
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gary Wall, Supervisor
Kim Markee, Clerk
Steve Thomas, Treasurer
Anthony Bartolotta, Trustee
Marie Hauswirth, Trustee
Janet Matsura, Trustee
Mark Monohon, Trustee

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jeff Polkowski, Planning Superintendent
Derek Diederich, Budget Director
Barb Miller, Assistant Budget Director

Agenda included:

1. Sidewalk Prioritization for ARPA Spending
2. CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) Update
3. MTA Capital Conference Review
4. Opportunity For Trustees To Discuss Topics Of Concern
5. Public Comments Limited To Three (3) Minutes Per Speaker

Mr. Polkowski presented the PACER sidewalk maps, updated for minor improvements, to the Board of Trustees. The Trustees discussed many areas in the red sections on the map as to what areas should be funded first with the \$1.0 million ARPA funds allocated to sidewalk improvements. It was agreed that the first area should be along M-59 from Cass Lake Rd. to Crescent Lake Rd. This area was selected because when MDOT works on M-59, Waterford has agreed to pursue replacing all the sidewalks in that area when the roads are worked on with MDOT making it a joint project between Waterford and MDOT.

Once these sidewalks are replaced, it is a natural extension to re-do the sidewalks along M-59 to complete a large stretch that will connect to essential businesses such as healthcare and grocery stores and will also easily connect to the Riverwalk area. Mr. Polkowski will reach out to DLZ to have them give us a bid with the costs for that area.

Supervisor Wall asked the Trustees if they would be interested in hiring a grant writer to obtain additional funds for these kinds of projects. Currently, Clerk Markee is helping to write grants, but when elections ramp up, she will not have the time to write grants. The Trustees seemed open to hiring a grant writer but would like to know what they will work on and if there is enough work for them.

Also, how would we pay the grant writer, by salary or commission? Would it be a full-time grant writer or a part-time grant writer? Most thought that a grant writer might be beneficial but wanted more details. There is still time to address the questions before the upcoming budget, but it would be best to include one in the budget if we hire a grant writer.

Trustee Monohon mentioned that grant-writing companies would write grants for us. Clerk Markee wondered if these grant writers would be loyal to Waterford or other municipalities instead of Waterford.

Supervisor Wall informed everyone that 66% of the SEMCOG and MDOT grant funds went to Cities, and only 33% went to Townships and Villages.

Supervisor Wall said the CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) was discussed at the Department Head Meeting last week and was updated for seven years. He will follow up with the Department Heads and ask for the remainder of the 20 years required to the year 2042. We should increase the plan by 2% each year for inflation purposes. Mr. Polkowski said this is required to become an RRC (Redevelopment Ready Community). Once we become an RRC, additional funds will be available to us.

Supervisor Wall discussed the Capital Conference and thought the marijuana presentation was excellent. It provided a factual account of the industry in a non-political way. The presenter was very knowledgeable and did an outstanding job. Trustee Bartolotta, Trustee Hauswirth, and Clerk Markee agreed. Clerk Markee briefly explained that the conference's first session discussed Proposal 22-2 and some of the Clerks' concerns with implementing the additional drop boxes and nine days of early voting.

There was also a presentation on electricity alternatives such as solar panels. Trustee Matsura did not think Michigan would be a good state to have solar panels, given the sun is hidden many days by clouds. Clerk Markee thought the presenter said Michigan would be about 80% effective compared to Arizona, which was 100% effective when they installed solar panels. She also said the electric vehicle owners without power during the last week were unhappy that they could not charge their vehicles.

The Trustees discussed their concerns about the recent bank foreclosures, and Treasurer Thomas mentioned some of the negative issues in California.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.