

## **City of Decorah Street Committee Meeting**

**Monday, August 17, 2020** – Immediately following the regular city council meeting. The meeting convened approximately 7:45pm.

*Electronic meeting pursuant to Iowa Code section 21.8 – In circumstances where such a meeting is impossible or impractical due to concerns about COVID-19 and social distancing for the safety of Council members and the public.*

*In support of Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds' proclamation declaring a State of Public Health Disaster Emergency in Iowa, the current COVID-19 situation makes it "impossible and impractical" to meet in one location. Due to this the Decorah City Hall was open to the public for the August 17, 2020 City Council Street Committee meeting. However, seating was limited to ensure proper social distancing. Seating was available on a first-come, first served basis. However, the meeting was made available telephonically.*

Chairman Ross Hadley called the meeting to order and the following answered roll: Emily Neal, Kirk Johnson, and Randy Schissel.

Mayor Lorraine Borowski, Andy Carlson, Steve Luse, and Johanna Bergan were also in attendance. Others in attendance: City Manager Chad Bird and several Dept Heads.

## **Agenda**

### **Pole Line Road Bridge railing design**

*Bird noted design work is progressing on this bridge. He asked council for input on the railing design and presented five options from the engineering team. Bril and Bird noted the railing design must meet laDOT design guidelines given the bridge has an increased traffic volume and speed compared to the Oneota Drive Bridge.*

*In general discussion, the committee liked design option #1 and also noted they like the design showing the added bike lanes.*

*It was also suggested the design team should look to add lights on the bridge as this area does not have much lighting.*

### **Discussion on staff authorization to approve change orders in the field; Locust Road Improvement Project**

*Staff suggested and asked the committee to consider vesting the City Manager and City Engineer with field level authority to approve project change orders for the Locust Road Improvement Project. Bird noted this request would improve timely response and efficiency in the field to keep the project moving.*

*Hadley suggested such field approvals would be in consultation with the city engineer.*

*Bird suggested field level authority to approve changes in the \$5,000 - \$10,000 range for each occurrence and up to \$30,000 in an aggregate before seeking council approval. He also noted, all change orders require city council approval, however field level authority would allow the overall project to continue without waiting for the next council meeting for approval.*

*The committee expressed consensus to recommend approval for this request to the full council. Bird noted he would present formal council action on September 8.*

### **Bruening Addition sidewalks, schedule**

*Bird presented the latest plat changes for this project and noted the overall project has been delayed by staff attention to pandemic issues.*

*The update includes a final plat that removes sidewalks on the East side of Park Street, in the old Linden Street area and inclusion of sidewalk and street crossings on North Park Street up to and including Phelps Park.*

*Bird stated, if this plan meets with approval, the project schedule would be set and presented to council for action at a future meeting.*

*The committee noted their agreement with the plan to move forward.*

**Grant and scope of work for South Short Street Improvement Project**

*Staff presented a recommendation that the City consider a US Economic Development Administration grant to off-set some of the costs associated with final improvements on South Short Street (South of Hwy 9), known as phase II.*

*Bird noted, phase I on this project was completed in 2017 and Phase II, final work was halted for other projects.*

*Bril and Bird outlined other impacts on this street project, including the pending Alliant Headquarters facility, potential improvements to Stanley Engineered Fasteners, and a temporary street surface on this section of Short Street. They noted strong consideration be given to applying for the grant to complete this street with Federal assistance.*

*They reviewed the details and asked for committee input.*

**Road Use Tax and Local Option Sales Tax financial updates and future street project planning**  
*Wanda Hemesath provided an overview of LOST and RUT revenues and there was general discussion of impacts on street projects.*

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,