

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

A meeting of the Board of Public Works was called to order by Chairperson Thiele on Monday, August 15, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.

Members present: Antoine, Coenen (via ZOOM), DeCoster, Eggleston, Moore, Schell, and Thiele.

Absent & Excused: Kilgas

Also present: Mayor Penterman, Attorney Davidson, DPW/Eng. Neumeier, HR Dir. Swaney, Planner Stephenson, Street Sup. Van Gompel, Police Chief Graff, Fire Chief Carrel, and interested citizens.

Motion by Moore, seconded by Antoine to excuse the absent member.

All Ald. present voted aye.

Motion carried.

1. Correspondence – none.

2. Discussion Topics.

a. Red Hills Landfill Update.

DPW/Eng. Neumeier introduced Heath Hoffman-Operations Manager from the Ahlstrom-Munksjo. Mr. Hoffman provided information, along with photos, on their efforts and plans. Ahlstrom-Munksjo has recently come out with a corporate sustainability goal of zero waste to landfill by 2030. They have been asking questions to understand, and are providing resources to help with potential end uses.

On July 26th, the environmental department organized a river bank clean-up alongside Thilmany road. Volunteers from the Ahlstrom Munksjo helped with this clean up, and ended up picking over 180 lbs. of trash. Thanks to the City of Kaukauna Street Department for the traffic signs. Questions from the Board were answered.

b. Permit Revocation Appeal from TDS and Broadband Infrastructure (BBI).

DPW/Eng. Neumeier provided background information on the revocation. As of August 9th, 2022, due to continued violations of City and self-imposed rules for safe work in the right-of-way, all TDS, and their sub-contractors Broadband Infrastructure (BBI), and SourceOne(consultant) right-of-way permits within the City of Kaukauna were revoked per Municipal Code 8.06(20)(a). Per 8.06(20)(c) Appeals: Any person aggrieved by a decision of the Department revoking, suspending, refusing to issue or refusing to extend a permit may, within ten (10) days of the Department's decision being issued, file a written request with the Department seeking a review of the decision by the Board of Public Works. Following a hearing, the Board of Public Works may affirm, reverse, or modify the decision of the Department. The decision of the Board of Public Works is final. Both TDS and BBI have requested reviews of the decision of the Department and have provided background. Also included is a history of the violations for main-line fiber installation and service drops (to private property) issues. Representatives from each company were present to speak/appeal to the Board. Discussion was held and questions answered.

Motion by Moore, seconded by Antoine to allow representatives from TDS and Broadband Infrastructure (BBI) to speak.

All Ald. present voted aye.

Motion carried.

Braddock Cunningham, CEO/Owner of BBI introduced himself and spoke to appeal the permit revocation. BBI has been in town for approximately one and a half years and has a big

investment in this project. In this field of putting utilities in, there are going to be strikes. There is zero way to stop these, but by putting precautions in place these can be kept to a minimum. Almost every strike was done by one sub-contractor. This contractor is no longer in market. Cunningham explained his plan of action, which includes sending in his employees to be on site to oversee the completion of the project. All precautions will be taken and new stringent procedures to ensure these issues do not happen again will be enforced. Questions from the Board were answered.

Wade Soczka, Director of Network Construction with TDS spoke to the mainline construction. The City of Kaukauna is a cost per service model, total turn-key contract where BBI is responsible for design, engineering, construction, inspection and all record updates and systems. Soczka spoke about safety protocols and expectations.

Andrew Buchart, Vice President of Field Operations with TDS spoke about the drop work to customers once the construction is complete. TDS sends out a sub-contractor to go out to make the connection from the main line to the home. The concerns from property owners regarding property damage and restoration of project areas were discussed. Questions from the Board were answered.

Motion by Moore, seconded by Coenen to modify the permit revocation and work with contractors to develop a work plan to reinstate current permits without Board approval. Roll call vote: Antoine-aye, Coenen-aye, DeCoster-aye, Eggleston-aye, Moore-aye, Schell-aye, Thiele-aye.
Motion carried.

c. Public Works update.

DPW/Eng. Neumeier provided a list of projects currently, or soon to be, underway. These projects include: Island Street Bridge, which started on August 15; intersection project with Elm and Island Street nearing completion; Cty Road Q asphalt milling started and paving will be complete before school starts; Cty Road J will be worked on after Cty Road Q; and the alley paving project has started. Board members should contact the Engineering Department with questions and concerns.

3. General Matters - none.

4. Adjourn.

Motion made by Moore, seconded by Schell to adjourn.
All members present voted aye.
Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Sally Kenney
Clerk