



AGENDA FOR PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

A Public Works Commission meeting will be held on **Wednesday, December 18, 2024 at 5:30 PM**
in the **Council Chambers at City Hall, 819 Superior Avenue, Tomah, WI.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2708608080?pwd=ZTZ0cmllVEFEb1dzVDNwdi91UHFYQT09>

Meeting ID: 270 860 8080

Passcode: 206751

One tap mobile

+13092053325,,2708608080#,,,,*206751# US

Call to Order - Roll Call

Approve Minutes

[November 2024 Minutes](#)

Discussion Items

1. Airport Update
2. [Request to Appear - James Spieker](#)
3. Project Updates
4. Payment of Monthly Water & Sewer Bills
5. Departmental Reports
6. Director's Report
7. Set Next Meeting Date

Adjourn

NOTICE: It is possible that a quorum of members of other governmental bodies of the municipality may be in attendance at the above-stated meeting to gather information. No action will be taken by any governmental body at the above-stated meeting other than the governmental body specifically referred to above in this notice. Please note that, upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information or to request this service, contact Becki Weyer, City Clerk, at 819 Superior Avenue, Tomah, WI 54660.

MINUTES FOR PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

A Public Works Commission was held on **Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 5:30 PM** in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 819 Superior Avenue, Tomah, WI.

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Dwyer

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2708608080?pwd=ZTZ0cmllVEFEb1dzVDNwdi91UHFYQT09>

Meeting ID: 270 860 8080

Passcode: 206751

One tap mobile

+13092053325,,2708608080#,,,,*206751# US

Call to Order - Roll Call

John Glynn (A), Dean Peterson (P), Patrick Devine (P), Brian Rice (A), Kerwin Greeno (A), Mayor Paul Dwyer (P), Richard Yarrington (P).

Also present, Director Kirk Arity (P), Brandy Leis (P), Joe Kube (P), Jeff Maren (P), and Brian Berquist (P).

Approve Minutes

Motion by Peterson, Seconded by Yarrington to approve minutes as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

1. Airport Update
Everything is good
2. Request to Appear - James Spieker
Requesting temporary speed bumps in high traffic season. Copy traffic speed frequency before making determination.
No action was taken.
3. Approval of S50 Base Station Purchase
Motion by Yarrington, seconded by Peterson, for approval of S50 Base Station Purchase.
4. Approval of Plow Chassis
Motion by Peterson, seconded by Devine, for approval of plow chassis.
5. Bid Approval - Dump Body
Motion by Peterson, seconded by Devine for bid approval of dump body.
6. Bid Award for 2025 Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Improvements
Motion by Yarrington, seconded by Peterson.
7. Project Updates - Veterans St. is almost finished. Ditching church property. Pay amount in the request of \$169,776.09
Motion by Peterson, seconded by Devine, to approve the pay request as presented. All ayes.
Motion carried.
8. Payment of Monthly Water & Sewer Bills
Motion by Peterson, seconded by Devine to approve sewer bills as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.
Motion by Peterson, seconded by Yarrington to approve water bills as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

9. Departmental Reports

Sewer – Passed first part of wet test. Plant running better. Arena has been good to work with. Snow pusher picked up. Steet Dept hauled 8 loads, roughly 10 loads left. Lift station pump being rebuilt on Straw St. Auction results average \$3400 per year to own. Pumping 1.1 million gallons/day.

Water – Pumping 1.1 million gallons/day, VA has slowed down. 11 letters were mailed out for galvanized replacement. Water tower inspection half drawn down looks good. Hydrant Management. 564 done. Large meter testing. Lost 1.4 million gallons.

Public Works – Leaf vac on Juneau St is completed. Trucks ready for Winter. Christmas lights are being put up.

10. Director's Report – Assessment reports – Bids for capitol equipment. Office Manager will be starting on December 2, 2024. Performance Evaluations are being worked on. Working on the upcoming Christmas Parade.

11. Future Meeting Date – December 15, 2024

12. **Adjourn**

Motion by Yarrington, seconded by Peterson to adjourn at 6:15 PM. All ayes. Motion carried.

STAFF COMMITTEE PREPARATION REPORT

Agenda Item:

Request to Appear – James Spieker

**Summary and background information:
(Appropriate documents attached)**

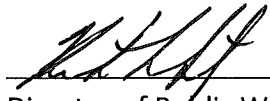
This request was carried over from last month. The data provided by Chief Holum is attached.

