

CITY OF STEVENS POINT

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING February 12, 2024 - 6:20 PM Community Room 933 Michigan Avenue, Stevens Point, WI

MINUTES

Roll Call

PRESENT Chairperson Mayor Wiza, Ald. Ginger Keymer, Chris Tiffany, Ald. Mary Kneebone, Ald. Shaun Morrow, and Ald. Dean Shuda

EXCUSED Ald. Keely Fishler

OTHERS PRESENT **Directors:** Public Works Scott Beduhn and Parks & Rec Dan Kremer.
Alderpersons: Marc Christianson District 1, David Shorr District 2, Lara Broderick District 4, Allison Bir District 5, David Plaisance District 6, and Sam Lang District 9.
City Staff: City Clerk Kari Yenter, HR Manager Sandy Frasch, C/T Corey Ladick, Police Chief Robert Kussow, Fire Chief JB Moody, Assistant Fire Chief's Joe Gemza and Dennis Zvara, Fire Marshall Terrance Sinner, Fire Training Officer Anthony Ewing, and SPFD's Ethan Przybylski, Justin Thomson, Jake Butler and Jason Pettis.
Others Present: Tim Schierl with Team Schierl and Trevor Roark.

Informational

1. **Director's Report**
 - a. **Country Club Drive**
 - b. **Division and Church Streets Reconstruction Project**
 - c. **2024 Streets Improvement Project (Northside)**
 - d. **2024 Streets Improvement Project (Southside)**

Director Beduhn gave updates on the highlighted items in his agenda.

Ald. Morrow **moved**, Ald. Shuda **seconded**, to approve the Director's Report and place it on file.

Call for the Vote: **Ayes:** All
Nays: None. Motion **Carried**.

Discussion and Possible Action

2. Consideration on the intersection options (signals or roundabout) at Division Street and Fourth Avenue as it relates to the Business 51 Reconstruction Project.

Ald. Morrow voiced his concerns if a roundabout were to be at this specific location with the high volume of pedestrian students.

Chairperson Wiza agreed with Ald. Morrow with his concerns at this intersection.

Chairperson Wiza **Moved**, for the signalized option at Division Street and Fourth Avenue as it relates to the Business 51 Reconstruction Project; Ald. Morrow **Seconded**.

Ald. Keymer disagrees with the signalized intersection and explained her reasons why she feels a roundabout would work better because of the high volume of pedestrians.

Ald. Kneebone echoed Ald. Keymer and explained her reasons why she is for a roundabout also.

Chris Tiffany noted that he is all for roundabouts, but is concerned about this specific intersection with all the traffic and pedestrians. Ald. Shuda agreed with Mr. Tiffany and stated his reasons why his is for a signalized intersection.

Ald. Birr stated that she is in favor of the roundabout and believes they are safer for traffic and pedestrians because of the slower speeds and one lane of traffic at a time. Trevor Roark echoed Ald. Birr and added that the data that AECOM gave in the memo proves that they are safer for pedestrians.

Ald. Plaisance agrees with a signal light at this intersection and explained his reasons why.

Ald. Christianson stated that we should all look at all the facts from traffic engineers and added other reason why he is for a roundabout. Ald. Broederick echoed Ald.

Christianson and stated that at the Transportation Academy a couple months ago there was evidence from WisDOT and examples from other universities around the country who have successfully implemented a roundabout. The example she brought up was the University of Kentucky with around 30,000 students where as UWSP has maybe 8,000 students.

Police Chief Kusow gave real vehicle accident stats from the roundabout at Division Street and North Point Drive. He stated from 2013 to 2018 when it was a signalized intersection there were 47 total accidents and from 2018 to the end of 2023 it went up to 115 total accidents. He also pointed out that of the 115 accidents, there were two

years where SPASH and Sentry Insurance were out for COVID. Ald. Shuda pointed out that under the conclusions area in the AECOM memo it states that there is a slight increase in delay and queuing when there is high volume of pedestrians and newly installed roundabouts may cause an increase in sideswipe and rear-end crashes.

Ald. Shorr agreed with Ald. Birr's reasons why he feels a roundabout is safer for traffic and pedestrians mixed.

Call for the vote: **Ayes**, Mayor Wiza, Chris Tiffany, Ald. Morrow, and Ald. Shuda; **Nays**, Ald. Kneebone and Ald. Keymer; Motion **Carried**.

Adjourn

Adjourned at 6:47 p.m.