

City of Decorah Street Committee Meeting
Monday, April 1, 2019 – 6:18pm
(immediately following the regular city council meeting)

The City of Decorah Street Committee met on Monday, April 1, 2019 at approximately 6:18pm immediately following the adjournment of the regular council meeting. Chair Ross Hadley called the meeting to order.

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

Others in attendance: Mayor Lorraine Borowski, and City Manager Chad Bird.

Agenda

Discussion on Locust Road and proposed scope of project timeline

Hadley opened the discussion and asked about a proposed timeline for completion of work. Johnson wanted as much done in one year as possible to avoid disrupting the public.

Schissel wanted the project to go to Highland Drive or even the city limits to address the storm water issues in the area.

Bellrichard thought the committee had discussed using Ridge Road as possible detour during the project. Mayor Borowski noted that she believed getting to Pine Crest should be the priority.

The committee agreed to direct the engineers to bring a one-year construction project that will cover to Pine Crest with the Highland Drive option as an alternate. Hadley noted he would like to see a community input session sometime in June.

Discussion and review of a Complete Streets policy

Hadley moved this item up on the agenda and asked the committee to consider a future adoption of the Complete Streets concept. He believed it would provide better direction and clarity for future street design work. There was some other general discussion in regard to providing continuity in design and planning concepts.

There was little other discussion.

Discussion and review of 2019 Sidewalk Improvement special assessment options

Bird reviewed several options in regard to how to assess the project to adjacent property owners. He noted options might include 100% of the project assessed, using an older method of 50% to those property owners that might receive a sidewalk, 25% to those that would not, and 25% to the city. Bird also reviewed the provisions in the city sidewalk policy which provides for a 50/50 cost share between property owners or 100% of the costs borne by adjacent land owners.

The council directed staff to set the project up with either 100% of the costs assessed to the property owners or to look at a 50/50 cost share between those that may receive a sidewalk and those that might not.

Mayor Borowski asked about the interest rates on special assessment projects. Bird noted state code allows for a city to assess up to 9% interest for up to ten years. Bellrichard and Schissel asked about the city's past practices regarding special assessments. Bird noted the city has typically assessed in the 5 – 6% range depending on the project and economy.

The committee also discussed the sidewalk policy provision of the city paying for ADA and intersection structures in sidewalk projects and the committee agreed they wish to continue that practice.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 6:52pm.
Respectfully submitted,

Clara A. [Signature]