Fiscal Note:

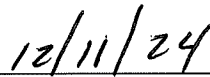
N/A

Recommendation:

Recommendation based on discussion



Director of Public Works
Kirk Arity



Date

STAFF COMMITTEE PREPARATION REPORT

Kirk Arity

From: Kirk Arity
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2024 8:01 AM
To: District2; District3; District6; Glenna Rice; Mayor; kmmrkmmme@msn.com
Subject: FW: Speed Issues - Lagrange/Emerson

All, please find the discussions and summary information for the agenda item at the 11/20/24 Public Works and Utilities Commission Meeting as requested.

Kirk Arity
Chairperson Senior Executive Team
Director of Public Works and Utilities
City of Tomah
608-374-7453

From: Scott Holum <sholum@TOMAHWI.GOV>
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 1:55 PM
To: james.spieker@gmail.com
Cc: Becki Weyer <rweyer@TOMAHWI.GOV>; Molly Powell <mpowell@TOMAHWI.GOV>; Kirk Arity <karity@TOMAHWI.GOV>; Mayor <Mayor@TOMAHWI.GOV>; District1 <District1@TOMAHWI.GOV>; District2 <District2@TOMAHWI.GOV>; District3 <District3@TOMAHWI.GOV>; District4 <District4@TOMAHWI.GOV>; District5 <District5@TOMAHWI.GOV>; District6 <District6@TOMAHWI.GOV>; District7 <District7@TOMAHWI.GOV>; District8 <District8@TOMAHWI.GOV>; Eric Pedersen <epedersen@TOMAHWI.GOV>; Jarrod Furlano <jfurlano@TOMAHWI.GOV>
Subject: RE: Speed Issues - Lagrange/Emerson

Hello Mr. Spieker,

Thank you for reaching out to the city regarding traffic concerns on LaGrange Avenue. As you know, the city has invested in two radar speed signs in that area because we also share your concern for speeding vehicles. Multiple studies have been conducted on the effectiveness of radar speed signs and all of them show an increase in voluntary compliance regarding speed violations. The radar speed signs that were installed on LaGrange Avenue also collect traffic data that we are able to analyze to track traffic patterns. We pulled data from July 29, 2024 to the present date. A summary of that information is listed below:

Southbound Traffic on LaGrange Avenue

Total Vehicles: 18,561
Average Speed (All Vehicles): 26 MPH
Vehicles Traveling 31-35 MPH: 3,034
Vehicles Traveling 36-40 MPH: 362
Vehicles Traveling 41-45 MPH: 31
Vehicles Traveling 46-50 MPH: 2

Northbound Traffic on LaGrange Avenue

Total Vehicles: 9,592

Avenue Speed (All Vehicles): 23 MPH
Vehicles Traveling 31-35 MPH: 1,275
Vehicles Traveling 36-40 MPH: 249
Vehicles Traveling 41-45 MPH: 39
Vehicles Traveling 46-50 MPH: 11
Vehicles Traveling 51-55 MPH: 4

In addition to using technology to track speed and attempt to increase voluntary compliance with our motoring public, we regularly have officers in that area for speed enforcement when they have unobligated time during their patrol shift. Unfortunately, we are normally staffed with only 1 supervisor and 2 patrol officers to police the entire City of Tomah. Those same officers are also tasked with responding to various calls for service that take quite a bit of time, including acts of domestic violence, fraud, theft, homeless people, people in mental health crisis, intoxicated drivers, drug investigations, traffic crashes, disturbances, damage to property, etc. Once many of those calls for service are completed, they are then busy driving to Sparta to drop somebody off at jail and then they must complete comprehensive written reports in a timely fashion so they can be forwarded to our prosecutors office. Further, LaGrange Avenue is one of several areas in our community where citizens want extra patrol due to observed traffic violations. Regardless, we will continue to put an emphasis on speed enforcement activities on LaGrange Avenue because we absolutely share your concerns with safety in that area.

You had mentioned that you believe "ticketing cameras" would be a potential solution to the speeding problem on LaGrange Avenue. Those types of devices are currently not legal in the State of Wisconsin. I do know that the City of Milwaukee has looked into to changing state law but have not been successful to date.

The stop signs at the railroad tracks on Emerson Road are just outside of our jurisdiction. Therefore, the City of Tomah Police Department is unable to enforce stop sign violations at that location.

Thank you for reaching out with your concerns. We depend on citizen feedback like yours to effectively police our community.

Scott

Scott Holum
Police Chief
Tomah Police Department
Desk: 608-374-7409



Good Afternoon,

I would like to re-open the discussion of getting speed bumps or ticketing cameras placed on Lagrange/Emerson road where the speed limit enters town and slows to 25 mph coming in from the north and leaving from the south.

