

## **BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS**

A meeting of the Board of Public Works was called to order by Chair Thiele on Monday, April 15, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.

Members present: Coenen, DeCoster, Eggleston, Kilgas, Moore, Schell, and Thiele.

Also present: Mayor Penterman, Attorney Davidson, DPW/Eng. Neumeier, Fin. Dir, Van Rossum, HR Dir. Swaney (Via ZOOM), Fire Chief Carrel (via ZOOM), Street Sup. VanGompel, Com. Enrich. & Rec. Dir. Vosters, Com. Enrich Prog. Mgr. Mickelson, Lib. Dir. Thiem-Menning, and interested citizens.

Absent & Excused: Antoine.

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

All Ald. present voted aye.

Motion carried.

**1. Correspondence** – none.

**2. Discussion Topics.**

**a. Capital Project Improvement Plan Review/Approval.**

The latest Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the City of Kaukauna was provided. Staff has met to review the projects within the plan and adjusted to the latest status of each project. Items from the Equipment Fund, Utility Funds, Street and Sidewalk Fund, and Building and Miscellaneous Funds were discussed. Discussion was held and questions answered.

Motion by DeCoster, seconded by Kilgas to have staff review the 2024-28 CIP list and give approval to move ahead with the projects listed in 2024 year of the plan and direct the Finance Director to come back at a future meeting for approval of the 2024 bonding needs.

Motion carried.

**b. Authorization Resolution Inflation Reduction Act.**

The Urban Forestry Inflation Reduction Act (UF IRA) Grant program uses federal funds to support projects that positively impact trees and people within disadvantaged communities in Wisconsin. Grants range from \$1,000 to \$500,000 and require no match. Projects must take place in or benefit people living in disadvantaged communities. Opportunities for the City include Grignon Park, Strassberg Park, LaFollette Park, and 2024 Paving Project. Grant projects may cover a duration up to 3 years from the project start date. Federal grant dollars are subject to the Code of Federal Regulation (CFR). Discussion held and questions answered.

Motion by Eggleston, seconded by Schell to recommend approval of the Authorizing Resolution to Common Council and direct the Director of Public Works / City Engineer to apply for a 2024 Inflation Reduction Act Urban Forestry Grant.

All Ald. present voted aye.

Motion carried.

**c. 2024 Slow Mow Summer.**

In 2023, the City stopped promoting “No-Mow May” and began to promote different ways to help pollinators with a more holistic approach called “Slow-Mow Summer”. Ways to participate include decreasing the amount of times grass is cut, planting flowers and native plants; especially plants that flower early in the season, increasing mower height to highest setting,

and reducing pesticide use. These actions not only help pollinators like bees and butterflies, but they are also important stormwater management practices. Slow-Mow Summer actions help create lawns that require less chemicals, promote more infiltration, require less watering, and help keep pollutants out of our rivers and lakes. We are again recommending the City encourages residents to participate in Slow-Mow Summer, promoting pollinator friendly actions that anyone can take part in to create pollinator friendly yards.

Motion by Coenen, seconded by Kilgas to direct staff to continue promoting the "Slow-Mow Summer" program and participate in City parks and open spaces.

All Ald. present voted aye.

Motion carried.

d. **Public Works Update.**

DPW/Eng. Neumeier stated the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance Cleanup is occurring on May 4. Kaukauna will have three sites: 1000 Islands, Konkapot Trail, and Grignon Park. There will also be a new 8K event on May 3 & 4. The Kaukauna Utilities will be hosting an Electronic Recycling Event on April 20 from 8 to 11 am at Kaukauna Utilities.

Street Superintendent Van Gompel stated crews collected 11.3 tons of tires during tire collection week. Today is the first day of large and irregular collection with the 5 item limit. Street Department Operators Josh Karl and Kyle Rich went to Park Community Charter School to show students large equipment. This went very well. Groundbreaking at LaFollette Park for the playground took place today. The Arbor Day planting is scheduled for April 26. Riverview Fifth Grade students will be taking part in the tree planting. Moore thanked staff for the Facebook post on the 5-item large irregular pickup limit. Questions were answered.

**3. Adjourn.**

Motion made by Moore, seconded by DeCoster to adjourn.

All members voted aye.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Sally Kenney  
Clerk