

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

5:30 p.m.

The Public Works Commission met on the above date and time. The following members were present: Alderpersons Brad Blanke, Dan Bartz, Myron Moldenhauer, and Tony Arnett; Citizen member Pete Thompson. Also present: City Staff Andrew Beyer, Kristine Butteris, Nathan Williams, Richie Piltz.

1. **Call to order.** Chairperson Arnett called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. **Comments and Suggestions from Citizens Present.** None.
3. **Review and take possible action. Minutes of PWC meeting of December 9th, 2025.** Mr. Moldenhauer moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Bartz. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
4. **Review and take possible action: Award Tennis Court Resurfacing Contract #9-26 to Poblocki Paving Corporation for \$184,795.00.** Mr. Thompson moved to accept the bid, with Mr. Blanke seconding. Mr. Bartz asked if this is for the north courts at Brandt-Quirk. It is. He also asked if the School District was participating. They are not. Lastly, he asked about the insurance coverage. The City budgeted \$95,000 in 2025 and \$70,000 in 2026. Insurance will provide an additional \$42,000. Therefore, the recommended bid of \$184,795 is under the total available funds of \$207,000. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
5. **Review and discuss: 2028 Downtown Main Street Reconstruction Project Streetscape Amenities.** Andrew Beyer walked through the memo and packet provided covering the proposed streetscape amenities as part of the Main Street reconstruction project currently slated for 2028. He emphasized that any significant additions or changes to the amenities previously submitted in the preliminary plans may trigger the need for a re-review of the overall plan at State level and could cause a project delay. However, some of the streetscape amenities will only have their footings installed as part of the State-run portion of the project and the actual fixtures could be adjusted (or footings removed) after the State portion is completed. Of the total estimated project cost to the City of \$4.4 million, roughly \$2.3 million of that is for the streetscape amenities. Of that \$2.3 million, \$1.4 million is for lighting and \$0.9 million is for other elements. It was pointed out that the previously proposed block numbers had already been removed from the plan.

Mr. Arnett opened commissioner comments by pointing out that the City portion of the project was likely to be entirely borrowed, incurring significant debt. While he was definitely in favor of investing in downtown, he offered that alternative methods of investing in the downtown, with measurable outcomes, were readily available. These including the boosting the economic revolving loan fund to spur new businesses to fill empty storefronts, building façade grants, parking, “business continuity” assistance to Main Street businesses during the project, assisting building owners in upgrading their water connections as part of the project to enable redevelopment of upper stories of buildings. Mr. Arnett suggested the commission consider ways to possibly scale back the streetscape amenities, retaining the overall style, but at a lower cost.

Mr. Blanke focused on the streetlighting, asking for clarification of how many of each type of light was proposed. The answer was 42 “combo poles” (the tall street lights), 37 “pedestrian poles”, and 15 “combo poles with traffic lights”. This is about the same pole count as is currently installed in that section of Main St. Mr. Blanke asked if any of the current pedestrian poles, which have a similar style to what is proposed, could be re-used.

Mr. Moldenhauer echoed Mr. Arnett's suggestion of supporting building owners in upgrading their water line laterals.

Regarding the tree grates, two styles were already included in the plan, one of which is less decorative and a lower cost.

Mr. Bartz asked if the parking sign poles were too short to be seen.

Mr. Thompson offered support for re-examining some elements of the streetscape but didn't want to "go too far back" as this was a "once in a generation opportunity".

Overall, the Commission asked for Staff to re-examine the street lighting in particular: first, whether some of the existing pedestrian poles could be re-used; second, for a less expensive option for the combo poles.

6. **Adjournment.** Mr. Thompson moved to adjourn at 6:12 p.m., seconded by Mr. Moldenhauer. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Arnett, Chairperson

Note: These minutes are uncorrected, and any corrections made thereto will be noted in the proceedings at which these