There are multiple times a day where cars going significant speeds come into and leave the town from the north and leave from the south.

With school season coming to an opening, this road is getting more and more dangerous for children and other pedestrians to cross. Today I have had multiple cars go speeding through with absolutely no regard to the posted limits or railroad stop signs. The speed detection sign at the top of our hill has become a who can score the highest game.

Please see the attached photo of the specific area where residents hold the most concern. Between this stretch it is a come down the hill and gun it since it is open to the road scenario. This is where the speed limit changes from 45 to 25 coming from the north and 25 to 15 from the south for the school/ park zone when kids are present. As well as a railroad crossing where it is a matter of time before a fatal accident happens. A full across set of speed bumps would be a welcoming sight around where the yellow marks are located, but since there is truck traffic and since snow removal would cause damages to bumps I know this would cause difficulties to maintain speed bumps, having cameras with ticketing devices would be a more feasible option. Both lanes need to be slowed down. During baseball games it is especially dangerous as I see people nearly get struck multiple times through the day.

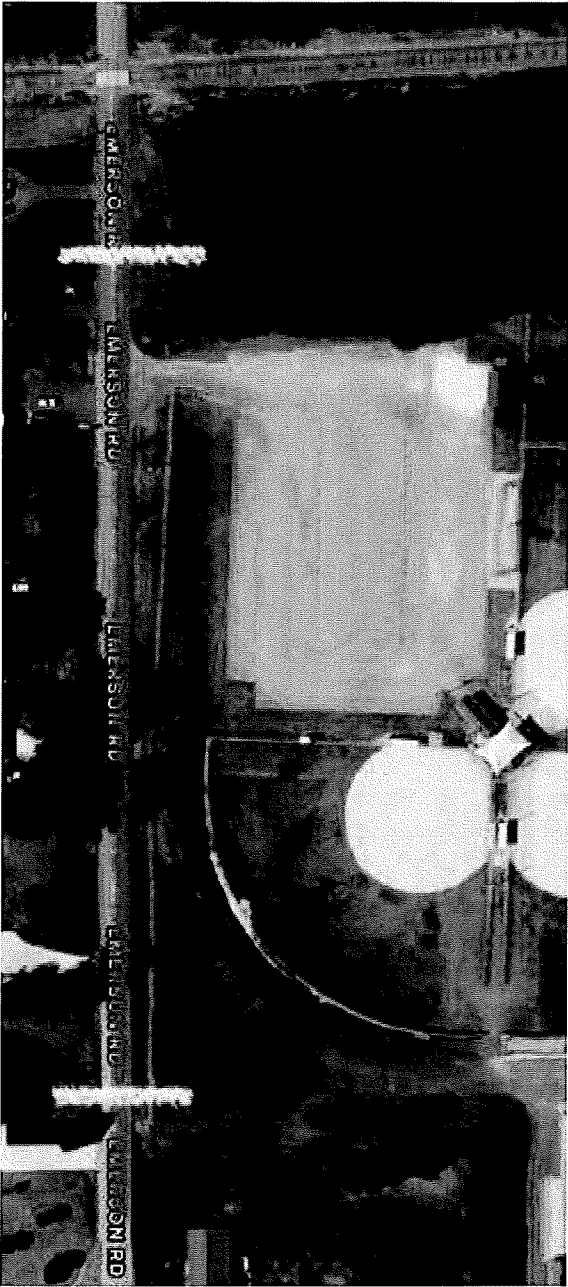
The detection sign does nothing to slow down or stop people from flying through here. I have seen some cars hit well over 50mph on that sign.

Please for the residents on this side of the town, consider putting in speed bumps or adding ticketing cameras to the current sign and adding a second facing south at the driveway of the park, around the area where the yellow marks going in and out of this area are on the map. This area is getting so dangerous.

I have tried to wave to people to slow down and even asked some to do the same. People just don't care unless they are physically or financially forced to slow down and stop blowing through here. I would almost promise if ticketing cameras are placed in these two locations they will have themselves paid off in no time. Most of the time if I physically ask someone to slow down I get told to "go eff myself" and then they gun it just as fast if not faster past or in some cases they do a u-turn and slam on the gas to purposely go as fast as they can to prove a point that they really do not care. Especially right by the entrance to the parking lot where a lot of kids walk to enter/exit park facilities, fields, and traverse to school.

I love our beautiful city but hate that some residents don't care about the safety of those of us who live on this stretch since it goes in and out of town. Thank you very much for your time and I look forward to your replies.

Very Respectfully,
James Spieker



Sent from my iPhone