committee agreed to the cost sharing for the amenities and red brick sections in the downtown area.

The committee directed Bird to bring the final policy to full council for approval.

Discussion regarding 2018 street improvement plan

a) Short Street, south

Hadley reviewed the proposed Short Street plan and proposed to the committee that the current proposed project be suspending pending other more pressing issues and an increase in development in the south Short Street area.

Bird reviewed comments from engineer Lindsay Erdman regarding the two-phase approach the project has taken over the past couple of years. He noted there are a few items that have been left open pending a paving project in 2018.

In further conversation, the committee agreed that suspending the Short Street project in favor of smaller and more urgent repairs and improvements was desired.

Street Committee
January 22, 2018
Page two

Hadley noted he would work with Street Superintendent Kevin Nelson on recommended project areas and bring back for approval.

It was discussed that Short Street should be postponed until at least 2019 or until further development in the area occurs.

Master Planning

The committee engaged in a conversation about overall master planning for various areas of the community. Attention was drawn to the north area, especially in the context of the Highland Drive area. Bird noted there is proposed development and he noted transportation will be an issue if further development continues in the area.

The committee asked Bird to engage in some professional consultant review of planning.

SUDAS and Complete Street adoptions

Hadley asked the committee about considering adoption of these standards. The committee thought favorably on the idea but ended the meeting without further conversation.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.
Respectfully submitted,

