

CITY OF PALOS HEIGHTS



**ROADS & CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**October 13th, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Roads & Construction Committee of the City of Palos Heights met at the Palos Heights City Hall on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Kramarski. Present were Chairman Kramarski, Alderman Basso via conference call, and Alderman Lewandowski. Also in attendance were: Public Works Director Adam Jasinski, Aurimas Spucys from Morris Engineering and the Recording Secretary Jessica Swiedals. Alderman Clifford was absent for this meeting. Alderman McGovern and Alderman Key were present in the audience.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Kramarski moved to approve the minutes of the August 11<sup>th</sup> meeting seconded by Alderman Lewandowski. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**DIRECTORS REPORT:** Adam Jasinski

- MFT Road Program Update
  - Director Jasinski explained that Public Works has completed this program as well as the punch list for this project.
- Drainage Improvement and Roadway Repairs
  - Director Jasinski explained that Public Works did a full reconstruction of nineteen storm sewer structures, as well as seven major roadway and road culvert repairs throughout the city. There were also fifteen culvert and ditch regrade projects that were noted in the storm event. There are still some areas that need to be addressed however Public Works feel they are making sufficient progress.

Director Jasinski requested the approval to pay Lindahl Brothers Inc. \$165,098.25 for work completed on the MFT 2020 Road Program.

Chairman Kramarski moved to approve the payment to Lindahl Brothers Inc. for work completed on the MFT 2020 Road Program in the amount of \$165,098.25, seconded by Alderman Lewandowski. All in favor. Motion was passed unanimously. – **AGENDA**

- IDOT Contract 63732, Southwest Highway Sidewalk
  - This project was started in 2012 and completed in 2013. This project connected a sidewalk across the Southwest Highway Bridge over the Cal-Sag Channel. This project involved the erection of a modular block retaining wall on south side of the Southwest Highway Bridge. The retaining wall began to fail by slowly moving away from the road and sidewalk. It was a slow movement, about an inch per year but became noticeable when the wall began to fail. The city notified the engineers and they did an evaluation. It was deemed that the contractor Millennium Construction failed to install the wall to specifications. Since then Millennium Construction has gone out of business, therefore they were unable to come back and make the necessary repairs. In 2017 the City of Palos Heights hired Seiko Consultants as a third party to investigate the cause of the failure, be it an oversight or construction not being done to the specifications. The consultants completed their report and concluded that there were numerous parties involved throughout the process that could have noticed what the problem was. Director Jasinski reached out to IDOT to attempt to contact the bond company to reclaim damages to make the necessary repairs. The

bonding company did an investigation and did not find the contractor at fault, however they are willing to settle this matter for \$50,000 in exchange for a full and final release of any claims against the contractor or bonding company. The cost to complete the repair which will be the removal of the sidewalk as well as the retaining wall and installing new support structures for the retaining wall will be roughly \$350,000, not including engineering costs. The original cost of this project was about \$200,000 which was paid for in part by the Southwest Conference of Mayors. The city attorney Tom Brown's opinion about this matter after reinvestigating the documents is to take the settlement as a court case would be much higher in cost. There are grants available to help cover the cost of this repair through the Southwest Conference of Mayors.

Director Jasinski requested approval to accept the \$50,000 settlement from the bonding company in exchange for a final release of claims against the bonding company and the contractor.

Chairman Kramarski moved to approve the acceptance of a settlement in the amount of \$50,000, seconded by Alderman Basso. All in favor, Motion passed unanimously. –

#### **AGENDA**

#### **Ongoing Project Update**

- 123<sup>rd</sup> and Natchez Culvert Replacement
  - There is a culvert that is ready to be replaced. The street began to settle directly over the culvert. There was a grant that was applied for from MWRD however this grant was denied for 2021. Public Works has decided to inject concrete into the void to keep it stable until it can be replaced.
- RTA Sidewalk Grant Application
  - This grant was applied for to install additional sidewalks on Route 83. This grant was denied due to the large number of applications that came in.
- Invest in Cook County Grant
  - This grant was applied for to install sidewalks on Ridgeland from Route 83. This grant was denied.
- Ridgeland Avenue Median Repairs
  - The committee approved these repairs and the city had to enter into an agreement with Cook County and this matter will be discussed at the October board meeting.
- Lake Katherine Parking Lot
  - Christopher Burke began preliminary engineering on the Lake Katherine parking lot. They submitted three options to the city and are currently working on the storm water storage capacity that is a requirement of MWRD.
- State Salt Purchase Program 2020-2021
  - Bid results are in and our price for the salt purchase is \$50.39 which is a reduction from last year at \$68.56. We ordered 600 tons for the 20-21 season that gave a rough savings of \$10,000.

Director Jasinski requested the approval to pay three invoices to Christopher Burke totaling \$26,722.51 for preliminary engineering of the Lake Katherine parking lot.

Chairman Kramarski moved to approve the payment to Christopher Burke in the amount of \$26,722.51 for preliminary engineering work done on the Lake Katherine parking lot, seconded by Alderman Lewandowski. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously. - **VOUCHER**

## **MORRIS ENGINEERING**

Aurimas Spucys updated the committee for Morris Engineering.

- 123<sup>rd</sup> Street Road Construction
  - Final engineering has been submitted to IDOT for review. There is a target letting of March of 2021. If there are any changes in the schedule the committee will be notified.
- 76<sup>th</sup> Avenue Resurfacing
  - All information has been submitted to IDOT for approval for phase 1. Project will stay as a resurfacing and phase 2 agreements are in review.
- 2020 Paving Program
  - All work has been completed for this program and the retainer is still being held from this project until next spring.

Chairman Kramarski moved to approve an invoice from Morris engineering for work completed throughout the city in the amount of \$49,593.54 with Alderman Lewandowski as a second. All in favor. Motion was passed unanimously. **-VOUCHER**

**OLD BUSINESS-** During the last committee meeting Alderman Key inquired about installing audible crossing indicators on 123<sup>rd</sup> Street and Harlem Avenue. Director Jasinski looked into the cost of this and it would be approximately \$45,000 to install an additional signal. In order to get a permit for this from IDOT they would need a letter from the City stating that there is a need for an audible crossing signal at that location. There was no money budgeted for this project for the upcoming year however it can be looked into for the following year's budget if there is a need. Alderman Key brought up using ADA money for this project, Director Jasinski will follow up on that request.

**NEW BUSINESS-** None

## **PUBIC COMMENT- ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Chairman Kramarski moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Lewandowski. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jessica Swiedals, Recording Secretary