

MINUTES FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS - W. VETERANS ST FROM 24TH AVE (CTH ET) TO SUPERIOR AVE (USH 12)

A Public Hearing on Special Assessments for Public Improvements - W. Veterans St from 24th Ave (CTH ET) to Superior Ave (USH 12) was held on **Thursday, February 29, 2024 at 5:30 PM** in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 819 Superior Avenue, Tomah, WI.

Meeting was called to order at 5:31 PM by Kirk Arity

Introductions

Brian Berquist and Nick from Town & Country Engineering, Director Kirk Arity, John Glynn, and Derek Nofsinger. There were representatives from Gerke's in attendance.

Public Hearing: Discussion on Preliminary Assessment Report - W. Veterans St from 24th Ave (CTH ET) to Superior Ave (USH 12)

Brian Berquist gives an overview of the project and the assessment process.

Project will start by Superior Ave where the previous project ended. The crews will then work west and complete roughly 200 ft per day. City crews will start March 4th by cutting trees down. March 11th the contractors will do a soft start. Digging will begin March 18th. A drone will be used to record project area pre and post construction.

Assessments are for curb & gutter and sidewalks. The preliminary report is an estimate of the cost of assessments. If a property has curb & gutter or sidewalks currently, they will not be assessed for those again. Additionally, properties will not be assessed for the curb radii, handicap ramps, grass work, driveway aprons, blending of driveways to match height of curb & gutter, and drainage work. After the construction is completed, an actual measurement of the curb & gutter and sidewalks installed will be recorded. A Final Assessment Report will be issued in late 2024 or early 2025 and will go to the Public Works & Utilities Commission for review and approval before the final assessments are official. The Commission will also set payment options and installment plans at that time.

Director Kirk Arity opened comments to the public.

Paul Dwyer – 802 W Veterans St: Asked Brian Berquist from Town & Country Engineering if his driveway will be replaced exactly as it is or will he be cheated out of material?

Brian Berquist stated that the project will match what the property has.

Paul Dwyer states that city ordinance says if there is a clear and present danger, no sidewalks will be installed. Mr. Dwyer believes his property at 802 W Veterans is a danger with the truck traffic and it will create a liability as an owner of the business. States the city didn't disclose the project at the time he bought the property for his business.

Leanna Borowiec – 823 W Veterans St: Asked what would happen if water lines got damaged during construction? Who pays for that? How do they know if was damaged during construction or prior to construction?

Brian Berquist response was if a line is broken due to the construction the project will pay for it. If it is found to be broken prior to the project, the owner will have to pay to replace or repair the pipe. Brian stated if the pipe is broken prior to the construction, the pipe debris will explode out from pressure. City Inspector, Derek Nofsinger, will be onsite everyday throughout construction taking pictures to ensure documentation.

Tom Borowiec – 823 W Veterans St: Stated a sidewalk across his property will be a hazard. He said that it would be better to eliminate the bike lane and sidewalk to create parking for visitors of the property owners.

Director Kirk Arity asked the audience if anyone else in attendance wished to speak, three separate times, no one else in attendance wished to be heard.

Adjourn the public hearing at 6:22 PM.

Written and submitted by Casey Kinnear