

RACINE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS, PARKS AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2020 - SUMMARY MINUTES

(NOTE: Audio recording from Racine County is available upon request. These minutes are intended as a summary of actions taken by the Committee and do not include verbatim or detailed accounts of all comments made by staff, the Committee and members of the general public present at the meeting.)

Public Works-Development Services Conference Room
Ives Groves Office Complex
14200 Washington Avenue
Sturtevant, WI 53177

Committee Present: Robert Grove, Monte G. Osterman, Mike Dawson,
Tom Kramer, Tom Hincz, Nick Demske, Fabi Maldonado

**Youth in Governance
Representatives Present:** Katlynn Gill, Jillian Humphreys

Staff Present: Julie Anderson, Public Works & Development Services Director
Dave Prott, Highway Superintendent
Alex Valley, P.E., County Engineering Dept

1. Call to Order, Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Chairman Robert Grove.

2. Review and possible approval of the January 9, 2020, summary minutes

SUPERVISOR Monte OSTERMAN MOVED, seconded by Supervisor HINCZ, to approve the January 9, 2020, summary minutes as presented.

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES' ADVISORY VOTES:

Youth Representative Gill: aye

Youth Representative Humphreys: aye

Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 6/0

(The vote reflects that Supervisor Maldonado arrived at the meeting after this vote was taken.)

3. Public Comments

NONE

4. Discussion regarding renaming a portion of Christopher Columbus Causeway to Kipikawi Causeway, consistent with City of Racine action.

Anderson explained to the Committee that this is an item for discussion only, and no action is to be taken at this meeting. She explained that last fall, the City decided to change the name of a portion of Christopher Columbus Causeway to "Kipikawi Causeway" (which is apparently the indigenous name for "Root"). We were told that the City would send a request to the County asking them to consider changing the "County-owned" portion of the Causeway to match the change made by the City. As of January 23, 2020, no request had been received by the County. Further, Anderson informed the Committee of an email that was sent by City Librarian Jessica MacPhail at 1pm on Jan 23, 2020 which states "We've run into a snag here. The official resolution was the wrong name; it says Root River Causeway, but the actual vote was for Kipikawi Causeway. The City Clerk's office is researching what the next step is. Would you please let the Committee know where the city is, on this? Thank you! I'll follow up."

Discussion continued by the Committee. Concern was expressed that the Potawatomi tribe should be involved in this road name change to see if they support it. Other concern was about the various names of this road, since its actually 4th Street and people have a difficult time navigating downtown Racine without adding more confusion with the road name change. Some Committee members felt that perhaps "Root River Causeway" was a good name if it was going to be changed, but in summary, the Committee felt that the City would have to get back to us and we will wait for more information.

There was no action by the Committee on this item.

5. Review and discussion on the site and architectural plans for the new Fischer Park bath house and concessions building.

Anderson and Prott presented this item. Discussion was held and drawings were shared about the proposed building, the timeline, the demolition and construction bid awards and the fact that the Town of Burlington has already approved this project.

It is anticipated that, weather dependent, demolition may begin around March 1st, 2020. The demolition contractor is Vassh construction. The contractor for the new building is Absolute Construction. Both of these bids were the low bids and they came in under budget.

Supervisor Demske expressed gender inclusive restrooms at this and other new public buildings. There was discussion and staff will talk the contractor as there are enough private restrooms that can be marked with signs as being "gender inclusive." Demske indicated his biggest concern involved the safety of people who visit these public places.

Anderson also explained to the Committee that the architect did a good job of designing a very functional, maintenance-free building that should also be "vandal proof."

Prott explained that concessions will be run by 501C3 groups so they can sell items and do fundraising through sales of snacks, soda, water, etc. The exact way this will be handled is yet to be determined. The Committee felt this was a good idea.

The building will be winterized during the off-season, and it will not have any air-conditioning or heating.

There was no action taken by the Committee on this item.

- 6. Review, discussion and possible recommendation on a resolution authorizing the conveyance of county-owned land by permanent easement to Wisconsin Electric Power Company (DBA We Energies) to install electric facilities in Pritchard Park (1st reading of the County Board at January 28, 2020 meeting)**

Alex Valley presented this item. The purpose of this permanent easement is to upgrade and install utility services to the new Pritchard Park sports complex. The easement runs east from Roosevelt Avenue. A drawing was provided to the Committee that illustrated the location of the proposed easement.

Supervisor Monte OSTERMAN moved, seconded by Supervisor KRAMER, to approve this resolution and to move it to the County Board for first reading on January 28, 2020.

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES' ADVISORY VOTES:

Youth Representative Gill: aye

Youth Representative Humphreys: aye

Motion carried unanimously. Vote 7/0

- 7. Communications and Referrals**

Anderson informed the Committee that the letter and instructions on restoration within the clear zone of North Main Street was sent to Dr. Kelly von Schilling Worth and that the contractor for the work contacted our offices asking for further information about if a permit was needed to do the restoration work. Anderson indicated that staff will monitor the site as it is anticipated that the restoration work may start soon with the mild temperatures. There was no discussion or action on this item.

- 8. Miscellaneous Public Works Business**

Anderson requested that the Committee watch their email as there may or may not be a meeting needed of this Committee on Feb 13, 2020.

- 9. Adjournment**

There being no further business, **Supervisor NICK DEMSKE moved**, seconded by **Supervisor MALDONADO**, to adjourn at 6:41p.m. Motion carried unanimously. **VOTE: 7/0**