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Public Works Department

Joint Mequon-Thiensville Bike and Pedestrian Way Commission
Thursday, February 9, 2023
9:00 AM
North Conference Room

Minutes

1. Call to Order, Roll Call

Chair Azinger called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Present:

Commissioner Kenneth Maciolek
Chair T. Azinger
Commissioner Ron Heinritz
Commissioner John Liegeois
Commissioner Kristin Wade

Absent:

Commissioner Jim Doornek
Commissioner Rob Holyoke

Also present were Director of Public Works/City Engineer Kristen Lundeen, Assistant City Engineer Cole McCraw, and Administrative Assistant Kris Leach.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2023 Minutes

RESULT: **Approved [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Commissioner Maciolek

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Heinritz

AYES: Maciolek, Azinger, Heinritz, Liegeois, Wade
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3. Resident Communications

Chair Azinger acknowledged that no residents were in attendance at that time.

During the discussion of the Master Plan RFP, Dave Schlageter, a representative of the Highland Road Bike/Pedestrian Path Project arrived. Following the discussion of the Master Plan RFP agenda item, Chair Azinger decided to allow the late arriving resident to address the Commission.

Mr. Schlageter, in follow up to his attendance of the January meeting, asked again for the support of this Commission. He advised that the Rails to Trails event is being held on April 22, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and proposed that this Commission could co-sponsor the event with no monetary obligation. The event is designed to promote pedestrian and bike travel in Ozaukee County. They have permission to place tents at Spur 16 and are seeking the Commission's support and assistance in advertisement through the City. Director of Public Works/City Engineer Lundeen cautioned Mr. Schlageter that they will need to follow the City's sign ordinance. Chair Azinger asked if they, as a Commission, have the ability to support the event. Lundeen advised that it would need to be on the agenda for approval. Assistant City Engineer McCraw was asked to add it to the March agenda.

4. Discussion/Action Items

Master Plan RFP Response Discussion

Assistant City Engineer McCraw recapped the status of the Master Plan RFP since the January meeting. Chair Azinger asked to read an email from Commissioner Holyoke regarding the Village of Thiensville's position on the Master Plan RFP. Commissioner Holyoke advised that it was decided that the Village of Thiensville did not wish to be a part of the study and that the City of Mequon should do it on its own. This was decided based on the cost and need of the Village.

Chair Azinger asked if there were any thoughts or updates regarding private funding. Director of Public Works/City Engineer Lundeen advised that she and Assistant City Engineer received notice mid-last week that the bipartisan infrastructure law has been expanded to provide additional Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant funding. Pursuit of the TAP Grant would make the current proposal null and void. The deadline for the TAP Grant application is March 24, 2023, which could be met. It will be acted upon in a meeting in late April or early May and it is expected that funding would be available for all four years, covered by the solicitation. Lundeen did caution the Board that if they do not receive the grant funding, she is not sure the consultant will wait for them to vet through the process, however it doesn't mean the group could not reissue the RFP later. Commissioner Wade asked if the grant was for a specific dollar amount. Lundeen advised that the dollar amount would depend on available funding and the application will need to include an estimated project amount. She further stated that it is typically an 80/20 cost share based on the project amount. Further discussion ensued, considering all options. Chair Azinger asked for a motion.

Motion to table the Master Plan & to apply for TAP Grant funding

RESULT: **Approved by Roll Call Vote [Unanimous]**
MOVED BY: Commissioner Maciolek
SECONDED BY: Commissioner Wade

AYES: Maciolek, Azinger, Heinritz, Liegeois, Wade
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5. Other Business

Chair Azinger asked if there was any other business. Commissioner Heinritz commented on Thiensville's position regarding the Master Plan proposal. He expressed that Thiensville had confusion over the cost and what they were actually getting for the money. No staff was at the meeting to speak on it and the Committee didn't take action, so it isn't dead. Heinritz said another factor is the River Road improvement.

Commissioner Maciolek asked if anything else, such as Highland Road, should be considered for the TAP Grant. Director of Public Works/City Engineer Lundeen advised that since it is already in the agenda packet for Tuesday's Common Council meeting, it would take something from the floor to bring the TAP grant information in.

Commissioner Liegeois pointed out that the 2010-2030 study, as well as the maps packet dated 2/24/17 are not on the Village of Thiensville's website. He was advised that Director of Community Services/Public Works Andy LaFond would need to be contacted. It was verified that these documents are available on the City of Mequon's website.

6. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn at 9:45 a.m.

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**
MOVED BY: Commissioner Maciolek
SECONDED BY: Commissioner Heinritz

AYES: Maciolek, Azinger, Heinritz, Liegeois, Wade
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Respectfully Submitted,

Kris Leach