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MINUTES

Highway 61 Reconstruction Project – PMT #17

July 16, 2019

Lake City - City Hall

Meeting Chair: Chris Hiniker

Minutes by: SEH

Present: Scott Jensen, Megan Smith, Phil Gartner, Amy Alkire, Aaron Breyfogle, Chris Hiniker, Bill Anderson, Josh Breid

Copies to: PMT members

I. PMT #16 Review

- a. Chris reviewed notes from prior meeting.
- b. Amy commented on the good turnout at the April open house. Chris indicated that open house comments were compiled in an open house summary document and posted on the City web site. Scott noted the City followed up with several property owners who provided comments at the open house.

II. Final Design Task Activities

- a. Aaron indicated MnDOT is working with property owners regarding easements and right-of-way.
- b. Since the last meeting SEH has submitted and received comments on the 90% plans and is currently addressing comments. Most comments are fairly minor. Perhaps the most noteworthy change is the need to move the pedestrian crossing flashing beacon from Central Point Road to Bayview Street. The Bayview crossing is safer because there isn't a right turn lane and it is further from the 55mph to 40mph speed zone transition.
- c. SEH will submit the 95% plan set on August 9th. MnDOT will have three months to complete their review prior to finalizing the plan set for the planned November 22nd bid date and mid-January construction contract award.
- d. Chris and Aaron indicated that the recently completed environmental contamination report identified five locations with contamination near downtown. MnDOT is responsible for paying the costs of remediating contaminated soils within MnDOT's project limits. The City must pay for the cleanup in contaminated areas disturbed by the installation of City utilities. SEH is currently developing a cost estimate for these cleanup activities. SEH is also researching the availability of State grant funds to assist in paying for the City cleanup costs.
- e. Josh noted there is a monitoring well near the existing tunnel and Scott noted it doesn't have a number on it. Aaron will check the environmental contamination report to look for the well number.

- f. Scott asked about the plans for the short retaining wall along the property line of the old gas station at Chestnut. Josh noted it will remain in place and if the integrity becomes an issue during construction it will need to be dealt with at that time.

III. Construction

a. Staging/Detours

- i. Chris reviewed the detour plans on the north end of the project. To reduce the risk of schedule delays due to possible high water next year, MnDOT is adding contract language to allow the contractor to construct the storm outlets in Lake Pepin during the winter.
- ii. Deadline to complete the segment north of Grant Street is June 19th. The middle section (between Grant and Lyon) cannot begin until the north end is complete. The deadline to complete the south segment (south of Lyon) is July 17th. At least three intersections will remain open in the downtown area at all times.

b. Outreach/Communication

- i. Megan reviewed the coordination and outreach being developed with cooperation from the Chamber, EDA, and MnDOT. The City is taking the lead regarding outreach to area residents and MnDOT will lead communications to regional and outstate residents and travelers.
- ii. The City is planning to develop a construction Facebook page and provide notices on the City web site and Chamber newsletter. The newspaper is planning to provide a special road construction update section in each edition during construction.
- iii. Megan will be requesting permission from the City Council to hire a part-time social media consultant to lead the media efforts. The position will be 10 hours per week for 15 months. Phil suggested a special Council meeting to get the approval sooner than the regular August meeting.
- iv. Megan noted staff is considering temporarily relaxing the City sign ordinance to allow additional signage during construction.
- v. Staff is coordinating extensively with Red Wing staff and the Red Wing Chamber to learn from their recent Highway 61 construction experience.
- vi. Aaron noted MnDOT will include a special bid item for the contractor to provide a "Project Information Management" person to serve as the point of contact.

IV. SEH Budget Status

- a. Chris reviewed the budget letter detailing the requested budget amendment amount. The draft letter was presented by Scott to the Council in June. MnDOT has agreed to cover approximately \$27,000 in out of scope work detailed in the letter. The remaining out of scope work totaling approximately \$59,000 are City costs associated with design services for the additional \$1.3 million in amenities. The plan is to seek City Council action on the amendment request at the August Council meeting.

V. Other

- a. Discussed options for retaining alley access for businesses on Block 15.
- b. Staff will be asking approval from City Council to close High Street at Highway 61 and Lakewood to make the detour route safer and keep people from "shortcutting" on High Street.
- c. Amy suggested staff should assess the viability of adding stop signs on more intersections to discourage short cuts.

VI. Next PMT is to be determined.

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SEH believes that this document accurately reflects the business transacted during the meeting. If any attendee believes that there are any inconsistencies, omissions or errors in the minutes, they should notify the writer at once. Unless objections are raised within seven (7) days, we will consider this account accurate and acceptable to all.

If there are errors contained in this document, or if relevant information has been omitted, please contact Chris Hiniker at 651 490 2063.

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