

## PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

11/14/23

Meeting called to order by Dougherty at 9:03am

Present: Ted Dougherty, Liam DelMain, Nancy Pearson, Diane Fizell

City Employees: Tom Kovachecich, Mike Burg, Josh Pearson

Public: Mayor Gordy

*Motion to approve minutes from last meeting - Approved*

Public Comment on Agenda Items

### **No Public Comments**

1. Old Business
2. Public Works Director
  - a. Continuing to mix salt sand for the winter store
3. Utility Operator Report
  - a. The hydrants are flushed for the season, bathrooms are winterized, all went well with minimal damage and complaints
  - b. Bayfield is a part of a class action lawsuit against chemical manufacturers of PFAS started in 2021, have tested multiple times and not found PFAS, but we have to continue to do some testing to stay involved in the lawsuit. EPA is trying to lower the threshold for acceptable PFAS, but current technology cannot test to that low a threshold. It's possible they will be able to test for lower levels in the future, we are staying involved as it seems only beneficial to do so. Hoping to get our testing costs covered by the lawsuit disbursement. More information can be found on PFAS stuff here: [www.lwm-info.org/1560/PFAS](http://www.lwm-info.org/1560/PFAS)
  - c. Only one person left for lead survey! Have made contact, working on getting it completed.
4. LRIP MSID (*Local Road Improvement Program, Municipal Street Improvement Directory*)
  - a. Both funding opportunities for local infrastructure improvement. We are still trying to get funding from the MSID for the Manypenny Project. Getting the funding is a matter of negotiating with our partner municipalities on who ranks highest in this round. Gordy has been attending the meetings and is working on this.
5. ACE Funding Requests (*Army Core Engineers*)
  - a. This is a funding stream for Northern Wisconsin through the army core. We are trying to get funding to complete water and sewage projects on the West side of town (Swede Hill). \$4 million would enable us to fix all our undersized water mains, dead end water mains, and undersized sewers. The project is usually 75/25 funding, meaning they give 75% of the project funding and we provide the

last 25%. The funding is not huge and a lot of groups need money from it, so chances aren't very high that we get it. But we will try.

6. WISLR (*Wisconsin Information System for Local Roads*) - Pavement Ranking Reports
  - a. In the meeting packet there is a map, color coded, showing ratings for paved roads in the city. The lower numbers in red are most in need of repair, and the higher numbers in green are in the best shape.
7. So. 5th St - Correspondence / Request for improvements
  - a. Public works committee will be creating a process for citizens to highlight road improvement needs in their neighborhood, including a packet that provides context for how resources are distributed and projects are prioritized by public works. We hope to create an intentional space for this discussion that can occur annually at public works meetings.
8. Public Works Director Hiring

*Motion by Fizell to bring a recommendation for hiring directly to city council after conducting interviews today, seconded by Pearson, approved by all*

9. Set Next Meeting
  - a. Next meeting will be December 19th, at 9am

*Motion to adjourn by DeMain, seconded by Fizell. All in favor.*