

WILL COUNTY BOARD
PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

August 3, 2010

Will County Office Building
County Board Room
302 North Chicago Street
Joliet, IL 60432
8:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bilotta called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were Members: Singer, Babich, Goodson, Weigel, Wisniewski and Bilotta.

Absent were Members: Winfrey.

Also Present: J. Moustis, E. Kusta and B. Friefeld.

Present from State's Attorney's Office: M. Bedan.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Fundich with Robinson Engineering led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Singer, second by Ms. Goodson, to approve the minutes from the July 6, 2010 meeting. On a roll call vote, Singer, Babich, Goodson, Weigel, Wisniewski and Bilotta voting yes. MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Singer, second by Mr. Wisniewski, to approve the executive session minutes from the July 6, 2010 meeting. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution Confirming Award of Purchase to Power Equipment Leasing Co., Inc. (\$40,430.00) for One (1) Aerial Bucket Truck, Current Model Year, Tabled at July 6, 2010 meeting

Mr. Bilotta stated we wanted to clarify we only had one bidder. We wanted some further information so we contacted those who picked up the packets.

Mr. Gould indicated we had five additional bidders who took out a proposal but did not bid. We called them to ask why they did not return a bid. We have provided a handout with an explanation for both pieces of equipment.

Mr. Bilotta commented we appreciate your due diligence on this. You understand our concern and we wanted to make sure there was nothing we were doing on our end.

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mr. Weigel, to remove this item from table. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mr. Singer, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda awarding the purchase of one aerial bucket truck to Power Equipment Leasing Co. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Resolution Confirming Award of Purchase to Power Equipment Leasing Co., Inc. (\$90,562.00) for One (1) Digger Derrick Truck, Current Model Year, Tabled at July 6, 2010 meeting

A motion was made by Ms. Goodson, second by Mr. Wisniewski, to remove this item from table. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Weigel, second by Ms. Goodson, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda awarding the purchase of one digger derrick truck to Power Equipment Leasing Co. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Moustis arrived at this juncture.

NEW BUSINESS

Request to Discuss Need to Supplement CDBG Funds used in the Ridgewood Project

Mr. Pullman stated there is a letter in your packet explaining our predicament. We went into this project with limited resources; obviously we have a loan with the IEPA. The issues came up after the documents were prepared and added this portion of the project to Ridgewood after the fact; it was not part of the original design. The Fair Acres project had problems with fixing their water system; this was out of a block grant project not related to Ridgewood. As Ridgewood was moving east we had the opportunity to take the Fair Acres people off their private wells and put into Joliet. We started trading with Joliet –we asked if they would add the 44 houses in Fair Acres and waive the tap on fees, which was about \$3,000 per house. They agreed and asked us to replace the water line from Copperfield to Elgin on Briggs Street. Under the grant we could pay for the water line replacement so we put that into our project; it was an even exchange with Joliet. We discovered we had more costs involved with the removal of the water line; we do not have enough funds in the current budget to do the work and we are trying to raise the additional capital. This is outside of the scope of work so we cannot amend

the loan with IEPA. We have another grant we are using for this project – STAG but we are tapped out of funds. We are looking for anything the county could contribute to keep this project moving.

Mr. Bilotta stated we have committed CDBG funds for the last 20 years for this project; we just committed an additional \$1.25 million last month for other projects. Could we reduce some of those projects?

Mr. Pullman answered this is work that needs to be done today.

Mr. Bilotta indicated this is \$100,000. Was this project eligible for some of those funds that were granted last month?

Mr. Pullman replied not really; they were asking for \$500,000.

Mr. Bilotta stated could we have decreased funds somewhere else in the CDBG program. He does not see why we could not have done that. He expressed concern that this was known about over a year ago – the ordinance requires removal of the main.

Mr. Singer indicated this was never a surprise; it is hard to accept the concept that there is this extra cost at the end. The RTA fund is primarily funding the Build Will program – it is not something that can be accessed for additional funds for projects that has not been successful. We do not want to set that precedent and take money away from Build Will because we did not plan well – anyone can make that case on any capital project. Removing the main was talked about in preconstruction meetings; the highway engineers were clear why this had to be removed.

