

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
March 12, 2014
City Council Chambers at the Municipal Center, 6:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Committee Members: Chairman Alderman Blake, Alderman Santi arrived at 6:07 pm and Alderman Wimmer arrived at 6:15 pm

Staff in Attendance: Public Works Director Schmitt, Street Superintendent Stull, Administrative Assistant Lorch

Others in Attendance: Personnel from Illinois Department of Transportation: Kimberly Murphy, Scott Czaplicki, Lori Brown
Personnel from STV Incorporated: John Clark, Sanjay Joshi

Chairman Alderman Blake called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Agenda Item 1: Illinois Route 31 (Front Street) Phase 1 Engineering - Illinois Department of Transportation Resolution of Support

Alderman Blake began the meeting by introducing Director Schmitt to the audience; he in turn introduced his staff. STV Incorporated and Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) personnel were also introduced.

Director Schmitt explained that the purpose of the meeting is to inform business owners and residents on the status of the Illinois Route 31 (Front Street) project. IDOT considered suggestions and comments received at the previous meetings to come up with one preferred plan.

Director Schmitt then introduced John Clark from STV Engineering. He spoke about the three original alternatives and gave a brief overview of the changes made. Some of the changes were made due to City and business owners concerns and suggestions. These changes include geometric modifications, and a change of the Waukegan Road cul-de-sac radius for better turning movement. Signage will be posted to restrict traffic from Main Street turning onto Route 31 for safety reasons. There will be a barrier median installed to meet the Richmond Road improvement which is just west of the bridge. Other medians will be installed near First National Bank, Mercy Drive, and Gary Lang Chevrolet. In order for Gary Lange to keep full access to the business he may have to participate in the cost because this would only benefit Gary Lang. Near Bank Drive there would be bump outs, and a painted median will be changed to a barrier median. Modifications were also made to the west and east legs of Route 120. He said that only right turns onto side streets would be allowed just west of the bridge. The Fountain Shop's driveway opening will be lined up with High Street. Mr. Clark summarized that a lot of time was spent listening to the comments from the community. The National Environmental Policy Agency (NEPA) is taking all of the information into account and will help guide IDOT to the preferred alternative.

Mr. Clark invited everyone to look at the roll plots of the project and to ask questions if desired.

Alderman Blake reconvened the meeting at 6:45 pm.

IDOT representative said that the earliest construction would begin is in the year 2020 and will take two years. A business owner would like to see the project done in one year and have the project done in segments to lessen the affect on the businesses.

Alderman Blake said he doesn't think the committee is ready to approve the Resolution of Support for this project. The Committee and city staff thinks that Gary Lang Chevrolet should continue to have full access from Route 31 with no cost to the dealership or the City. Drainage between Anne Street and John Street is a concern especially for the residents on Anne Street. There will be a barrier between High Street and Park Place which will severely limit access to residents and businesses. Another concern is the frontage at Butch's Auto Shop that will be impinged upon. All of these issues need to be addressed before the Public Works Committee will approve the Resolution of Support. Alderman Blake asked for a motion to table the vote for the Resolution of Support.

Motion by Alderman Wimmer, seconded by Alderman Santi, to table the vote for the Resolution of Support for the Route 31 Improvement Project.

Voting Aye: Alderman Blake, Alderman Wimmer, Alderman Santi
Voting Nay: None
Absent:

Motion carried.

Director Schmitt replied no when Alderman Blake asked if there was any new business.

Alderman Blake stated that if there are not any more questions, he will ask for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

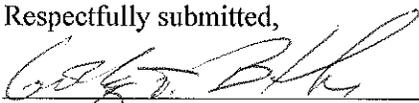
Motion by Alderman Wimmer, seconded by Alderman Santi to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Voting Aye: Alderman Blake, Alderman Wimmer, Alderman Santi
Voting Nay: None
Absent:

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Alderman Blake, Chairman