

WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

DATE: August 22, 2016

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Ken Robl, Highway Committee Chairman
Robert Warnke, Highway Committee Member
Chuck Farrey, Highway Committee Member
Tom Egan, Highway Committee Member
Ernie Winters, Highway Commissioner

EXCUSED: David Albrecht, Highway Committee Member

ALSO

PRESENT: John Fink, Assistant to County Executive
Harold Singstock, County Board
Bill Roh, Supervisor District #7
Tom Lanser, Gremmer & Assoc.
Harrison Sturgis, Town of Neenah resident
Carol Joubert
Glen Armstrong, Town of Neenah
Bill Kloiber, Senator Roger Roth's office
Representative Gordon Hintz
Guy Hegg, Supervisor District #27
Mike Scarmon, KL Engineering

Chairman Robl called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A motion was made by Supervisor Warnke, seconded by Supervisor Farrey to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2016 meeting as written. Motion carried 4-0.

Chairman Robl asked if there was any public input on the agenda items. Supervisor Roh inquired what the traffic counts at the CTH CB and Oakridge Road intersection are and why a different engineering firm was hired other than Mead & Hunt who performed the studies in 2008 and 2013. Commissioner Winters stated a firm was hired that specializes in this type of intersection traffic study and the traffic count question will be answered during the presentation by KL Engineering. Glen Armstrong, Town of Neenah, stated the town also wanted a fresh look at the project from someone other than who designed it. Carol Joubert stated that her daughter passed away at this intersection in March and it needs to be fixed.

The CTH CB and Oakridge Road intersection control evaluation was discussed. Commissioner Winters noted that decisions of this type have to be made based on facts and data. He stated that he thinks a roundabout is the best option since there are geometric problems to be addressed at this intersection. He stated that the grant application has been submitted to the WisDOT but it is up to the Highway Committee and County Board to decide how to proceed.

At this time Mike Scarmon, KL Engineering, distributed information and gave a presentation on their findings of the intersection control study. He stated the two long-term alternatives included traffic signals with improved geometry and a single lane roundabout. The estimated cost for the traffic signals is \$1,210,000 for engineering and construction. The estimate for a roundabout at this intersection is \$1,800,000. Mr. Scarmon stated it is the recommendation of their design team to install a roundabout for long-term traffic control. He stated they recommend opening it as a single lane roundabout with the option of expanding it to dual-lanes if future growth and traffic warrants it. Supervisor Egan asked if either option includes removing the hill south of the intersection on CTH CB. Mr. Scarmon stated that if the permanent traffic signal option is chosen the hill should be addressed. This could be a considerable cost for property acquisition and moving a gas line. Mr. Scarmon also stated that in the interim they would suggest installing temporary traffic signals on wood poles with wires to allow time for the design and construction of the roundabout. Supervisor Warnke suggested closing the intersection of CTH CB and Oakridge Road until the roundabout construction is completed. Mr. Scarmon stated that would increase traffic and problems on the adjacent intersections. Commissioner Winters stated he believes the temporary traffic signals could be installed for approximately \$30,000-\$50,000. A motion was made by Supervisor Farrey to approve the recommendation of the study to install temporary traffic signals at the intersection of CTH CB and Oakridge Road as a short-term alternative. There was no second to the motion. After further discussion a motion was made by Supervisor Farrey to approve the recommendation of the traffic study to build a roundabout as proposed at CTH CB and Oakridge Road. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Egan and carried 4-0.

The proposed 2017 Highway Department Budget was discussed. Commissioner Winters distributed an outline on the budget goals and objectives and a list of equipment proposed to be purchased totaling \$1,200,000. Mr. Winters stated he is not expecting an increase in general transportation aids and the levy amount is very close to the 2016 total. He also stated he is requesting four new positions for the department, three for snowplowing and one mechanic. Mr. Winters stated that he will be meeting with County Executive Harris on August 29th to discuss the budget.

General Operations:

- Commissioner Winters distributed information regarding the “Just Fix It” campaign addressing the State’s Transportation Budget shortfall. He stated there will be a meeting here at the Highway Department on September 29th for County, City, Town, and Village officials to discuss options. Mr. Winters stated that he will be giving a presentation at the meeting and the Committee members will be receiving an invitation.
- Commissioner Winters stated that he had a meeting with representatives of the Village of Fox Crossing regarding the possible new complex to be located off of CTH CB near Shady Lane. The developer may be requesting a roundabout at this location.
- The CTH G bridge project near the Neenah slough will be started soon.

Chairman Robl stated the next regular meeting will be held on September 19, 2016. A motion was made by Supervisor Egan, seconded by Supervisor Farrey to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.