

MINUTES
City Plan Commission
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET MEETING
September 17, 2014

The City Plan Commission held the second CIP Budget Meeting on **Wednesday, September 17, 2014 in the Third Floor Conference Room, City Hall, La Crosse, Wisconsin at 4:15 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Timothy Kabat
Council Member Richard Becker
Council Member James Cherf
City Engineer Randy Turtenwald
Park Board Representative Paul Medinger
Commissioner Scott Neumeister
Commissioner Karen Ringstrom

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Angela Seeger
Neighborhood Comm Representative Sara Sullivan- excused

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Amy Peterson, Interim Dir of Planning and Development
Timothy Acklin, Planning and Development
Kelly Branson, Interim Dir of Finance and Purchase/Treasurer
Polly Marcou, Finance
Dale Hexom, Director of Public Works
Clinton Torp, Airport Manager
Steve Carlyon, Director of Parks, Recreation & Forestry
Warren Thomas, Fire Department

OTHERS PRESENT: Audrey Kader, Common Council
Bob Seaquist, Common Council
Adam Hatfield, Gundersen Health System
Betsy Bloom, La Crosse Tribune

Call To Order

Mayor Timothy Kabat called the meeting to order at 4:20 p.m.

01 Approval of the July 30, 2014 CIP Meeting Minutes.

Richard Becker moved to approve the minutes. James Cherf seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

02 CIP Items- Discussion

Airport – Mayor Tim Kabat asked if the Finance Department was able to respond to the question he asked at the last meeting which was whether the \$3 million request from the airport could be adjusted to have \$1.5 million in 2015 and \$1.5 million in 2016. Kelly Branson stated that she was still waiting for confirmation and was hoping to hear by the end of the week.

Public Works

- **Streets** – This item was not discussed.
- **Utilities** – This item was not discussed.

TIF Districts – This item was not discussed.

03 Final Review of CIP as recommended by Mayor, City Executives and Department Heads.

Mayor Tim Kabat stated that he had held several group meetings with City Departments and was able reduce the capital budget requests to the target amount. A smaller group will meet to go over the TIF requests/projects.

Kelly Branson stated that the \$16million needed to be cut after the September 14th meeting. Kelly then submitted a handout to the Commission depicting all of the changes to get down to \$10.5 million.

CM Bob Seaquist stated that Item #106 (Losey Blvd Complete Street Corridor Study) was a neighborhood project and had concerns about moving it out another year. Mr. Seaquist stated that there needs to be some way to reduce the traffic speed along Losey Blvd.

CM Richard Becker asked if the study could be done for half of the \$200,000 request. CM Seaquist stated that he did not know. Karen Ringstrom stated that she agrees with CM Seaquist that this area is at risk and that something needs to be done.

Mayor Kabat stated that if Item #106 goes back into the budget then \$200,000 will need to be cut from another project. CM James Cherf stated that he was optimistic that City staff could do the study. Randy Turtenwald stated that one way to reduce traffic speed could be to put on-street parking back on Losey Blvd. Otherwise speeding is an enforcement issue.

Richard Becker moved to approve the proposed budget as presented to the City Plan Commission at their September 17, 2014 meeting that includes the changes from the Finance Department. Paul Medinger seconded.

Randy Turtenwald asked where the amount of \$200,000 came from. CM Seaquist stated that he was not sure. Randy Turtenwald moved to reduce Item #106 to \$50,000 and move it back to 2015. Richard Becker seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

CM Audrey Kader expressed her concern over Item #207 (Neighborhood Lighting Improvements) getting pushed out every year. Mayor Kabat stated that the City should finish the lighting project along 6th Street S before another project is started. He also stated that #256 (Washburn Neighborhood Special Capital Improvements) could be used for lighting. Mayor Kabat then asked if a needs assessment on dark spots in the neighborhoods has been completed. Dale Hexom stated that the City only has feedback from the Neighborhoods only and that no official study has been done. Randy Turtenwald stated that the intersections in the neighborhood are lit and that it is the mid blocks that are dark. Mayor Kabat then stated that the City needs to go to the neighborhood and identify

the major dark spots.

CM James Cherf clarified that Items #98, #213, #214 and #215 were not being taken out of 2015. Mayor Kabat confirmed that those items were not being taken out and that only the source of funding was being changed.

CM Paul Medinger asked for clarification on the changes to Item #55 (Cameron Park Playground) Amy Peterson stated the project may not be eligible for funding through TID #6 as it is not in the project plan. Mayor Kabat directed staff to determine if it could be moved to TID #11. James Cherf moved to change the source of funds for Item #55 (Cameron Park Playground) to TID #11 and to increase Item #213 (Streetscaping) by \$100,000. Paul Medinger seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

James Cherf moved to approve the 2015 CIP budget as amended and direct the Mayor and staff to get to the \$10.5 million mark and round up to the next \$5,000 for borrowing. Paul Medinger seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

James Cherf moved to have a resolution accepting the 2015-2019 CIP introduced to the Common Council in October 2015 and include language that releases funding for the engineering department. Paul Medinger seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Adjournment

Richard Becker moved to adjourn, James Cherf seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Kabat adjourned the meeting at 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Acklin, Senior Planner (Recording Secretary)
Planning and Development