Mr. Pullman commented this was not part of the original scope; we have no business replacing this water line we are replacing.

Mr. Singer stated before we started doing this we knew we would have to take this out. Why start if we did not have the money to finish the project?

Mr. Pullman answered we under estimated the cost; we went into this bargaining position with Joliet and did some trade-off. We thought we had enough money to cover the cost.

Mr. Bilotta stated you did not underestimate it – this was eliminated; you made the decision to forego removing it.

Mr. Pullman indicated we are trying to save money for the people who are connected to that system. It is not a question of not having the money – the question is where do I want to spend it and I would choose to spend the \$136,000 to connect to the water line the City of Joliet is allowing instead of using that money to remove the water line that we just replaced. I can find money to do things but this is an added expenditure that I would rather not spend the money on this particular issue but would rather spend it on the connection cost.

Mr. Singer indicated he understands that you want to help those residents. He is very concerned about taking money out of the Build Will program when it was specifically passed by this board for infrastructure projects.

Mr. Gould stated he has no intentions of using Build Will money. The RTA money will not be used for this if there is a contribution; there will not be any MFT money used for obvious reasons – it was not approved by IDOT. They did not have a bid letting according to MFT law. The only option is through highway funds, which is the only other revenue in the highway budget. Obviously we have a budget set aside for certain projects.

Mr. Bilotta commented if this committee was to approve this, it would have to be some sort of loan program.

Mr. Moustis indicated it would more of an appropriation process, which is not the function of this committee. This is not a project that came through this committee. If you look to see if there is some funding he would not support it. There is no money in the public works budget nor is it intended to be used for CDBG projects. He supports the comments by Mr. Singer. At some point the finance committee and finance director are able to find some funds there could be additional discussion; it is on the finance committee agenda today

Mr. Bilotta stated this is very frustrating that in June of 2009 we approved a variance for a right of way and he asked 3 times in the meeting if they had the money to pay for this; there was never anything in there that said we do not. Now at the 11th hour we do not have the money.

Mr. Babich questioned if there could be a loan from the highway department.

Mr. Bilotta replied that is an option the finance committee would have to address.

Mr. Singer expressed concern about a loan. He is concerned about setting precedent using highway funds.

Mr. Wisniewski commented Resolution #3 is for a demolition contract for \$53,000. Would it be possible to use the fire protection district for the demolition to reduce the cost to be able to use those funds towards this project?

Mr. Bilotta replied it does not reduce the amount because of the cost of removing the foundation. Ultimately it is a county project and we need to find the money to get it done. He hopes in the future this does not happen; it could have been prevented very easily.

No action was taken on this issue.

RESOLUTIONS TO BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNTY BOARD

1. Resolution to use County's Allotment of County Bridge Tax funds (\$80,000.00) for improvements on Dralle Road over Unnamed Tributary of Forked Creek in Green Garden Township, awarded in July to P.T. Ferro, Section 08-07102-02-BR, County Board District #1

Mr. Gould stated the confirming resolution only showing using township funds but should have showed also using County Bridge Tax Funds. He needs a resolution to expend those funds.

Motion by Mr. Weigel, second by Mr. Babich. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

2. Resolution to Correct Scrivener's Error on Resolution #10-241 for Improvement by County under the Illinois Highway Code

Mr. Gould indicated the original resolution listed MFT Funds when it should have been Highway Tax Funds.

Motion by Mr. Weigel, second by Mr. Singer. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

3. Resolution Confirming Award of Contract to "D" Construction, Inc. (\$52,900.00) – Let on July 14, 2010 – Demolition of a Residential Home on CH 35 (135th Street), Section 10-00068-10-BD, County Board Districts #3 & 7

Mr. Gould stated we looked into a controlled burn by the Fire Protection District when we had the first demolition. There are EPA permits and testing that is required. We still have to take out the foundation, septic and well. It would not accomplish anything.

