

City of Lodi
Common Council Meeting
Minutes –October 17, 2023

Present: Alderpersons Stevenson, Goethel, Hansen, Ripp, Strasser, Tonn, Mayor Groves Lloyd

Staff Present: Brenda Ayers, James Lincoln

Others: Andy Zimmer and Jeremy Hellenbrand, MSA; Heidi LeHew, Lodi Lake Wisconsin Chamber; and various business owners

Mayor Groves Lloyd called the meeting to order at 5:37 PM in the Council Room at City Hall, 130 S Main, Lodi.

Roll call was taken –Goethel, Hansen, Ripp, Stevenson, Strasser, and Tonn were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Groves Lloyd skipped the meeting etiquette.

Public Input. Heidi LeHew noted she was present to represent members of the Chamber to help find a solution to address the concerns regarding the Highway 113 Utilities Project. Tegan Counihan, owner of Piggly Wiggly, and other business owners spoke about the decline in business, insufficient communications, restricted traffic flow, and lack of proper signage relating to the Highway 113 Utilities Project.

Consent Agenda. MOTION (Goethel, Ripp) to approve the consent agenda items including: approval of minutes from September 19, 2023, and special event permits for Chamber Sip & Shop Wine Walk on November 10, 2023 and Lodi Christmas Lights Parade on December 9, 2023. Voice vote- All Ayes.

Columbia County Supervisor Report. None.

Library Report. None.

Agenda was taken out of order.

Resolution Approving Pay Request #1 for the Hwy 113 Utility Project. MOTION (Stevenson, Hansen) to approve Resolution 23-52 Approving Pay Request No. 1 for the Hwy 113 Utilities Project in the amount of \$797,051.48. Tonn noted that the pay request was approved; but not the allocations. Roll call vote – Aye (Ripp, Goethel, Strasser, Stevenson, Hansen, Tonn); Nay (0). **Motion carried.**

Discussion and Possible Recommendation Regarding Authorizing Change Order for Hwy 113 Utility Project. Zimmer explained the change order reflects both the additions and credits to the contract and further explained the items on the change order. He also noted the changes due to the geological implications that required open cut versus the anticipated horizontal directional drill. The change order includes two changeable message boards for 3.5 weeks to get through all underground work. Also looking for additional/early mobilizations from Cattell and Tri-County to expedite the project. After October 18 the north end of the project from Gay street will be accessible on gravel. Zimmer noted the change due to open cut caused unanticipated traffic issues. Council members also expressed concerns about project disorganization including lack of communication and signage. **MOTION** (Stevenson, Strasser) to approve Change Order 1 for the Hwy 113 Utilities Project in the amount of \$121,388.60. Concerns were raised regarding the message boards not being included in the initial contract. Council members felt the traffic boards were of value but questioned the City's obligation to pay for them. **MOTION** (Stevenson,) to amend the motion to remove the message board from the change order. Strasser suggested review of the contract to see if the traffic control requirements were met by the contractor. **MOTION TO AMEND failed due to lack of second.** Roll call vote main motion– Aye (Strasser, Tonn, Hansen, Ripp, Stevenson, Goethel); Nay (0). **Motion carried.**

Discussion and Possible Recommendation Regarding Authorizing Change Order Message Boards and Flaggers for Hwy 113 Utility Project. Covered in previous agenda item.

Resolution Authorizing Submitting an Application for a TAP Grant. MOTION (Stevenson, Strasser) to approve Resolution 23-51 Submitting Application for a TAP Grant. Ayers reported in 2021 the City applied for and was awarded a TAP grant for the Glenview Park Underpass (Dollar General Walkway). Conversations with the WisDOT representative assigned to work with the City on this project, concluded that the application included a railroad structure. The cost of this type of structure exceeds the \$425,000 grant. The City does not have the funding for the structure and could apply for another TAP grant if interested in pursuing the project. Ayers recommended not seeking the additional funding and noted concerns about the City taxpayers funding a project that benefits the railroad Tonn noted that due to flooding concerns in the area, in 2020 the City approached WisDOT regarding its plans to upsize and improve the existing stormwater facilities. At that time, the railroad indicated that they had concerns about the of the integrity of their structure and had concerns about the City digging beneath it to install the new stormwater facilities. It was further noted that the revocable agreement with the railroad was originally for a livestock route and the use was changed to a pedestrian when the Tena Marie area was developed. Zimmer indicated that prior to the grant application, the railroad advised the City to enter into an agreement with them for a preliminary design of the stormwater facility at a cost of \$30,000 and to petition the Office of the Commission of Railroads for a permit for a pedestrian path. Stevenson noted that the railroad also indicated the City could move the walkway 25 feet on either side of their structure. Tonn suggested that the City could make the stormwater improvements under the existing grant with minimal excavation to install a structure that would accommodate both stormwater and pedestrian traffic. The consensus of the Council was to not apply for additional funding and to work with WisDOT to construct the stormwater structure and path under the existing grant. Roll call vote – Aye (Tonn, Hansen); Nay (Stevenson, Strasser, Goethel, Ripp). **Motion failed.**

Mayor Report. A written report was attached to the agenda.

Meeting Recap. Mayor Groves Lloyd gave a recap of the meeting.

Future Agenda Items. None were noted.

Next Meeting Date. Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Adjourn. MOTION (Ripp, Goethel) to adjourn at 7:29 p.m. Voice vote- all ayes. **Motion carried.**

Minutes by Brenda Ayers, City Clerk