Resolution authorizing the acquisition of land interests for the Hwy 16 New Water Transmission Line project (CIP 2024 #884).

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of La Crosse has previously authorized the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Project, Hwy 16 New Water Transmission Line, as part of the 2024-2028 Project Budget, as #884; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Crosse was previously approved for $3.73M of Congressionally Directed Spending through the request of U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin in April of 2022, with approval by technical review of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to use said funds for a new transmission watermain; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Crosse Common Council previously approved a financial commitment to said project for use of Safe Drinking Water Loan funds (Res. 25-0641, -0642); and

WHEREAS, during the design stage of said project, it has been determined that State Highway setbacks will require the proposed transmission watermain to encroach into an estimated three (3) private properties, at distances of less than five (5) feet, for partial lengths within the properties, requiring permanent limited easements (PLEs) to be acquired for installation and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and in the interest of public convenience, health, safety, and general welfare, to acquire the necessary easement rights.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of La Crosse, that to execute the Hwy 16 Water Transmission Line project, it hereby authorizes the acquisition of easement rights, by eminent domain, if necessary, for the above stated purposes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Public Works and its designated staff are authorized to retain a relocation specialist, appraiser, and/or Title Company to assist in the acquisition of required easement rights, using existing Utility Funds from approved CIP #884.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board of Public Works and staff are authorized to take all steps necessary to effectuate this resolution.