Motion by Mr. Wisniewski, second by Ms. Goodson. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

4. Resolution Authorizing Approval of Professional Services Agreement for Design Engineering (Phase II) with Baxter and Woodman, Inc. Consulting Engineers for traffic signal and appurtenant work on CH 74 (Laraway Road) at 80th Avenue, Section 10-00138-33-TL, County Board District #1, Using County's allotment of RTA Tax funds (\$42,725.00)

Motion by Mr. Singer, second by Mr. Weigel. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

5. Resolution on Authorizing Approval of Professional Services Extension of Existing Agreement for Phase II Consultant Program Coordinator Smith Engineering Consultants Group, Inc., Using County's allotment of RTA Tax funds (\$1,282,819.89)

Mr. Bilotta stated we extended this for another 18 months for the Phase II consultant. They did not use a lot of the \$1.2 million; just because we approved it does not mean we will spend all of it.

Mr. Gould indicated the original resolution provided for the extension. The 18 months is up the end of September. They have helped us out, putting together our Build Will program. We are nowhere near this maximum cost; the most recent invoice is at about 50% of that amount.

Mr. Weigel asked about a list of personnel.

Mr. Gould answered we have one staff person in our office that reviews documents; once per week a senior member that oversees what is going on, sits with us to discuss the ongoing projects and what we need to do to expedite them.

Mr. Weigel questioned is this is normal in this type of environment.

Mr. Gould replied yes.

Motion by Mr. Babich, second by Mr. Weigel. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

6. Resolution for an Intergovernmental Agreement for Traffic Signals at the Intersection of CH 74 (Laraway Road) and 80th Avenue, Section 10-00138-33-TL and CH 74 (Laraway Road) and Wolf Road, Section 07-00138-26-TL, County Board District #1

Motion by Mr. Singer, second by Mr. Weigel. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

7. Resolution Authorizing Approval of the Expenditure of County Motor Fuel Tax funds for design engineering (phase I) on CH 17 (Arsenal-Manhattan Road) with TranSystem Corporation, County Board District #6 (\$70,890.45)
Motion by Mr. Weigel, second by Mr. Babich. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

COUNTY ENGINEER DISCUSSION

STATE'S ATTORNEY DISCUSSION

MONTHLY WORK REPORTS – Attached

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

REPORTS BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Weigel stated on Bruce Road and Cedar Road, there is an "S" curve with a T-intersection at the west end; there are 2 stop signs. The one going west on Bruce says that oncoming traffic does not stop. It is confusing – should the sign say yield to oncoming traffic.

Mr. Gould indicated that is under the jurisdiction of Homer Glen. He does not approve those signs for the village but will check it out.

Mr. Singer asked if they had checked the timing on the light at Laraway and Calistoga – if the yellow was normal.

Mr. Ronaldson answered yes; it is 3 seconds.

Mr. Weigel commented on the light at Laraway Road in front of Jewel; it changed when no one was there.

Mr. Gould indicated it will go on re-call; it will switch just to clear everything in case someone had not triggered the light.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN – IDOT Bulletin

Mr. Bilotta stated the IDOT bulletin tells constituents of the projects that are being done in a certain time frame such as the next 6 months to a year. He discussed with engineers that they do not know what projects are coming forward. Our Build Will program is on line but there is no timing; the major issue is right of way. We are researching having some sort of bulletin, an on-line system that tells the steps to bid, the qualifications, what format to submit. The Highway Department and staff will then review what consultants might best fit each project; there would be an appropriate selection process after that. This would be another level of transparency. He would like to work with Mr. Gould and bring something back to committee.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Bilotta stated an executive session was necessary to discuss right of way acquisition.

A motion as made by Mr. Singer, second by Ms. Winfrey, to go into executive session at 9:25 a.m. to discuss right of way acquisition. On a roll call vote, Singer, Babich, Goodson, Weigel, Wisniewski and Bilotta voting yes. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Bilotta announced they were now in executive session.

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Ms. Goodson, to come out of executive session at 9:45 a.m. On a roll call vote, Singer, Babich, Goodson, Weigel, Wisniewski and Bilotta voting yes. MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Ms. Goodson, second by Mr. Wisniewski, to concur with the recommendation by the State's Attorney's Office and send the issue to the finance and executive committees for further discussion. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mr. Weigel to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 a.m. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES