

Public Property, Streets & Sidewalks Committee – January 23, 2023

A Public Property, Streets & Sidewalk Committee of the City of Aledo met in Open Session in the Council Chambers of the City Hall building on January 23, 2023. ALD. BARRY COOPER called the Committee meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. The roll was called, whereupon the following committee members answered present:

Aldermen MICHAEL CHAUSSE, BARRY COOPER, CHRIS KOPP and LINDA SARABASA. Mayor CHRIS HAGLOCH.

Also, present ILA BERTRAND, Alderman, DENNIS DIXON, Alderman, JAY DOHERTY, Alderman, JIM HOLMES, Alderman, JUSTIN BLASER, Director of Public Works & Utilities, and JAROD DALE, City Clerk.

The media was represented by Jim Taylor, WRMJ.

The following was discussed:

Approval of Committee Minutes: No Minutes.

Public Comment: No Report.

Old Business:

Discussion on SE 8th Avenue Multi-Use Pathway from SE 3rd Street to SE 6th Street – Status Update:

DPW Blaser reported on June 9, 2021 the City of Aledo was awarded an ITEP Grant in the amount of \$513,158.00 for the design and construction of a Multi-Use Pathway along SE 8th Avenue from SE 3rd Street to SE 6th Street. This pathway will be a continuance of the pathway along SE 3rd Street. Phase I Engineering was completed in early 2022, and approved by IDOT.

The City submitted a Joint Agreement for the approval to utilize Hutchison Engineering for the Phase II Design and Construction Observation back on October 14, 2022. The City received approval from the Central Office on January 20th. Hutchison Engineering will complete the design, have the bid letting in late 2023, or early January 2024, and construct in 2024. Hutchison would prefer to bid this project at the same time as the SRTS project in hopes to lower the price for both.

Discussion on Safe Routes to School – SE 6th Street (Sidewalk) from SE 8th Avenue to S. College Avenue – Status Update:

DPW Blaser reported on April 20, 2022, the City of Aledo was awarded a Safe Routes to School Grant in the amount of \$250,000.00. The grant is for the construction of a 5-foot sidewalk along the south side of SE 6th Street from SE 8th Avenue to South College Avenue. Phase I Engineering was completed in summer of 2022. Phase II Design Engineering will be completed in 2023. City Staff anticipates the project bid letting to be in late 2023, or January 2024, and the construct in 2024. Hutchison engineering would prefer to bid this project at the same time as the SE 8th Ave Multi-Use Pathway project in hopes of a lower price for both.

Discussion on 9th Avenue Multi-Use Pathway from SW 6th Street to NW 6th Street – Status Update:

DPW Blaser reported on October 10, 2022, an ITEP Application was submitted for the design and construction of a Multi-Use Pathway along 9th Ave from SW 6th St to NW 6th Street. The total estimated cost is listed in the amount of \$1,554,940.00 (ITEP - \$1,243,952.00 & the Local Match - \$310,988.00). The award selection is anticipated in early March, 2023.

New Business:

Discussion on NE 2nd Avenue Sidewalk and Parking Area Reconstruction:

DPW Blaser reported as part of the FY 2023 CIP Budget, the City Council approved the NE 2nd Avenue Improvements Project in the amount of \$200,000.00. A copy of the plans and estimate for the 2nd Avenue Improvements were provided to the Committee. DPW noted the goal is to put in an accessible ramp at Cheer's on Main property and sidewalk.

The Committee discussed if an additional accessible stall should be added across the street from Cheer's on Main. DPW reported this would then require a cross-walk be included. It was also highlighted that the drains would be tied into the storm sewer to eliminate water from standing on roadway.

For costs, HDR reported they are still looking at the same construction budget as previously submitted in the amount of \$200,000. If there is any change it can be subtracted from the "Contingency Line Item" bid item (approximately 10% of the contract) and should still be okay to complete.

The Committee provided a consensus to approve the plans as presented and conduct a bid letting with completion in 2023.

Discussion on East Main Extension & SE 2nd Avenue Reconstruction Project:

DPW reported as part of the FY 2023 CIP Budget, the City Council approved the SE 2nd Avenue Reconstruction Design in the amount of \$255,000.00, and the East Main Street Extension Design in the amount of \$275,000.00. Staff had obtained both of these estimates from Hutchison Engineering. These estimates include complete design, and plan sheets ready for bidding.

