

**RACINE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS, PARKS AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2014**

**Summary Minutes**

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

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**Committee Present:** Dan Sharkozy, Kiana Johnson, Kenneth Lumpkin, Tom Hincz,  
Pamela Zenner-Richards, Ronald Molnar

**Committee Excused:** Kay Buske

**Youth in Governance (YIG)**

**Representatives Not Present:** Kristi Parsons, Mary Graeber

**Staff Present:** Julie Anderson, Public Works & Development Services Director  
Jim Metzger, Park Planning Manager

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**1. Call to Order, Roll Call**

Vice-Chair Dan Sharkozy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and gave a brief statement concerning the purpose of the Youth in Governance Program.

**2. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**3. Approval of the July 10, 2014, summary minutes**

**SUPERVISOR ZENNER-RICHARDS MOVED, seconded by Supervisor Molner,** to approve the July 10, 2014, summary minutes. Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 6/0

**4. Review, discussion and possible recommendation regarding a speed limit reduction on County Trunk Highway (CTH) J, from State Trunk Highway (STH) 142 and Mt. Tom Road in the Town of Burlington (laid over on 07/10/2014)**

A local resident has expressed concerns about the speed at which vehicles travel on Highway J, from Highway 142 to Mt. Tom Road, and is requesting that the speed limit be lowered from 55 mph to 35 mph. A speed trailer was placed at the site for a week, and the average recorded speed was about 46 mph. There have been no documented crashes in this area. A speed reduction of 20 mph would violate the Wisconsin Statewide Speed Management Guidelines, which authorizes a speed limit reduction of only 10 mph or less on county roads. The Racine County Traffic Safety Commission met earlier in the day and voted to lower the speed limit by 5 mph (to 55 mph), which would be in compliance with state guidelines.

Discussion by committee members followed. **SUPERVISOR HINCZ MOVED, seconded by Supervisor Molnar**, not to change the 55 mph posted speed limit on this road segment. Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 6/0

**5. Racine County Golf Courses - USGA Agronomist Report**

Jim Metzger, Park Planning Manager, summarized the June 11, 2014, USGA Agronomist Report and answered questions from the committee.

**SUPERVISOR JOHNSON MOVED, seconded by Supervisor Molnar**, to receive and file the 2014 USGA Agronomist Report. Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 6/0

**6. Review, discussion and possible recommendation regarding an amendment to the three-year contract between Racine County and Brown's Lake Ski Club for use of Einer Fischer Park**

Jim Metzger briefed the committee on the amendment. The Brown's Lake Aquaducks have the opportunity to participate in the 2015 World Record Ski Pyramid attempt being held September 20<sup>th</sup> on Lake Wazeecha in Wisconsin Rapids. Evinrude, the sponsor of the event, would like to use the Aquaducks show site to perform a load test on the evening of September 15<sup>th</sup> or September 16<sup>th</sup>. These dates are not included on the dates listed on the petition filed with Racine County. Julie Anderson added that she spoke with the representative for the area and to Kurt Petries, an neighboring property owner, and both indicated that area property owners support this event.

**SUPERVISOR MOLNAR MOVED, seconded by Zenner-Richards**, to approve an amendment to the three-year contract between Racine County and Brown's Lake Ski Club for use of Einer Fischer Park. Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 6/0

**7. Review, discussion and possible recommendation regarding beaver activities at John Margis Jr. Wildlife Area, Bohner's Lake and Hunt's Landfill**

Jim Metzger explained that beaver activity in these locations has been an ongoing issue, with the beavers causing damage to county property, as well as to private properties. He noted that beavers are not being eradicated from the area, just thinned out. The DNR recommends eliciting the services of trappers to address the problem. Corporation Counsel will prepare a contract to hire a local trapper.

**SUPERVISOR MOLNAR MOVED, seconded by Supervisor Zenner-Richards**, to move forward with execution of a professional services agreement to hire a trapper. Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 6/0

**8. Review, discussion and possible recommendation regarding removal of Cliffside Park tennis courts**

Jim Metzger presented pictures showing the condition of the tennis courts. The tennis courts have rarely ever been used and about eight years ago the gates were locked for safety reasons. The space may be better utilized by enabling the concession tents to expand. With the committee's approval, the light poles will be reused at Haban Park. **SUPERVISOR Zenner-Richards MOVED, seconded by Supervisor Johnson**, to approve the removal of Cliffside Park tennis courts and repurpose the light poles at Haban Park. Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 6/0

**9. Special Use Requests**

**a. Request from River Bend Nature Center (Jeanne Dernehl) for Chain Saw Carving Festival, Auction & Art Fair at the River Bend Nature Center on October 4 & 5, 2014**

This festival was held last year and was a big success. A certificate of liability insurance will be provided. Staff supports this event. **SUPERVISOR MOLNAR MOVED, seconded by Supervisor Zenner-Richards**, to approve the Chain Saw Carving Festival, Auction & Art Fair at the River Bend Nature Center on October 4 & 5, 2014. Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 6/0

**b. Racine's Peacefest, a benefit for the Racine Police Department Community-Oriented Policing Program, Quarry Lake Park, August 24, 2014.**

This will be the first time this event will be held at Quarry Lake Park. A certificate of liability insurance has been obtained. Beth Daniels, event coordinator, was present and answered questions from the committee. **SUPERVISOR MOLNAR MOVED, seconded by Supervisor Hincz**, to approve Racine's Peacefest at Quarry Lake Park on August 24, 2014. Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 6/0

**10. Request to authorize the transfer of \$300,000 from contingency to Public Works and Development Services for resurfacing a portion of CTH G from Charles Street to North Main St. This includes approval of a fiscal note.**

Julie Anderson explained that the transfer of funds would allow this final section of Highway G to be paved in the Fall of this year. **SUPERVISOR ZENNER-RICHARDS MOVED, seconded by Supervisor Molnar**, to authorize the transfer of \$300,000 in funds and approve a fiscal note. Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 6/0

**11. Communications and Referrals**

There were no communications or referrals.

**12. Miscellaneous Public Works Business**

- For information only, the committee received the River Bend Nature Center's Business Plan Status Report from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.
- The next committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, August 28, 2014.

**13. Adjourn**

There being no further business, **SUPERVISOR JOHNSON MOVED**, seconded by Supervisor **Zenner-Richards**, to adjourn at 7:04 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. VOTE: 6/0