

**City of Blue Earth
Minutes Street Committee
August 28, 2017 @ 4:00 P.M.
Council Chambers**

Call to Order:

Ray Wigner called the meeting to order at 4:05 P.M.

Members Present: Ray Wignern, Russ Erichsrud, Dan Brod and Gary Armon, Marty Cassem, Present. Absent David Classon,

Staff: City Engineer Wes Brown, PWD Jamie Holland, City Administrator Timothy Ibisch, Blue Earth Light & Water Tim Stoner.

Motion by Cassem, second by Erichsrud to approve the Street Committee Meeting Minutes from July 12th, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Brown brought forth the 13th Street and Moore Street project. Light and Water assisted in determining possible relocations of line poles and curb placement. Determining what the impacts would be on the poles along with the curb and the sidewalk alignment if its decided to include the sidewalk and determining locations of the walk way.

Brown inquired of the sidewalk and curb placement for discussion. Brown noted that Galbraith Street, Main Street and Ramsey street all have the curb returns already set up for 36ft wide street and centered in the right away. Brown mentioned that the recommendation is to continue with the centered street section down through there with 36 ft. wide. With the figures, it shows it ends up widening more on the South side then on the North.

Wignern inquired of the Streets of 13th and Moore with the alignment. Brown mentioned that it fits with what has already been constructed on the adjacent streets and is centered in the right away with the alignment and historically that has been used with the Street project in Blue Earth centering them in the right away unless there is reason not to.

Wignern responded that he had been down in the area and felt that the curb alignment seems to be more on the South side then it is on the North side of the street. Wignern inquired if it was possible to move the North side back a foot. Mentioning the Galbraith and 13th corner that the curb is broken up and needs repair and that it would be the right time to change everything to the correct width with repairs needed and maintaining consistency with the streets being 36 ft.

Brown added another thing to consider that looking on the North side of 13th street on the east block there is a fair amount of landscaping in that area that goes out to the street which will be impacted noting that there would be more impacts to some private improvements on the North side then the South.

Ibisch explained that there would be likely some complaints from the South side. Residents have been inquiring about stakes and also the tree removal. Centering the right away would be the correct way to proceed.

Cassem agreed that the streets should be centered and kept consistent if possible.

Ibisch inquired if it would cause any issues for Public Works Department with snow plowing. Holland mentioned that he would like to see straight lines, stating that he would prefer not to see any bump outs it causes damage to the plow as well as the curb.

Stoner noted that doing it now would be doubtlessly easier now than later to continue with the 36 ft. street width and then trying to justify any individual changes on other projects.

Ibisch mentioned that staying consistent with the streets now will be more beneficial to forth coming project for example of the Sailor Street project where it will have additional impacts.

Brown inquired the sidewalk placement, at the North block on Moore Street has sidewalk part of the way with it stopping from 12th Street South. Wigern inquired if the committee would like to see sidewalk on one side of the street or both sides. Wes inquired if the preference would be to take it to 14th Street or not to do anything on 13th Street.

Holland mentioned that there is nothing to tie it to on the end of 14th street but you are getting people closer to Putnam park and the pool.

Wigern mentioned that Moore Street definitely needs sidewalk to get people down the area of the park and pool.

Wigern indicated that putting in sidewalk on the West side of Moore Street where there is existing sidewalk and taking it down to 14th Street and not putting anymore additional side walk in on the East side of Moore Street. Brown recommended removing the existing and not having any sidewalk there in that area.

Wigern inquired of the idea of removing the sidewalk and on the opposite side take it all the way down to 14th Street.

Ibisch mentioned if there was a motion, Brod inquired the sidewalk of Galbriath and 13th. Brown mentioned that both side of Galbriath have side walk down to 13th street.

Motion by Armon, second by Cassem to eliminate the sidewalk on East side of Moore Street from 12th street down including no sidewalk on 13th Street and having sidewalk on the Westside of street.

Ibisch brought forth the New City of Blue Earth Housing Development mentioning the sidewalk on the new streets. Erischrud mentioned that Mayor Scholtes recommended putting in wider street with a walk way and not having sidewalks. Brod inquired if the streets would be 46ft. Ibisch inquired if there was a recommendation from the street committee about this matter

Council will discuss it at the next meeting. Ibisch mentioned if there were any other thoughts on the matter from the street committee.

Erishrud mentioned that the last 3 additions the vote was decided not to put sidewalk in. Wigner mentioned he would like to see the plans before he had any input in this matter.

Ibisch mentioned that putting sidewalk in on the West side the cost would be less due to the West side is much shorter. Mentioning the side walk eventually would lead to the school for the kids to walk.

Erishrud inquired if the sidewalk needed to be determined in Phase 1 or Phase 2. Ibisch mentioned that the council will be discussing this. Brod inquired how the school bus traffic would be routed through the area. Ibisch mentioned that the bus would need to turn around at one of the intersections until the project was completed in Phase 2.

Wigern commented that until council makes a decision on what the plan is with the development of Phase 1 or 2 that the street committee shouldn't need to have to discussion on the matter with the sidewalk.

New Business:

Brown brought forth LRIP Program a potential funding opportunity of up to \$750,000 Holland recommended with a potential street project on 17th & Rice Streets. Brown mentioned that the location is significant for economic factors with St. Luke's and recreational facilities for the school. This location can't be assessed and cannot be reasonably funded through other revenue sources. The location would fit the program well when speaking with the DOT. Looking to fill out the application for this project to hopefully receive a grant. Project roughly would be a 1.2-million-dollar project and the cap on the project would be \$750,000 with a portion that would have to be locally funded.

Brod inquired if the project would be just 17th Street. Brown mentioned it would be it would include down to 14th to 17th Street.

Ibisch mentioned that it would be a good opportunity. The grant would be a good opportunity and doing the application would be worth it. Mentioning this would be an extra project and keeping in mind if we did get the grant the project would need to be completed in the time frame. The project would be an additional cost that hasn't been put in the 5-year plan which we might have to adjust another scheduled project. Ibisch inquired if the application would be due in the Fall. Brown mentioned that it would be and the funding would be awarded in the Spring.

Ibisch inquired of the time frame and mentioned that it would be an idea to continue looking into the guidelines of the project grant.

Cassem inquired what the project would all entail. Brown recommended of putting it as a standard residential street section. Brown suggested making the street a little thicker for heavier traffic and going with the 36ft wide with curb. Holland mentioned there are some drainage issues

in the area. Brown suggested that taking the road down and moving the drainage. Cassem asked if the curb is necessary to have. Brown mentioned that keeping it consistent with the rest of the streets would be best.

After discussion, the Street Committee felt that the grant should be applied for.

Ibisch commented that the timeline for the 13 & Moore street project is October for the hearings, set the budget this fall and hopefully be on track with the 5-year plan.

Adjourn:

Motion by Erischrud second by Brod to adjourn the meeting. Closed the meeting at 4:50 P.M.