DPW met with Shane Larson and Noah Livermore of Hutchison Engineering last week to discuss both of these projects and to start a list of general objectives for both. A list of questions was compiled for both projects, and how to best proceed with design.

East Main Street:

- Purpose of the project and classification of the street. Minor collector or local street? (truck traffic allowed or no truck traffic allowed)
Committee Recommendation: To not allow truck traffic & to be considered a small collector for local traffic only.
- Project Limits? (Route 94 to what avenue to the west)

SE 2nd Avenue:

- Just a roadway project, or roadway, right of way, and sidewalk project?
- What is the most economical & efficient way to start this size of project?

After review by Hutchison and DPW, it was suggested the best option would be to start with an agreement to perform just the survey portion of the design phase. Design would provide the engineers and staff with additional information that may answer the questions listed above, or raise questions not thought of previously, and proceed in a more efficient and educated manner. Staff wanted to discuss with the Committee prior to drafting any agreements.

DPW reported the survey should not take too long and this information to better access the questions above and determine the project parameters.

ALD. Holmes reported he does reside on East Main Street and extra access is needed.

DPW to present an agreement from Hutchison Engineering at the February 6th City Council meeting.

Discussion on Sale of Property pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11-76-2 – 706 NW 5th Avenue, Aledo, IL:

DPW Blaser reported Derwood Ruggles approached the City asking if there would be interest in selling the northern 25 feet of the RMA parcel. The property was later surveyed, and discussion was had to advertise the entire parcel for sale. Once property pins were established from the survey, it was discovered the northern line was quite a bit further to the north than expected. DPW noted Mr. Ruggles has maintained this portion of the property since he has lived there.

A bid was received on December 28, 2022 from Mr. Ruggles to purchase part of the parcel # 10-10-17-100-029 in the amount of \$25.00.

ALD. Chausse inquired on the price of the survey and the advertisement price for bid to sell the property. DPW Blaser reported the survey was at a cost of \$500 and the advertisement was noted in the amount of \$100.

CITY CLERK Dale reported if the City was to reject the bid submitted by Mr. Ruggles, this would need to be done by a majority vote of the City Council and the City would then re-issue an RFP. An alternate method of selling municipal property is following an appraisal. Under this, the City can get the property appraised and negotiate the sale of the property, but the purchase price must be at 80% of the appraisal value.

If the Committee would prefer to go back out to bid, the CITY ATTORNEY recommended the City include a minimum bid requirement. The Committee did note interest in establishing a minimum bid requirement.

CITY CLERK reported appraisals were requested for the property at 706 NW 5th Avenue and also the property at 709-713 SW 3rd Street. David Nelson of Roy R. Fisher to complete the both appraisals.

Motion was made by ALD. CHAUSSE and seconded by ALD. SARABASA to reject the bid submitted by Derwood Ruggles in the amount of \$25.00 for a portion of the property located at 706 NW 5th Avenue, Aledo, IL and send to the full City Council for final approval. A Roll call vote was recorded as follows:

YES: Chausse, Cooper, Kopp, and Sarabasa. NO: None. Motion carried. 4 yeas, 0 nays.

ALD. Doherty requested to discuss the idea of establishing a dog park or “bark park” in Aledo. It was reported, former administrator Knackstedt had originally brought up the idea during her tenure at Aledo and to place on city property. The Alderman has been approached by other community members to establish this type of facility in Aledo. The individuals to raise the funds for the project.

ALD. Doherty reported there had been some discussion to establish the park at the old RMA site (706 NW 5th Avenue) as a possible location. A suggestion was heard that once the park project was completed by private donors, the park would then be turned over to the City for care and maintenance.

The Committee inquired if there would be available property by the Aledo Park District possibly located at the Northside Ball Diamonds. The inquiry to be brought before the Park Board at their next regularly scheduled meeting in February by the MAYOR.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, motion was made by ALDERMAN KOPP and seconded by ALDERMAN SARABASA that the meeting be adjourned. Unanimous voice vote followed in agreement. Meeting was adjourned at 6:51 P.M.

Jarod Dale, City Clerk